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No. 169

## House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CLEAVER).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,  
September 29, 2020.

I hereby appoint the Honorable EMANUEL CLEAVER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### PRAYER

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

Lord, Father of us all, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

As the stresses of the pandemic and its economic and educational effects stubbornly continue, we ask You once again to send Your spirit of peace and healing upon our Nation. Bless those who labor to bring healing and teaching during these difficult times.

Comfort all who are ill with coronavirus, and those who mourn the loss of loved ones because of it.

As the Members return to the Capitol, keep them safe. Fill them with Your spirit of wisdom, and strengthen their resolve to remain faithful to their oath to promote the common welfare of our Nation.

During these trying times, may all that is done be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

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

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania 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. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO ELLIOTT DUCHON ON HIS RETIREMENT

(Mr. TAKANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate a constituent, who is a dear friend of mine, Elliott Duchon, on a well-earned retirement from the Jurupa Unified School District.

Mr. Duchon has served as the superintendent of JUSD for 16 years and a public school teacher for 43 years. He has dedicated his career to ensuring that our students receive a well-rounded, quality education.

During Mr. Duchon's tenure, he oversaw the expansion of dual-immersion programs to develop bilingualism and biliteracy in English and Spanish, the creation of makerspaces and innovation centers to introduce students to career technical education and STEM education, and the growth of the Jurupa Adult School to open up learning opportunities to all.

Mr. Duchon once said his greatest dream is for each and every student to

have an equal opportunity to pursue higher education. It is safe to say that JUSD schools are better positioned to deliver on that dream because of the inspiring leadership of Mr. Duchon.

He is also an active community member and volunteer, and a dedicated husband and father of three.

I feel fortunate to have known him, and I am grateful for his commitment to our community. I am wishing him a very happy retirement.

### IMPORTANCE OF 2020 CENSUS

(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 urge all American citizens to complete the 2020 Census. The Census is an incredibly important tool that impacts our daily lives more than many people realize.

Many important decisions impacting Federal support for education, healthcare, transportation and infrastructure, and more will depend upon data the Census provides. The more people who participate, the more accurate the Census will reflect the needs of our communities.

Census takers have been working hard, going door-to-door to ensure everyone is counted. If you haven't been visited by a Census taker, it is easy to complete online. Go to [my2020census.gov](http://my2020census.gov) to make sure you and your family are counted. Completing the Census is easy, quick, secure, and very important. You can also respond by phone by calling 844-330-2020.

The last day to complete the 2020 Census is tomorrow, Wednesday, September 30. I can't stress the importance of the Census enough, and I encourage every American household to ensure they are counted.

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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H4965

## HONORING ZETA PHI BETA ON 100 YEARS

(Mr. CARSON of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Zeta Phi Beta sorority on a century of nurturing leaders and improving communities.

Founded on Howard University's campus 100 years ago, Zeta has chartered hundreds of chapters worldwide and has a membership of 150,000. Its list of esteemed alumni is a who's who of Black excellence, including trailblazers in business, law, advocacy, public service, and more.

I am incredibly proud that my grandmother, Julia Carson, is a part of this amazing legacy of women.

As the sorority moves on to its next 100 years, I have no doubt that it will maintain and strengthen its zeal for excellence.

Once again, congratulations to Zeta Phi Beta on your first century of success.

## 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.

## ENERGY EMERGENCY LEADERSHIP ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 362) to amend the Department of Energy Organization Act with respect to functions assigned to Assistant Secretaries, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

## H.R. 362

*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 "Energy Emergency Leadership Act".

## SEC. 2. FUNCTIONS ASSIGNED TO ASSISTANT SECRETARIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 203 of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7133(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(12) Energy emergency and energy security functions, including—

“(A) responsibilities with respect to infrastructure, cybersecurity, emerging threats, supply, and emergency planning, coordination, response, and restoration; and

“(B) upon request of a State, local, or tribal government or energy sector entity, and in consultation with other Federal agencies as appropriate, provision of technical assistance, support, and response capabilities with respect to energy security threats, risks, and incidents.”.

(b) COORDINATION.—The Secretary of Energy shall ensure that the functions of the Secretary described in section 203(a)(12) of the Department of Energy Organization Act (as added by this Act) are performed in coordination with relevant Federal agencies.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. 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 H.R. 362.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, this legislation and the two bills that will follow it are bipartisan bills that will help protect our energy grid from cyberattacks.

In hearings before our Energy Subcommittee last year, we heard from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or FERC, from the members of FERC, that our energy grid is being attacked each and every single day by state actors or their entities.

Former Energy Secretary Perry started to address this important issue by creating the Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response, or CESER. He further enhanced its stature by making its leader an Assistant Secretary.

We agree with those decisions, and this legislation would help elevate the importance of this issue while putting Congress' bipartisan stamp of approval on these executive actions.

H.R. 362 would simply amend section 203(a) of the Department of Energy Organization Act by establishing a new assistant secretary position responsible for cybersecurity and emergency response issues.

The Department of Energy is the lead agency for ensuring the cybersecurity of the electric grid, and the newly created assistant secretary would have jurisdiction over all energy emergency and security functions related to energy supply, infrastructure, and cybersecurity.

This bill would also authorize the new assistant secretary to provide DOE technical assistance, as well as support and response capabilities with respect to energy security risks to State, local, or Tribal governments upon request.

The bill would also require the assistant secretary and the Department of Energy to coordinate with the Department of Homeland Security and other relevant Federal agencies in carrying out the bill's provisions.

This bill would go a long way, in my opinion, in helping to protect the Nation's electric infrastructure from hackers who would attempt to disrupt

our energy grid and cause untold harm to our economy, our daily lives, and our overall national security.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend Representatives WALBERG and Energy Subcommittee Ranking Member UPTON for their leadership and for working with Chairman RUSH and me on the Energy Emergency Leadership Act. I also want to thank Ranking Member UPTON and full Committee Ranking Member WALDEN for their ongoing partnership with us over the years on cybersecurity matters. That partnership was essential in getting these three critical bills to the floor today.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I, too, rise in support of H.R. 362, Energy Emergency Leadership Act.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation, sponsored by Representatives RUSH and WALBERG, strengthens the Department of Energy's important energy emergency mission. It does so by requiring the well-established energy emergency and cybersecurity functions at DOE to be organized under the leadership of an assistant secretary confirmed by the United States Senate.

Just over 2½ years ago, then-Secretary of the Department of Energy Rick Perry recognized the importance of elevating this mission within the Department, and he established an Assistant Secretary-led office, the Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response. This office has proven its worth in various situations over the past 2 years, Mr. Speaker, including assistance relating to hurricanes and wildfires.

This bill would amend the Department of Energy Organization Act to establish in law and, therefore, maintain that a Senate-confirmed assistant secretary would lead the Department of Energy's emergency response and cybersecurity functions.

This legislation will ensure the Department has the focused and accountable leadership to more fully protect the public from fuel and electricity supply disruptions against all the hazards, natural or man-made, including emerging threats from our foreign adversaries to the Nation's electric grid.

The bill has been drafted to ensure the Department carries out its responsibilities in coordination with other agencies by improving coordination across the Department, ensuring more effective interagency collaborations, and increasing accountability to the Congress.

A vote for H.R. 362 is a vote for ensuring high-level leadership over energy emergencies at the Department of Energy for the benefit of public safety and welfare, and for stronger cybersecurity protections in the electricity systems.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON), the chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise for purposes of expressing my concerns with H.R. 362, H.R. 360, and H.R. 359, in their current forms.

Mr. Speaker, I am concerned that, without clarification, these bills risk significantly disrupting how the Federal Government has collaborated regarding cybersecurity for nearly two decades.

Congress has repeatedly supported the framework that designates the Department of Homeland Security as the lead for ensuring that Federal agencies work together and with the private sector to protect and secure critical infrastructure.

This framework was developed in the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks to guard against repeating the mistakes of a disjointed, siloed approach to national security and is well-understood and has been well-litigated within this body.

It has been reinforced repeatedly by numerous laws, Presidential policy directives, and executive orders that have the support of Democrats and Republicans alike.

□ 1215

The policy is clear: DHS serves as the lead agency responsible for coordinating Federal efforts to protect critical infrastructure in the 16 diverse sectors.

To carry out this mission, DHS, through the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, or CISA, is tasked with coordinating with other sector-specific agencies.

The Department of Energy is the sector-specific agency for the energy sector and is well-suited to do so. Its role as the facilitator of robust cybersecurity within the energy sector is important.

However, the problem common to the three measures today is that, in their current forms, they risk siloing cybersecurity efforts when it comes to protecting the energy sector, as none of them acknowledges DHS as the coordinating partner to DOE for cybersecurity.

As a reminder, this is the same infrastructure that has been under sustained, sophisticated attack from foreign adversaries, some of which have been successful.

While cyberattacks against the energy sector have accelerated, the sector does not exist in a vacuum. Over the past few years, DHS and the FBI have been sounding the alarm about Russian-led attacks on energy infrastructure that coincide with and often mirror attacks in other sectors.

In a 2018 technical alert issued to all infrastructure sectors, DHS and the FBI described a multistage intrusion campaign by the Kremlin. The alert ex-

plained that Russia used a similar playbook to target U.S. entities as well as organizations in the energy, nuclear, commercial facility, water, aviation, and commercial manufacturing sectors.

In the face of these threats, the Cybersecurity Solarium Commission and others have called for a redoubling of efforts to strengthen DHS' role.

I would like to enter into a colloquy with the gentleman from New Jersey.

Chairman PALLONE, I remain concerned that the cyber bill before us, as well as the other cybersecurity bills being considered today, do not provide sufficient direction to the Secretary of Energy to coordinate his Department's cybersecurity activities with the Department of Homeland Security.

Is it your intent that the activities authorized by this legislation be carried out in coordination with the Homeland Security Secretary and that Department?

Mr. PALLONE. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. PALLONE. Yes, Mr. Speaker, it is absolutely my intent and the intent of the Energy and Commerce Committee that these bills be implemented in coordination with the Secretary and the Department of Homeland Security. In fact, the sole reason we are amending these bills is to make clear that the Department of Energy must implement these bills in coordination with other Federal agencies.

I want to make clear that we intend, first and foremost, DOE to coordinate with the Department of Homeland Security. We have made that clear to DOE at the highest levels, and the Department has acknowledged that it will coordinate with the Department of Homeland Security in implementing these bills.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I am glad to hear that, without any equivocation, Mr. PALLONE fully expects DOE to coordinate with DHS, but that only addresses one of my concerns.

My other concern is that these bills do not, in any way, shape, or form, detract from or erode the existing authorities of the Secretary and Department of Homeland Security, including the authorities set forth in the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Act of 2018.

I understand that is your position that these bills do not in any way infringe on DHS' existing authorities or prerogatives. Is that correct?

Mr. PALLONE. If the gentleman continues to yield, yes, Chairman THOMPSON, it is correct, and I thank my friend, the chairman of the Homeland Security Committee, for that question and the opportunity to further clarify what these bills do and do not do.

These bills completely confine themselves to codifying or further specifying authorities and obligations the

Secretary of Energy already has as the sector-specific agency for electricity under the FAST Act, the Federal Power Act, and the Department of Energy Organization Act.

So let me make this clear: Nothing in these bills is intended to infringe, curtail, or otherwise affect the authorities of the Department of Homeland Security as they exist at this moment. And I will go even further to say that nothing in these bills actually affects, in any way, shape, or form, the existing authorities or prerogatives of the Department of Homeland Security or its Secretary in any area. Any interpretation to the contrary is simply incorrect.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from New Jersey for that information.

To be clear, it is your intention that these measures do not affect DHS' authority under PPD-21, PPD-41, Executive Order 13691, and Executive Order 13636?

Mr. PALLONE. If the gentleman continues to yield, that is correct, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Would you agree to work with me to communicate to the Senate and the administration that the intention behind these measures is to have the Secretary of Energy coordinate activities with DHS consistent with the existing cybersecurity framework?

Mr. PALLONE. If the gentleman continues to yield, yes, and I would be pleased to do so.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. PALLONE for addressing my questions.

While I still have concerns over these measures, I appreciate his willingness to put into the RECORD these statements and look forward to working with him to clarify expectations going forward.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman and understand that he continues to have concerns, and I know I may not be able to address them all today, but I commit to working with my friend from Mississippi and my Republican colleagues to try to further address these concerns going forward.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for his cooperation and clarifying these three pieces of legislation.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me and the chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee in supporting passage of this legislation and our efforts to ensure that our electric grid and our power supply sources are safe and secure.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge support for the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr.

PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 362, 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.

#### CYBER SENSE ACT OF 2020

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 360) to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a voluntary Cyber Sense program to test the cybersecurity of products and technologies intended for use in the bulk-power system, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 360

*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 “Cyber Sense Act of 2020”.

#### SEC. 2. CYBER SENSE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy, in coordination with relevant Federal agencies, shall establish a voluntary Cyber Sense program to test the cybersecurity of products and technologies intended for use in the bulk-power system, as defined in section 215(a) of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 824o(a)).

(b) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary of Energy shall—

(1) establish a testing process under the Cyber Sense program to test the cybersecurity of products and technologies intended for use in the bulk-power system, including products relating to industrial control systems and operational technologies, such as supervisory control and data acquisition systems;

(2) for products and technologies tested under the Cyber Sense program, establish and maintain cybersecurity vulnerability reporting processes and a related database;

(3) provide technical assistance to electric utilities, product manufacturers, and other electricity sector stakeholders to develop solutions to mitigate identified cybersecurity vulnerabilities in products and technologies tested under the Cyber Sense program;

(4) biennially review products and technologies tested under the Cyber Sense program for cybersecurity vulnerabilities and provide analysis with respect to how such products and technologies respond to and mitigate cyber threats;

(5) develop guidance, that is informed by analysis and testing results under the Cyber Sense program, for electric utilities for procurement of products and technologies;

(6) provide reasonable notice to the public, and solicit comments from the public, prior to establishing or revising the testing process under the Cyber Sense program;

(7) oversee testing of products and technologies under the Cyber Sense program; and

(8) consider incentives to encourage the use of analysis and results of testing under the Cyber Sense program in the design of products and technologies for use in the bulk-power system.

(c) DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION.—Any cybersecurity vulnerability reported pursuant to a process established under subsection

(b)(2), the disclosure of which the Secretary of Energy reasonably foresees would cause harm to critical electric infrastructure (as defined in section 215A of the Federal Power Act), shall be deemed to be critical electric infrastructure information for purposes of section 215A(d) of the Federal Power Act.

(d) FEDERAL GOVERNMENT LIABILITY.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize the commencement of an action against the United States Government with respect to the testing of a product or technology under the Cyber Sense program.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. 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 H.R. 360.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 360, the Cyber Sense Act of 2020.

Grid security is a national security issue and one that is clearly and properly delegated under law to the Secretary of Energy to manage together with the industry. We must give the electric sector the tools and technologies necessary to protect our grid from malicious harm.

Fortunately, there has not yet been a broad cyberattack that has taken down large parts of the grid in the United States, but we must not let our guard down.

H.R. 360 gives the Department of Energy important and new authorities to facilitate more secure technologies and equipment in our Nation’s grid. It also now requires the Secretary to coordinate with the Department of Homeland Security and other relevant Federal agencies in order to ensure smooth and seamless implementation across the Federal Government.

This bill requires the Department of Energy to set up a voluntary Cyber Sense program to identify cyber-secure products that could be used in the bulk-power system.

This program would also provide technical assistance to electric utilities and product manufacturers to assist them in developing solutions to mitigate cyber vulnerabilities in the grid.

I thank my colleagues, Representative MCNERNEY and Representative LATTA, for their hard work on this critical issue. Their partnership and bipartisan leadership on cybersecurity matters continues to benefit us all.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 360, the Cyber Sense Act, was authored and introduced by my Energy and Commerce Committee colleagues, Mr. LATTA and Mr. MCNERNEY.

The bill was reported unanimously from the Energy and Commerce Committee to improve the cybersecurity of the supply chains for the components of our Nation’s electricity infrastructure.

To ensure the security of our Nation’s electricity grid means we must ensure bulk-power system components and technologies are not vulnerable to cyber threats and attacks.

This is especially important, given the threats our nation-state adversaries pose to the bulk-power and electric systems, as indicated by the President’s May 1, 2020, executive order giving the Department of Energy authority to take action to protect the bulk-power system. This bill would help that effort.

H.R. 360 would establish a voluntary Department of Energy program that identifies and promotes cyber-secure products intended for use in the bulk-power system, including products related to industrial control systems.

The bill would authorize the Department of Energy to provide technical assistance to electric utilities, product manufacturers, and other electricity sector stakeholders to help mitigate identified cybersecurity vulnerabilities.

The bill also was amended to make clear these efforts of the Department of Energy would include, as appropriate, other relevant Federal agencies like the Department of Homeland Security.

Mr. Speaker, a vote for H.R. 360 is a vote for providing an important new tool to electric utility supply chains from cybersecurity threats. I urge support of the legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCNERNEY).

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, for lawmakers to encourage and enable innovative advancements that can improve the security and reliability of our Nation’s energy grid, we must work on a bipartisan basis, as the bills under consideration show.

Fortunately, the modernization and innovation of our Nation’s energy infrastructure is already under way. What was once a one-way delivery system has evolved into a dynamic network where information and energy flow both ways.

Technological advancements are also born from the need to secure the energy grid against potential physical and cyber threats. For example, the technology allowing for the rerouting of power and quick response in the event of attacks is being deployed across the grid.

The cooperation among Federal, State, and local governments is essential to protecting Americans and our

Nation's infrastructure. Given today's cyber environment, it is more important than ever that Congress pursue policies that continue to foster these exciting developments and support our grid infrastructure.

This bill, the Cyber Sense Act of 2019, makes important headway in protecting our critical grid infrastructure. The Cyber Sense Act would create a voluntary program through the Department of Energy to identify cyber-secure products intended for use in the bulk-power grid through a testing and verification program.

The bill also establishes a testing process for products, along with a reporting process for cyber vulnerabilities. It would require the Secretary of Energy to keep a related database on the products which will aid electric utilities that are evaluating products and their potential to cause harm to the electric grid.

The bulk-power system supports American industry and provides all the benefits of reliable electric power to the American people. However, the increasing frequency of cyberattacks on industrial control systems of critical infrastructure importance continues to be a concern to the electric power sector.

As the grid is modernized and the digital advantages afforded by internet connectivity are adopted, it is essential that we ensure these systems are as secure as possible. Any vulnerable component in the grid is a threat to our security, and this bill will go a long way to strengthening our system.

I thank my colleague, Mr. LATTA, for his partnership in our efforts as co-chairs of the Grid Innovation Caucus, and I look forward to continuing to work with him and others to ensure a more secure and resilient grid.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my fellow Members to support this bill.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA), the coauthor of this bill.

□ 1230

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman, my friend, the ranking Republican Member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, for yielding.

I rise in support of my legislation, H.R. 360, the Cyber Sense Act.

This legislation is one of two bipartisan bills that my friend from California, Congressman MCNERNEY, and I have worked on over the past two Congresses to improve the resiliency of our Nation's electric grid against cyberattacks. The second, H.R. 359, will be considered following this debate, and I urge my colleagues to also support it.

Mr. Speaker, over the last quarter century, we have seen incredible changes in the way we communicate with the rest of the world and the way we engage in commerce. Along with these changes, we have also seen innovations in technologies that power so-

ciety, resulting in a more efficient and streamlined electric grid.

Our country's grid has maintained a high level of reliability as our society has undertaken these changes, which is a fact that should not be taken for granted.

Unfortunately, the promise of a more interconnected society also means we must also address the challenges and vulnerabilities that arise with it. Every day, malignant actors, ranging from individuals, hackers, and foreign states, are attempting to exploit vulnerabilities in our electric grid to cause chaos or for other nefarious purposes.

To improve and protect our Nation's grid, I introduced the Cyber Sense Act, which would create a voluntary Cyber Sense program within the United States Department of Energy to identify and promote cyber-secure products for use in the bulk-power system. It would also establish a testing process for the products along with a reporting process of cybersecurity vulnerability.

This legislation was unanimously reported out of the Energy and Commerce Committee last year and is supported by the Department of Energy, and industry.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the full committee Chairman PALLONE, Subcommittee Chairman RUSH; the full committee Republican Ranking Member WALDEN, and also subcommittee Ranking Member UPTON; and both the majority and minority E&C staff for helping us get these bills where they are today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Cyber Sense Act as well as H.R. 359.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers on this side. I would just encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting passage of H.R. 360.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional Members that wish to speak.

Mr. Speaker, I enter into the RECORD a letter to the Speaker and the minority leader from the American Public Power Association, Edison Electric Institute, and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association in support of this legislation.

SEPTEMBER 28, 2020.

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

Hon. KEVIN McCARTHY,  
*House of Representatives*,  
*Washington, DC*.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI AND MINORITY LEADER McCARTHY: We are writing in support of full House consideration of three electric grid security bills passed by the House Energy and Commerce Committee: H.R. 359, the Enhancing Grid Security through Public-Private Partnerships Act; H.R. 360, the Cyber Sense Act of 2020; and H.R. 362, the Energy Emergency Leadership Act.

APPA is the national service organization for not-for-profit, community-owned utilities that power 2,000 towns and cities nationwide. Public power utilities account for over

15 percent of all electric sales to over 49 million customers in every state but Hawaii. EEI is the association that represents all U.S. investor-owned electric companies. EEI members provide electricity for about 220 million Americans, and operate in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. NRECA is the national service organization representing the interests of cooperative electric utilities and the consumers they serve. More than 900 not-for-profit rural electric utilities provide electricity to over 42 million people in 48 states.

Protecting and maintaining electric sector security and reliability is a top priority for our associations and our members. To keep up with evolving threats, the industry welcomes close coordination with government partners. The bills scheduled for consideration by the House this week are aimed at strengthening our shared responsibility to protect the nation's critical infrastructure. We are particularly supportive of H.R. 359 and H.R. 362. H.R. 359 directs DOE to establish a program to facilitate and encourage public-private partnerships to promote and advance the physical and cybersecurity of the electric power sector. H.R. 362 would amend the DOE Organization Act to include energy emergency and energy security among the functions that the Secretary assigns to an Assistant Secretary, with the intent to clarify and codify the functions of DOE's Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response (CESER).

Thank you for your consideration. We appreciate your leadership and efforts to help improve the security of our nation's electric grid.

Sincerely,

AMERICAN PUBLIC POWER  
ASSOCIATION.  
EDISON ELECTRIC  
INSTITUTE.  
NATIONAL RURAL ELECTRIC  
COOPERATIVE  
ASSOCIATION.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 360, 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.

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ENHANCING GRID SECURITY  
THROUGH PUBLIC-PRIVATE  
PARTNERSHIPS ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 359) to provide for certain programs and developments in the Department of Energy concerning the cybersecurity and vulnerabilities of, and physical threats to, the electric grid, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 359

*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 “Enhancing Grid Security through Public-Private Partnerships Act”.

**SEC. 2. PROGRAM TO PROMOTE AND ADVANCE PHYSICAL SECURITY AND CYBERSECURITY OF ELECTRIC UTILITIES.**

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Energy, in coordination with relevant Federal agencies and in consultation with State regulatory authorities, industry stakeholders, and the Electric Reliability Organization, as the Secretary determines appropriate, shall carry out a program to—

(1) develop, and provide for voluntary implementation of, maturity models, self-assessments, and auditing methods for assessing the physical security and cybersecurity of electric utilities;

(2) provide training to electric utilities to address and mitigate cybersecurity supply chain management risks;

(3) increase opportunities for sharing best practices and data collection within the electric sector;

(4) assist with cybersecurity training for electric utilities;

(5) advance the cybersecurity of third-party vendors that work in partnerships with electric utilities; and

(6) provide technical assistance for electric utilities subject to the program.

(b) SCOPE.—In carrying out the program under subsection (a), the Secretary of Energy shall—

(1) take into consideration different sizes of electric utilities and the regions that such electric utilities serve;

(2) prioritize electric utilities with fewer available resources due to size or region; and

(3) to the extent practicable, utilize and leverage existing Department of Energy programs.

(c) PROTECTION OF INFORMATION.—Information provided to, or collected by, the Federal Government pursuant to this section—

(1) shall be exempt from disclosure under section 552(b)(3) of title 5, United States Code; and

(2) shall not be made available by any Federal, State, political subdivision or tribal authority pursuant to any Federal, State, political subdivision, or tribal law requiring public disclosure of information or records.

**SEC. 3. REPORT ON CYBERSECURITY AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy, in coordination with relevant Federal agencies and in consultation with State regulatory authorities, industry stakeholders, and the Electric Reliability Organization, as the Secretary determines appropriate, shall submit to Congress a report that assesses—

(1) priorities, policies, procedures, and actions for enhancing the physical security and cybersecurity of electricity distribution systems to address threats to, and vulnerabilities of, such electricity distribution systems; and

(2) implementation of such priorities, policies, procedures, and actions, including an estimate of potential costs and benefits of such implementation, including any public-private cost-sharing opportunities.

(b) PROTECTION OF INFORMATION.—Information provided to, or collected by, the Federal Government pursuant to this section—

(1) shall be exempt from disclosure under section 552(b)(3) of title 5, United States Code; and

(2) shall not be made available by any Federal, State, political subdivision or tribal authority pursuant to any Federal, State, political subdivision, or tribal law requiring public disclosure of information or records.

**SEC. 4. ELECTRICITY INTERRUPTION INFORMATION.**

(a) INTERRUPTION COST ESTIMATE CALCULATOR.—The Secretary of Energy, in coordi-

nation with relevant Federal agencies and in consultation with State regulatory authorities, industry stakeholders, and the Electric Reliability Organization, as the Secretary determines appropriate, shall update the Interruption Cost Estimate Calculator, as often as appropriate and feasible, but not less than once every 2 years.

(b) INDICES.—The Secretary of Energy, in coordination with relevant Federal agencies and in consultation with State regulatory authorities, industry stakeholders, and the Electric Reliability Organization, as the Secretary determines appropriate, shall, as often as appropriate and feasible, update the following:

(1) The System Average Interruption Duration Index.

(2) The System Average Interruption Frequency Index.

(3) The Customer Average Interruption Duration Index.

(c) SURVEY.—The Administrator of the Energy Information Administration shall collect information on electricity interruption costs, if available, from a representative sample of owners of electric grid assets through a biennial survey.

**SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

In the Act, the following definitions apply:

(1) ELECTRIC RELIABILITY ORGANIZATION.—The term “Electric Reliability Organization” has the meaning given such term in section 215(a)(2) of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 824o(a)(2)).

(2) ELECTRIC UTILITY.—The term “electric utility” has the meaning given such term in section 3 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 796).

(3) STATE REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—The term “State regulatory authority” has the meaning given such term in section 3 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 796).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. PALLONE. 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 H.R. 359.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to begin by acknowledging the leadership of two of my Energy and Commerce Committee colleagues, Representative MCNERNEY of California and Representative LATTA of Ohio, for introducing H.R. 359, the Enhancing Grid Security Through Public-Private Partnerships Act.

This bill will go a long way in addressing both the physical and cybersecurity of the Nation’s utilities.

H.R. 359 directs the Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Electric Reliability Organization, States, other Federal agencies, and industry stakeholders, to create and implement a program to enhance the physical and cybersecurity of electric utilities.

Now, some of the critical provisions within this bill include the voluntary

implementation of self-assessments, maturity modeling, and auditing.

This bill also includes cybersecurity training in order to help mitigate supply chain risk.

Utilities would also be encouraged to share best practices and data collection within the electric sector, while also improving the cybersecurity of third-party utility vendors.

H.R. 359 also directs the Secretary of Energy to deliver a report to Congress on general cybersecurity concerns and distribution systems.

Any information that is provided to the Department of Energy under this program would be protected to ensure the confidentiality of this sensitive information. And like the other two cybersecurity bills we already have passed today; this legislation requires the Secretary of Energy to coordinate with the Department of Homeland Security and other relevant Federal agencies to ensure good communication and smooth implementation across the government.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, the bill instructs the Secretary of Energy to update the Interruption Cost Estimate, or ICE, Calculator at least once every 2 years.

The ICE Calculator, which was developed through a partnership between the Department of Energy’s Lawrence Berkeley Lab and Nexant, Inc., is an electric reliability planning tool that can be used for estimating electricity interruption costs and the benefits associated with reliability improvements.

So, Mr. Speaker, H.R. 359 is an important piece of legislation that will help address the security of America’s electric utilities, and I urge all my colleagues to support this bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 359, the Enhancing Grid Security Through Public-Private Partnerships Act, was authored by my Energy and Commerce Committee colleagues Mr. MCNERNEY and Mr. LATTA.

The bill was reported unanimously from the Energy and Commerce Committee as an important measure for strengthening the cybersecurity and resilience in the energy systems used to deliver power to our homes and businesses.

Mr. Speaker, protecting our Nation’s critical electric infrastructure is a shared responsibility. It requires robust partnerships between industry and the government to leverage strength and ensure the responsive and resilient system that the public needs and relies upon.

H.R. 359 focuses on these very partnerships. The bill would establish a program to facilitate and encourage public-private partnerships to promote and enhance physical and cybersecurity of electric utilities.

The bill would require the Secretary of Energy to deploy the Department of

Energy's world-class technical know-how to assist utilities with cybersecurity practices and procedures, especially those utilities that have fewer resources due to their size or the region in which they are located.

It would foster development of maturity models, self-assessments, and auditing methods.

It would provide training and technical assistance to electric utilities to address and mitigate cybersecurity supply chain management risks.

And H.R. 359 would increase opportunities for sharing best practices and data collection within the electric sector.

The amended version of the bill also makes clear the Department of Energy will work as appropriate with other Federal agencies to safeguard the electric system.

A vote for H.R. 359 is a vote for providing an important new tool to protect our Nation yet once again from these very serious cybersecurity threats.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCNERNEY).

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding.

In today's cyber environment, it is more important than ever that Congress pursue policies that continue to support our grid infrastructure and secure it against potential physical and cyber threats.

This is an issue I feel very passionate about, as the grid is the backbone of our economy and touches every aspect of our lives.

Any vulnerable component is a threat to our physical and national security, as well as our clean energy future, making it imperative that we invest in grid modernization and security.

That is why I am proud to co-chair the bipartisan Grid Innovation Caucus along with my good friend from across the aisle, Mr. LATTA from Ohio.

Together, we are focused on providing a forum for discussing solutions to the many challenges facing the grid and to educate Members of Congress and staff about the importance of the electric grid with relation to the economy, energy security, and advanced technologies being utilized to enhance grid capabilities.

Time is of the essence, as a recent report from the Congressional Research Service found that our Nation's bulk-power system faces new and evolving cybersecurity threats on a daily basis.

These cyberattacks can take multiple forms, such as a direct attack aimed at the electric grid itself or an indirect attack aimed at other critical infrastructure, which in turn could impact the operation of the security of the grid.

Recent cyber threats to the electric grid, such as the Triton and

BlackEnergy attacks, have come in the form of deposits of malware on grid industrial control system networks, which possess the capability to damage or take over certain aspects of system control or functionality.

In addition to this, future cyber threats to the grid are expected to result from attacks directed via the Internet of Things devices connected to networks. As the CRS report noted, an example of such an IoT-based attack on residential or commercial thermostats could result in false power demand readings, causing a utility to ramp up power production unnecessarily.

Without proactive management of cyber threats facing the grid, utilities across the Nation will continue to be highly vulnerable to potentially significant attacks.

My bill, which I introduced along with Mr. LATTA, assists us in this effort to bolster America's electrical infrastructure by encouraging coordination between the Department of Energy and electric utilities.

It accomplishes this by creating a program to enhance the physical and cybersecurity of electric utilities through assessing security vulnerabilities, increasing cybersecurity training, and data collection.

My bill would also require the Interruption Cost Estimate Calculator—which is used to calculate the return on investment on utility investments—to be updated at least every 2 years to ensure accurate calculations.

By encouraging partnerships among the DOE, State regulatory authorities, industry stakeholders, and other Federal agencies to promote and advance physical security and cybersecurity for electric utilities, we can best position ourselves to keep the Nation's lights on and to insulate our economy against future cyber threats.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman of the full committee, Mr. PALLONE, for moving this bill forward, and I thank the ranking member of the full committee for helping move this forward.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my fellow colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the prior speaker for his comments and great work on these pieces of legislation.

Together, we are doing what we can to protect America's energy sector from attack, and I thank Mr. MCNERNEY and others on the committee for their work.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I also ask all Members 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 gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 359, 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.

#### PRESERVING HOME AND OFFICE NUMBERS IN EMERGENCIES ACT OF 2020

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1289) to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for a moratorium on number reassignment after a disaster declaration, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1289

*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 "Preserving Home and Office Numbers in Emergencies Act of 2020" or the "PHONE Act of 2020".*

##### SEC. 2. MORATORIUM ON NUMBER REASSIGNMENT AFTER DISASTER DECLARATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 251(e) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 251(e)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

###### "(4) MORATORIUM ON NUMBER REASSIGNMENT AFTER DISASTER DECLARATION.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a number assigned to a subscriber for the provision of fixed wireline voice service at a location in a designated area during a covered period—

"(i) the number may not be reassigned, except at the request of the subscriber; and

"(ii) the assignment of the number may not be rescinded or otherwise modified, except at the request of the subscriber.

"(B) EXTENSION AT REQUEST OF SUBSCRIBER.—During the covered period, at the request of a subscriber described in subparagraph (A), the prohibition in subparagraph (A) shall be extended for the number for 1 year after the date on which the covered period expires.

###### "(C) SUBSCRIBER RIGHT TO CANCEL AND RESUBSCRIBE.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a number described under subparagraph (A) or (B), if the subscriber assigned to such number demonstrates to the provider of the service (or, under subclause (II), any other provider of fixed wireline voice service that serves the local area) that the residence where the number is located is inaccessible or uninhabitable—

"(II) the provider may not charge the subscriber an early termination or other fee in connection with the cancellation of such service, if cancelled during the covered period or the extension of the period described in subparagraph (B); and

"(II) if the subscriber cancels the service during the covered period or the extension of the period described in subparagraph (B), the provider (or any other provider of fixed wireline voice service that serves the local area)—

"(aa) shall permit the subscriber to subscribe or resubscribe, as the case may be, to fixed wireline voice service with the number at the residence or at a different residence (if such number is available in the location of such different residence); and

"(bb) may not charge the subscriber a connection fee or any other fee relating to the initiation of fixed wireline voice service.

"(ii) CANCELLATION WITHOUT DEMONSTRATION OF INACCESSIBILITY OR UNINHABITABILITY.—If a subscriber cancels the provision of service assigned to a number described in subparagraph (A) or (B) and does not demonstrate to the provider of such service that the residence where

the number is located is inaccessible or uninhabitable as described under clause (i), the number is no longer subject to the prohibition under subparagraph (A) or (B).

**“(D) IDENTIFICATION ON COMMISSION WEBSITE.**—The Commission shall publicly identify on the website of the Commission each designated area that is in a covered period, not later than 15 days after the submission of a public designation by a State under subparagraph (E)(iii) with respect to such area. In identifying a designated area under subparagraph (E)(iii), a State shall consult with providers of fixed wireline voice service that serve such area and coordinate with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to reasonably limit the designated area to areas that have sustained covered damage.

**“(E) DEFINITIONS.**—In this paragraph:

“(i) **COVERED DAMAGE.**—The term ‘covered damage’ means, with respect to an area—

“(I) damage that renders residences in such area inaccessible or uninhabitable; or

“(II) damage that otherwise results in the displacement of subscribers from or within such area.

“(ii) **COVERED PERIOD.**—The term ‘covered period’ means a period that—

“(I) begins on the date of a declaration by the President of a major disaster under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170) with respect to a designated area; and

“(II) ends on the date that is 1 year after such date.

“(iii) **DESIGNATED AREA.**—The term ‘designated area’ means a geographic area for which a State has submitted a public designation to the Commission, within 15 days after a declaration by the President of a major disaster under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170) with respect to such area, stipulating that the State has determined that—

“(I) covered damage was sustained in such area; and

“(II) the prohibitions described in this paragraph are necessary and in the public interest.

“(iv) **VOICE SERVICE.**—The term ‘voice service’ has the meaning given the term ‘voice service’ in section 227(e)(8).

**(b) AMENDMENT OF FCC RULES REQUIRED.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Communications Commission shall amend its rules to reflect the requirements of paragraph (4) of section 251(e) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 251(e)), as added by subsection (a).

**(c) APPLICABILITY.**—Paragraph (4) of section 251(e) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 251(e)), as added by subsection (a), shall apply with respect to a major disaster declared by the President under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170) after the date that is 180 days after the date on which the Commission announces that the Commission is capable of publicly identifying a designated area on the website of the Commission under subparagraph (D) of such paragraph (4).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. 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 materials on H.R. 1289.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

□ 1245

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

I rise in strong support of Representative THOMPSON’s legislation, H.R. 1289, the Preserving Home and Office Numbers in Emergencies Act of 2019, or the PHONE Act.

Mr. Speaker, after the Atlas and Tubbs fires in October 2017 in northern California, Representative THOMPSON’s constituents returned to what was left of their homes. In the rebuilding process, many of them were frustrated to learn that their phone numbers, which they had had for years, had been given away by the phone company.

It was as if their phone number, of all things, went up in smoke with the rest of their lifelong possessions. This issue just continues to grow as natural disasters like fires and hurricanes have become all too common and more severe as a result of climate change.

So, just this past weekend, hundreds of homes in Napa and Sonoma Counties had to be evacuated because of another fast-moving fire, and this bill aims to fix the problems that relate to phone numbers during these crises.

First, if the President has issued a major disaster declaration, and a Governor has designated an area to the Federal Communications Commission under the PHONE Act, the phone numbers in that designated area cannot be reassigned for 1 year.

Second, if a consumer needs more time, this legislation allows them to get another yearlong extension. We know this is important because, in some disasters, like Superstorm Sandy in my district, for example, the home-rebuilding process took, in some cases, over 6 years.

Third, the legislation would allow consumers whose homes are inaccessible or uninhabitable to cancel their service without a cancellation fee or re-subscription fee when they get phone service somewhere else in the area during that covered period.

Now, I am glad we could reach an agreement with our Republican colleagues on this part of the bill to ensure this policy makes sense in practice. This was a compromise, and, therefore, I know there are some things that they would do differently. At the same time, there are a few things that we on this side of the aisle may have done differently. But with this compromise, this policy is simple yet, I believe, powerful.

In the age of robocalls, dialing our friends and loved ones from phone numbers we have always had is how we get through. A lot of people simply will not pick up the phone if they don’t recognize the phone number, and that is why this legislation is so important.

The legal effect and intent of this bill are designed purposely to be narrow, but it plugs a small gap in the law, which will mean the world to the consumers who will have one less thing to

worry about as they face rebuilding in the aftermath of a devastating natural disaster.

Again, I want to thank Representatives THOMPSON and ROONEY for their bipartisan leadership on this bill. The PHONE Act is a commonsense bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

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

I rise in support of H.R. 1289, the PHONE Act. Now, this legislation will ensure that Americans who lose their homes during a wildfire or other natural disaster do not also have to worry about losing their home phone numbers.

As we have seen recently from the tragic wildfires that have ravaged communities in California and my home State of Oregon, these disasters can destroy everything in their path, often with little notice. No matter how resilient a home or communications tower might be, you cannot regulate your way out of a fire’s burning path.

When a natural disaster occurs, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, is activated to provide emergency housing assistance and other resources. If your house burns to the ground, the last thing you should have to worry about is whether or not your landline phone number will be available to you when you do return. Yet, that is what happens.

Many people, especially seniors, rely on their landline to stay connected to their family, their doctor, or others. Thankfully, the Federal Communications Commission already has a process to prevent victims of natural disasters from losing their landline numbers.

The FCC uses its authority, and did this as recently as last week for northern California and Oregon, to waive rules and regulations that require landline phone numbers to return to the pool of available numbers when a home is completely destroyed by a natural disaster. So what this bill does is codify the process and seeks to make several improvements.

During the committee process, Republicans sought changes to this bill to ensure it does not upend the current procedure, so no consumers will be left in the lurch.

This type of relief should only apply to areas where significant physical damage has occurred to render a home uninhabitable, as is the objective of the bill.

We worked for the inclusion of FEMA in the notification process and have stated our concerns that FEMA should still play a large role in determining which households have sustained damage in an affected county.

Now, this did receive some pushback from the majority, and we should defer to the assessment of FEMA, the experts on the ground, before these proceedings go into effect.

Ultimately, the majority on the committee accepted many of our changes

to make sure this legislation is beneficial to consumers, and the bill was passed unanimously by the committee.

Mr. Speaker, I support this measure moving forward, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, once again, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCNERNEY).

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1289, the PHONE Act.

As we stand here today, two new, fast-moving wildfires, the Glass and the Zogg fires, are blazing through my home State of California. Thousands of people had to evacuate their homes yesterday as a result of the fires, some of them in the middle of the night.

Since the beginning of this year, there have been over 8,100 wildfires that have burned well over 3.7 million acres in California alone. Nearly every part of the State has been ravaged by wildfires this year, and we are now only starting to approach what has historically been the most deadly and destructive part of wildfire season.

Worrying about deadly wildfires spreading quickly is the new norm that my constituents now live in, and worrying about whether they will have to evacuate their homes is part of this new norm.

Because of this legislation that we are considering today, the PHONE Act, which I am proud to cosponsor, my constituents, Californians, and Americans across the country who are impacted all too frequently now by natural disasters due to climate change will have to worry about one less thing when they are forced to evacuate their homes, and that is the ability to keep their phone numbers.

Under this legislation, communications providers will be prohibited from reassigning phone numbers of customers in areas covered by major natural disasters and declared disasters for the duration of the declaration, and that period may be extended.

The bill would also prohibit providers from assessing early termination fees to cancel service or connection fees to resubscribe at a new address for subscribers whose residence is inaccessible or uninhabitable due to a major disaster.

There is so much that wildfire victims have to worry about. We need to move quickly to ensure that the PHONE Act is signed into law, so there is one less thing on their plate.

It may not seem like a big deal, but if you lose your home, keeping the phone number will be an emotionally safe place. Losing your phone number after a disaster just adds insult to injury.

I want to thank my colleague from California, Mr. MIKE THOMPSON, for his work in creating this legislation. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers on this matter. I

would encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support the PHONE Act, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I will do the same. I urge support of this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the bipartisan PHONE Act, a bill I started working on more than two years ago.

The PHONE Act is an example of listening to our constituents who have been survivors of a natural disaster and using the power of legislation to address the aftermath.

After the devastating 2017 wildfires, one of my constituents contacted my office to let us know of a problem unique to natural disasters. My constituent was one of more than 6,000 households who lost a home or business to the wildfire. This family was a long-time part of our community and they wanted to rebuild. What they learned was that, during the rebuilding process, they would lose the phone number they had for years. This may seem like something small—a phone number, but to my constituent, this was part of the fabric of their lives and of their home.

Unfortunately, the FCC could not save the phone number long enough to rebuild. So many of our Districts are facing wildfires, hurricanes, powerful windstorms and flooding. We must do everything we can to help survivors reclaim their lives.

Displaced survivors must find temporary housing, connect with family members, replace lost documents, apply for disaster assistance, and begin the long process of repairing and rebuilding homes. We may not be able to help rebuild or pick up the pieces, but this small gesture—reserving a phone number—can bring the tiniest sense of a return to normalcy.

Preserving home phone numbers means survivors have one less worry. It's one less burden. It is the least we can do to help the folks in our communities who face such devastation.

I thank the Committee for its work to bring this bill to the Floor and I urge my colleagues to vote yes.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1289, the PHONE Act, a simple but powerful bill to ensure that Americans who lose their homes in natural disasters don't also lose their home phone numbers.

The CZU Lightning Complex Fire burned 86,509 acres in my Congressional District, making it the 11th most destructive fire in California history. Seventy-seven thousand of my constituents were evacuated. After weeks of tireless efforts from over 2,000 local, state, and federal firefighters, the fire is now contained.

While most of the evacuees have returned home, nearly 1,000 families in my district won't be returning home because their houses were destroyed. It's these families the PHONE Act helps.

Because climate change is causing increased and more intense wildfires, California is experiencing a horrific wildfire season. Already, over 3.6 million acres have burned from nearly 8,000 wildfires. Four of the five largest fires in state history happened this year. The PHONE Act ensures that the thousands of families who lose their homes don't also lose their phone numbers.

The PHONE Act has three parts. First, if the President issues a major disaster declaration, and a governor designates a disaster area, phone numbers in that designated area cannot be reassigned for one year. Second, if someone in the disaster area needs more than a year, they can get a one-year extension because rebuilding can take years. Third, the bill allows consumers to cancel phone service without a cancellation fee if their home is inaccessible or uninhabitable. The bill also prohibits resubscription fees if consumers get phone service somewhere else in the area.

Some may ask why we need all of this for a simple phone number. One of the first things parents teach their kids is their phone number. I bet many of us still remember our parents' home phone numbers. While many are opting to live with just cellphones, it's important to consider who depends on landlines: older Americans and retirees, who often have multiple doctors, caregivers, and loved ones using long-held phone numbers.

Congressman MIKE THOMPSON authored the bill to help the survivors of the Atlas and Tubbs fires that ravished his Congressional District in 2017. Thousands lost their homes and were further frustrated to learn they also lost their phone numbers, because phone companies had given the numbers away.

The bill was marked up on March 10, 2020, by the Subcommittee and on September 9, 2020, by the full Energy & Commerce Committee. At both markups, I offered amendments to ensure the bill would have broad, bipartisan support and would be as effective as possible.

The bill is carefully drafted to plug a small gap in the law, but this gap means the world to our constituents the bill is written to protect.

The legislation before us is necessary and powerful, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1289, 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.

#### HORSERACING INTEGRITY AND SAFETY ACT OF 2020

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1754) to improve the integrity and safety of horseracing by requiring a uniform anti-doping and medication control program to be developed and enforced by an independent Horseracing Anti-Doping and Medication Control Authority, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1754

*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 "Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act of 2020".

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act the following definitions apply:

(1) AUTHORITY.—The term “Authority” means the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority designated by section 3(a).

(2) BREEDER.—The term “breeder” means a person who is in the business of breeding covered horses.

(3) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission” means the Federal Trade Commission.

(4) COVERED HORSE.—The term “covered horse” means any Thoroughbred horse, or any other horse made subject to this Act by election of the applicable State racing commission or the breed governing organization for such horse under section 5(k), during the period—

(A) beginning on the date of the horse’s first timed and reported workout at a racetrack that participates in covered horseraces or at a training facility; and

(B) ending on the date on which the Authority receives written notice that the horse has been retired.

(5) COVERED HORSERACE.—The term “covered horserace” means any horserace involving covered horses that has a substantial relation to interstate commerce, including any Thoroughbred horserace that is the subject of interstate off-track or advance deposit wagers.

(6) COVERED PERSONS.—The term “covered persons” means all trainers, owners, breeders, jockeys, racetracks, veterinarians, persons (legal and natural) licensed by a State racing commission and the agents, assigns, and employees of such persons and other horse support personnel who are engaged in the care, training, or racing of covered horses.

(7) EQUINE CONSTITUENCIES.—The term “equine constituencies” means, collectively, owners, breeders, trainers, racetracks, veterinarians, State racing commissions, and jockeys who are engaged in the care, training, or racing of covered horses.

(8) EQUINE INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVE.—The term “equine industry representative” means an organization regularly and significantly engaged in the equine industry, including organizations that represent the interests of, and whose membership consists of, owners, breeders, trainers, racetracks, veterinarians, State racing commissions, and jockeys.

(9) HORSERACING ANTI-DOPING AND MEDICATION CONTROL PROGRAM.—The term “horseracing anti-doping and medication control program” means the anti-doping and medication program established under section 6(a).

(10) IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER.—The term “immediate family member” shall include a spouse, domestic partner, mother, father, aunt, uncle, sibling, or child.

(11) INTERSTATE OFF-TRACK WAGER.—The term “interstate off-track wager” has the meaning given such term in section 3 of the Interstate Horseracing Act of 1978 (15 U.S.C. 3002).

(12) JOCKEY.—The term “jockey” means a rider or driver of a covered horse in covered horseraces.

(13) OWNER.—The term “owner” means a person who holds an ownership interest in one or more covered horses.

(14) PROGRAM EFFECTIVE DATE.—The term “program effective date” means July 1, 2022.

(15) RACETRACK.—The term “racetrack” means an organization licensed by a State racing commission to conduct covered horseraces.

(16) RACETRACK SAFETY PROGRAM.—The term “racetrack safety program” means the program established under section 7(a).

(17) STAKES RACE.—The term “stakes race” means any race so designated by the racetrack at which such race is run, including, without limitation, the races comprising the Breeders’ Cup World Championships and the

races designated as graded stakes by the American Graded Stakes Committee of the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association.

(18) STATE RACING COMMISSION.—The term “State racing commission” means an entity designated by State law or regulation that has jurisdiction over the conduct of horseracing within the applicable State.

(19) TRAINER.—The term “trainer” means an individual engaged in the training of covered horses.

(20) TRAINING FACILITY.—The term “training facility” means a location that is not a racetrack licensed by a State racing commission that operates primarily to house covered horses and conduct official timed workouts.

(21) VETERINARIAN.—The term “veterinarian” means a licensed veterinarian who provides veterinary services to covered horses.

(22) WORKOUT.—The term “workout” means a timed running of a horse over a predetermined distance not associated with a race or its first qualifying race, if such race is made subject to this Act by election under section 5(k) of the horse’s breed governing organization or the applicable State racing commission.

### SEC. 3. RECOGNITION OF THE HORSERACING INTEGRITY AND SAFETY AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The private, independent, self-regulatory, nonprofit corporation, to be known as the “Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority”, is recognized for purposes of developing and implementing a horseracing anti-doping and medication control program and a racetrack safety program for covered horses, covered persons, and covered horseraces.

#### (b) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—

(1) MEMBERSHIP.—The Authority shall be governed by a board of directors (in this section referred to as the “Board”) comprised of nine members as follows:

(A) INDEPENDENT MEMBERS.—Five members of the Board shall be independent members selected from outside the equine industry.

#### (B) INDUSTRY MEMBERS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Four members of the Board shall be industry members selected from among the various equine constituencies.

(ii) REPRESENTATION OF EQUINE CONSTITUENCIES.—The industry members shall be representative of the various equine constituencies, and shall include not more than one industry member from any one equine constituency.

(2) CHAIR.—The chair of the Board shall be an independent member described in paragraph (1)(A).

(3) BYLAWS.—The Board of the Authority shall be governed by bylaws for the operation of the Authority with respect to—

(A) the administrative structure and employees of the Authority;

(B) the establishment of standing committees;

(C) the procedures for filling vacancies on the Board and the standing committees;

(D) term limits for members and termination of membership; and

(E) any other matter the Board considers necessary.

#### (c) STANDING COMMITTEES.—

##### (1) ANTI-DOPING AND MEDICATION CONTROL STANDING COMMITTEE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Authority shall establish an anti-doping and medication control standing committee, which shall provide advice and guidance to the Board on the development and maintenance of the horseracing anti-doping and medication control program.

(B) MEMBERSHIP.—The anti-doping and medication control standing committee shall be comprised of seven members as follows:

(i) INDEPENDENT MEMBERS.—A majority of the members shall be independent members selected from outside the equine industry.

(ii) INDUSTRY MEMBERS.—A minority of the members shall be industry members selected to represent the various equine constituencies, and shall include not more than one industry member from any one equine constituency.

(iii) QUALIFICATION.—A majority of individuals selected to serve on the anti-doping and medication control standing committee shall have significant, recent experience in anti-doping and medication control rules.

(C) CHAIR.—The chair of the anti-doping and medication control standing committee shall be an independent member of the Board described in subsection (b)(1)(A).

#### (2) RACETRACK SAFETY STANDING COMMITTEE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Authority shall establish a racetrack safety standing committee, which shall provide advice and guidance to the Board on the development and maintenance of the racetrack safety program.

(B) MEMBERSHIP.—The racetrack safety standing committee shall be comprised of seven members as follows:

(i) INDEPENDENT MEMBERS.—A majority of the members shall be independent members selected from outside the equine industry.

(ii) INDUSTRY MEMBERS.—A minority of the members shall be industry members selected to represent the various equine constituencies.

(C) CHAIR.—The chair of the racetrack safety standing committee shall be an industry member of the Board described in subsection (b)(1)(B).

#### (d) NOMINATING COMMITTEE.—

##### (1) MEMBERSHIP.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The nominating committee of the Authority shall be comprised of seven independent members selected from business, sports, and academia.

(B) INITIAL MEMBERSHIP.—The initial nominating committee members shall be set forth in the governing corporate documents of the Authority.

(C) VACANCIES.—After the initial committee members are appointed in accordance with subparagraph (B), vacancies shall be filled by the Board pursuant to rules established by the Authority.

(2) CHAIR.—The chair of the nominating committee shall be selected by the nominating committee from among the members of the nominating committee.

#### (3) SELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND STANDING COMMITTEES.—

(A) INITIAL MEMBERS.—The nominating committee shall select the initial members of the Board and the standing committees described in subsection (c).

(B) SUBSEQUENT MEMBERS.—The nominating committee shall recommend individuals to fill any vacancy on the Board or on such standing committees.

(e) CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.—To avoid conflicts of interest, the following individuals may not be selected as a member of the Board or as an independent member of a nominating or standing committee under this section:

(1) An individual who has a financial interest in, or provides goods or services to, covered horses.

(2) An official or officer—

(A) of an equine industry representative; or

(B) who serves in a governance or policy-making capacity for an equine industry representative.

(3) An employee of, or an individual who has a business or commercial relationship

with, an individual described in paragraph (1) or (2).

(4) An immediate family member of an individual described in paragraph (1) or (2).

(f) FUNDING.—

(1) INITIAL FUNDING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Initial funding to establish the Authority and underwrite its operations before the program effective date shall be provided by loans obtained by the Authority.

(B) BORROWING.—The Authority may borrow funds toward the funding of its operations.

(C) ANNUAL CALCULATION OF AMOUNTS REQUIRED.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the date that is 90 days before the program effective date, and not later than November 1 each year thereafter, the Authority shall determine and provide to each State racing commission the estimated amount required from the State—

(I) to fund the State's proportionate share of the horseracing anti-doping and medication control program and the racetrack safety program for the next calendar year; and

(II) to liquidate the State's proportionate share of any loan or funding shortfall in the current calendar year and any previous calendar year.

(ii) BASIS OF CALCULATION.—The amounts calculated under clause (i) shall—

(I) be based on—

(aa) the annual budget of the Authority for the following calendar year, as approved by the Board; and

(bb) the projected amount of covered racing starts for the year in each State; and

(II) take into account other sources of Authority revenue.

(iii) REQUIREMENTS REGARDING BUDGETS OF AUTHORITY.—

(I) INITIAL BUDGET.—The initial budget of the Authority shall require the approval of ½ of the Board.

(II) SUBSEQUENT BUDGETS.—Any subsequent budget that exceeds the budget of the preceding calendar year by more than 5 percent shall require the approval of ½ of the Board.

(iv) RATE INCREASES.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—A proposed increase in the amount required under this subparagraph shall be reported to the Commission.

(II) NOTICE AND COMMENT.—The Commission shall publish in the Federal Register such a proposed increase and provide an opportunity for public comment.

(2) ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF FEES BY STATES.—

(A) NOTICE OF ELECTION.—Any State racing commission that elects to remit fees pursuant to this subsection shall notify the Authority of such election not later than 60 days before the program effective date.

(B) REQUIREMENT TO REMIT FEES.—After a State racing commission makes a notification under subparagraph (A), the election shall remain in effect and the State racing commission shall be required to remit fees pursuant to this subsection according to a schedule established in rule developed by the Authority and approved by the Commission.

(C) WITHDRAWAL OF ELECTION.—A State racing commission may cease remitting fees under this subsection not earlier than one year after notifying the Authority of the intent of the State racing commission to do so.

(D) DETERMINATION OF METHODS.—Each State racing commission shall determine, subject to the applicable laws, regulations, and contracts of the State, the method by which the requisite amount of fees, such as foal registration fees, sales contributions, starter fees, and track fees, and other fees on covered persons, shall be allocated, assessed, and collected.

(3) ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF FEES BY THE AUTHORITY.—

(A) CALCULATION.—If a State racing commission does not elect to remit fees pursuant to paragraph (2) or withdraws its election under such paragraph, the Authority shall, not less frequently than monthly, calculate the applicable fee per racing start multiplied by the number of racing starts in the State during the preceding month.

(B) ALLOCATION.—The Authority shall allocate equitably the amount calculated under subparagraph (A) collected among covered persons involved with covered horseraces pursuant to such rules as the Authority may promulgate.

(C) ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—The Authority shall assess a fee equal to the allocation made under subparagraph (B) and shall collect such fee according to such rules as the Authority may promulgate.

(ii) REMITTANCE OF FEES.—Covered persons described in subparagraph (B) shall be required to remit such fees to the Authority.

(D) LIMITATION.—A State racing commission that does not elect to remit fees pursuant to paragraph (2) or that withdraws its election under such paragraph shall not impose or collect from any person a fee or tax relating to anti-doping and medication control or racetrack safety matters for covered horseraces.

(4) FEES AND FINES.—Fees and fines imposed by the Authority shall be allocated toward funding of the Authority and its activities.

(5) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to require—

(A) the appropriation of any amount to the Authority; or

(B) the Federal Government to guarantee the debts of the Authority.

(g) QUORUM.—For all items where Board approval is required, the Authority shall have present a majority of independent members.

#### SEC. 4. FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION OVERSIGHT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Authority shall submit to the Commission, in accordance with such rules as the Commission may prescribe under section 553 of title 5, United States Code, any proposed rule, or proposed modification to a rule, of the Authority relating to—

(1) the bylaws of the Authority;

(2) a list of permitted and prohibited medications, substances, and methods, including allowable limits of permitted medications, substances, and methods;

(3) laboratory standards for accreditation and protocols;

(4) standards for racing surface quality maintenance;

(5) racetrack safety standards and protocols;

(6) a program for injury and fatality data analysis;

(7) a program of research and education on safety, performance, and anti-doping and medication control;

(8) a description of safety, performance, and anti-doping and medication control rule violations applicable to covered horses and covered persons;

(9) a schedule of civil sanctions for violations;

(10) a process or procedures for disciplinary hearings; and

(11) a formula or methodology for determining assessments described in section 3(f).

(b) PUBLICATION AND COMMENT.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall—

(A) publish in the Federal Register each proposed rule or modification submitted under subsection (a); and

(B) provide an opportunity for public comment.

(2) APPROVAL REQUIRED.—A proposed rule, or a proposed modification to a rule, of the Authority shall not take effect unless the proposed rule or modification has been approved by the Commission.

(c) DECISION ON PROPOSED RULE OR MODIFICATION TO A RULE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date on which a proposed rule or modification is published in the Federal Register, the Commission shall approve or disapprove the proposed rule or modification.

(2) CONDITIONS.—The Commission shall approve a proposed rule or modification if the Commission finds that the proposed rule or modification is consistent with—

(A) this Act; and

(B) applicable rules approved by the Commission.

(3) REVISION OF PROPOSED RULE OR MODIFICATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of disapproval of a proposed rule or modification under this subsection, not later than 30 days after the issuance of the disapproval, the Commission shall make recommendations to the Authority to modify the proposed rule or modification.

(B) RESUBMISSION.—The Authority may resubmit for approval by the Commission a proposed rule or modification that incorporates the modifications recommended under subparagraph (A).

(d) PROPOSED STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Authority shall submit to the Commission any proposed rule, standard, or procedure developed by the Authority to carry out the horseracing anti-doping and medication control program or the racetrack safety program.

(2) NOTICE AND COMMENT.—The Commission shall publish in the Federal Register any such proposed rule, standard, or procedure and provide an opportunity for public comment.

(e) INTERIM FINAL RULES.—The Commission may adopt an interim final rule, to take effect immediately, under conditions specified in section 553(b)(B) of title 5, United States Code, if the Commission finds that such a rule is necessary to protect—

(1) the health and safety of covered horses; or

(2) the integrity of covered horseraces and wagering on those horseraces.

#### SEC. 5. JURISDICTION OF THE COMMISSION AND THE HORSERACING INTEGRITY AND SAFETY AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the program effective date, the Commission, the Authority, and the anti-doping and medication control enforcement agency, each within the scope of their powers and responsibilities under this Act, as limited by subsection (j), shall—

(1) implement and enforce the horseracing anti-doping and medication control program and the racetrack safety program;

(2) exercise independent and exclusive national authority over—

(A) the safety, welfare, and integrity of covered horses, covered persons, and covered horseraces; and

(B) all horseracing safety, performance, and anti-doping and medication control matters for covered horses, covered persons, and covered horseraces; and

(3) have safety, performance, and anti-doping and medication control authority over covered persons similar to such authority of the State racing commissions before the program effective date.

(b) PREEMPTION.—The rules of the Authority promulgated in accordance with this Act shall preempt any provision of State law or

regulation with respect to matters within the jurisdiction of the Authority under this Act, as limited by subsection (j). Nothing contained in this Act shall be construed to limit the authority of the Commission under any other provision of law.

(c) DUTIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Authority—

(A) shall develop uniform procedures and rules authorizing—

(i) access to offices, racetrack facilities, other places of business, books, records, and personal property of covered persons that are used in the care, treatment, training, and racing of covered horses;

(ii) issuance and enforcement of subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum; and

(iii) other investigatory powers of the nature and scope exercised by State racing commissions before the program effective date; and

(B) with respect to an unfair or deceptive act or practice described in section 10, may recommend that the Commission commence an enforcement action.

(2) APPROVAL OF COMMISSION.—The procedures and rules developed under paragraph (1)(A) shall be subject to approval by the Commission in accordance with section 4.

(d) REGISTRATION OF COVERED PERSONS WITH AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of participating in covered races and in the care, ownership, treatment, and training of covered horses, a covered person shall register with the Authority in accordance with rules promulgated by the Authority and approved by the Commission in accordance with section 4.

(2) AGREEMENT WITH RESPECT TO AUTHORITY RULES, STANDARDS, AND PROCEDURES.—Registration under this subsection shall include an agreement by the covered person to be subject to and comply with the rules, standards, and procedures developed and approved under subsection (c).

(3) COOPERATION.—A covered person registered under this subsection shall, at all times—

(A) cooperate with the Commission, the Authority, the anti-doping and medication control enforcement agency, and any respective designee, during any civil investigation; and

(B) respond truthfully and completely to the best of the knowledge of the covered person if questioned by the Commission, the Authority, the anti-doping and medication control enforcement agency, or any respective designee.

(4) FAILURE TO COMPLY.—Any failure of a covered person to comply with this subsection shall be a violation of section 8(a)(2)(G).

(e) ENFORCEMENT OF PROGRAMS.—

(1) ANTI-DOPING AND MEDICATION CONTROL ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.—

(A) AGREEMENT WITH USADA.—The Authority shall seek to enter into an agreement with the United States Anti-Doping Agency under which the Agency acts as the anti-doping and medication control enforcement agency under this Act for services consistent with the horseracing anti-doping and medication control program.

(B) AGREEMENT WITH OTHER ENTITY.—If the Authority and the United States Anti-Doping Agency are unable to enter into the agreement described in subparagraph (A), the Authority shall enter into an agreement with an entity that is nationally recognized as being a medication regulation agency equal in qualification to the United States Anti-Doping Agency to act as the anti-doping and medication control enforcement agency under this Act for services consistent with the horseracing anti-doping and medication control program.

(C) NEGOTIATIONS.—Any negotiations under this paragraph shall be conducted in good faith and designed to achieve efficient, effective best practices for anti-doping and medication control and enforcement on commercially reasonable terms.

(D) ELEMENTS OF AGREEMENT.—Any agreement under this paragraph shall include a description of the scope of work, performance metrics, reporting obligations, budgets, and any other matter the Authority considers appropriate.

(E) DUTIES AND POWERS OF ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.—The anti-doping and medication control enforcement agency under an agreement under this paragraph shall—

(i) serve as the independent anti-doping and medication control enforcement organization for covered horses, covered persons, and covered horseraces, implementing the anti-doping and medication control program on behalf of the Authority;

(ii) ensure that covered horses and covered persons are deterred from using or administering medications, substances, and methods in violation of the rules established in accordance with this Act;

(iii) implement anti-doping education, research, testing, compliance and adjudication programs designed to prevent covered persons and covered horses from using or administering medications, substances, and methods in violation of the rules established in accordance with this Act;

(iv) exercise the powers specified in section 6(c)(4) in accordance with that section; and

(v) implement and undertake any other responsibilities specified in the agreement.

(F) TERM AND EXTENSION.—

(i) TERM OF INITIAL AGREEMENT.—The initial agreement entered into by the Authority under this paragraph shall be in effect for the 5-year period beginning on the program effective date.

(ii) EXTENSION.—At the end of the 5-year period described in clause (i), the Authority may—

(I) extend the term of the initial agreement under this paragraph for such additional term as is provided by the rules of the Authority and consistent with this Act; or

(II) enter into an agreement meeting the requirements of this paragraph with an entity described by subparagraph (B) for such term as is provided by such rules and consistent with this Act.

(2) AGREEMENTS FOR ENFORCEMENT BY STATE RACING COMMISSIONS.—

(A) STATE RACING COMMISSIONS.—

(i) RACETRACK SAFETY PROGRAM.—The Authority may enter into agreements with State racing commissions for services consistent with the enforcement of the racetrack safety program.

(ii) ANTI-DOPING AND MEDICATION CONTROL PROGRAM.—The anti-doping and medication control enforcement agency may enter into agreements with State racing commissions for services consistent with the enforcement of the anti-doping and medication control program.

(B) ELEMENTS OF AGREEMENTS.—Any agreement under this paragraph shall include a description of the scope of work, performance metrics, reporting obligations, budgets, and any other matter the Authority considers appropriate.

(3) ENFORCEMENT OF STANDARDS.—The Authority may coordinate with State racing commissions and other State regulatory agencies to monitor and enforce racetrack

compliance with the standards developed under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 7(c).

(f) PROCEDURES WITH RESPECT TO RULES OF AUTHORITY.—

(1) ANTI-DOPING AND MEDICATION CONTROL.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Recommendations for rules regarding anti-doping and medication control shall be developed in accordance with section 6.

(B) CONSULTATION.—The anti-doping and medication control enforcement agency shall consult with the anti-doping and medication control standing committee and the Board of the Authority on all anti-doping and medication control rules of the Authority.

(2) RACETRACK SAFETY.—Recommendations for rules regarding racetrack safety shall be developed by the racetrack safety standing committee of the Authority.

(g) ISSUANCE OF GUIDANCE.—

(1) The Authority may issue guidance that—

(A) sets forth—

(i) an interpretation of an existing rule, standard, or procedure of the Authority; or

(ii) a policy or practice with respect to the administration or enforcement of such an existing rule, standard, or procedure; and

(B) relates solely to—

(i) the administration of the Authority; or

(ii) any other matter, as specified by the Commission, by rule, consistent with the public interest and the purposes of this subsection.

(2) SUBMITTAL TO COMMISSION.—The Authority shall submit to the Commission any guidance issued under paragraph (1).

(3) IMMEDIATE EFFECT.—Guidance issued under paragraph (1) shall take effect on the date on which the guidance is submitted to the Commission under paragraph (2).

(h) SUBPOENA AND INVESTIGATORY AUTHORITY.—The Authority shall have subpoena and investigatory authority with respect to civil violations committed under its jurisdiction.

(i) CIVIL PENALTIES.—The Authority shall develop a list of civil penalties with respect to the enforcement of rules for covered persons and covered horseraces under its jurisdiction.

(j) CIVIL ACTIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to civil sanctions imposed under section 8, the Authority may commence a civil action against a covered person or racetrack that has engaged, is engaged, or is about to engage, in acts or practices constituting a violation of this Act or any rule established under this Act in the proper district court of the United States, the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, or the United States courts of any territory or other place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, to enjoin such acts or practices, to enforce any civil sanctions imposed under that section, and for all other relief to which the Authority may be entitled.

(2) INJUNCTIONS AND RESTRAINING ORDERS.—With respect to a civil action commenced under paragraph (1), upon a proper showing, a permanent or temporary injunction or restraining order shall be granted without bond.

(k) LIMITATIONS ON AUTHORITY.—

(1) PROSPECTIVE APPLICATION.—The jurisdiction and authority of the Authority and the Commission with respect to the horseracing anti-doping and medication control program and the racetrack safety program shall be prospective only.

(2) PREVIOUS MATTERS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Authority and the Commission may not investigate, prosecute, adjudicate, or penalize conduct in violation of the horseracing anti-doping and medication control program and the racetrack safety program that occurs before the program effective date.

(B) STATE RACING COMMISSION.—With respect to conduct described in subparagraph (A), the applicable State racing commission shall retain authority until the final resolution of the matter.

(3) OTHER LAWS UNAFFECTED.—This Act shall not be construed to modify, impair or restrict the operation of the general laws or regulations, as may be amended from time to time, of the United States, the States and their political subdivisions relating to criminal conduct, cruelty to animals, matters unrelated to antidoping, medication control and racetrack and racing safety of covered horses and covered races, and the use of medication in human participants in covered races.

(1) ELECTION FOR OTHER BREED COVERAGE UNDER ACT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A State racing commission or a breed governing organization for a breed of horses other than Thoroughbred horses may elect to have such breed be covered by this Act by the filing of a designated election form and subsequent approval by the Authority. A State racing commission may elect to have a breed covered by this Act for the applicable State only.

(2) ELECTION CONDITIONAL ON FUNDING MECHANISM.—A commission or organization may not make an election under paragraph (1) unless the commission or organization has in place a mechanism to provide sufficient funds to cover the costs of the administration of this Act with respect to the horses that will be covered by this Act as a result of the election.

(3) APPORTIONMENT.—The Authority shall apportion costs described in paragraph (2) in connection with an election under paragraph (1) fairly among all impacted segments of the horseracing industry, subject to approval by the Commission in accordance with section 4. Such apportionment may not provide for the allocation of costs or funds among breeds of horses.

**SEC. 6. HORSERACING ANTI-DOPING AND MEDICATION CONTROL PROGRAM.**

(a) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the program effective date, and after notice and an opportunity for public comment in accordance with section 4, the Authority shall establish a horseracing anti-doping and medication control program applicable to all covered horses, covered persons, and covered horseraces in accordance with the registration of covered persons under section 5(d).

(2) CONSIDERATION OF OTHER BREEDS.—In developing the horseracing anti-doping and medication control program with respect to a breed of horse that is made subject to this Act by election of a State racing commission or the breed governing organization for such horse under section 5(k), the Authority shall consider the unique characteristics of such breed.

(b) CONSIDERATIONS IN DEVELOPMENT OF PROGRAM.—In developing the horseracing anti-doping and medication control program, the Authority shall take into consideration the following:

(1) Covered horses should compete only when they are free from the influence of medications, other foreign substances, and methods that affect their performance.

(2) Covered horses that are injured or unsound should not train or participate in covered races, and the use of medications, other foreign substances, and treatment methods that mask or deaden pain in order to allow injured or unsound horses to train or race should be prohibited.

(3) Rules, standards, procedures, and protocols regulating medication and treatment methods for covered horses and covered races should be uniform and uniformly administered nationally.

(4) To the extent consistent with this Act, consideration should be given to international anti-doping and medication control standards of the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities and the Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics of the American Veterinary Medical Association.

(5) The administration of medications and treatment methods to covered horses should be based upon an examination and diagnosis that identifies an issue requiring treatment for which the medication or method represents an appropriate component of treatment.

(6) The amount of therapeutic medication that a covered horse receives should be the minimum necessary to address the diagnosed health concerns identified during the examination and diagnostic process.

(7) The welfare of covered horses, the integrity of the sport, and the confidence of the betting public require full disclosure to regulatory authorities regarding the administration of medications and treatments to covered horses.

(c) ACTIVITIES.—The following activities shall be carried out under the horseracing anti-doping and medication control program:

(1) STANDARDS FOR ANTI-DOPING AND MEDICATION CONTROL.—Not later than 120 days before the program effective date, the Authority shall issue, by rule—

(A) uniform standards for—

(i) the administration of medication to covered horses by covered persons; and  
(ii) laboratory testing accreditation and protocols; and

(B) a list of permitted and prohibited medications, substances, and methods, including allowable limits of permitted medications, substances, and methods.

(2) REVIEW PROCESS FOR ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION.—The development of a review process for the administration of any medication to a covered horse during the 48-hour period preceding the next racing start of the covered horse.

(3) AGREEMENT REQUIREMENTS.—The development of requirements with respect to agreements under section 5(e).

(4) ANTI-DOPING AND MEDICATION CONTROL ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.—

(A) CONTROL RULES, PROTOCOLS, ETC.—Except as provided in paragraph (5), the anti-doping and medication control program enforcement agency under section 5(e) shall, in consultation with the anti-doping and medication control standing committee of the Authority and consistent with international best practices, develop and recommend anti-doping and medication control rules, protocols, policies, and guidelines for approval by the Authority.

(B) RESULTS MANAGEMENT.—The anti-doping and medication control enforcement agency shall conduct and oversee anti-doping and medication control results management, including independent investigations, charging and adjudication of potential medication control rule violations, and the enforcement of any civil sanctions for such violations. Any final decision or civil sanction of the anti-doping and medication control enforcement agency under this subparagraph shall be the final decision or civil sanction of the Authority, subject to review in accordance with section 9.

(C) TESTING.—The anti-doping enforcement agency shall perform and manage test distribution planning (including intelligence-based testing), the sample collection process, and in-competition and out-of-competition testing (including no-advance-notice testing).

(D) TESTING LABORATORIES.—The anti-doping and medication control enforcement agency shall accredit testing laboratories based upon the standards established under

this Act, and shall monitor, test, and audit accredited laboratories to ensure continuing compliance with accreditation standards.

(5) ANTI-DOPING AND MEDICATION CONTROL STANDING COMMITTEE.—The anti-doping and medication control standing committee shall, in consultation with the anti-doping and medication control enforcement agency, develop lists of permitted and prohibited medications, methods, and substances for recommendation to, and approval by, the Authority. Any such list may prohibit the administration of any substance or method to a horse at any time after such horse becomes a covered horse if the Authority determines such substance or method has a long-term degrading effect on the soundness of a horse.

(d) PROHIBITION.—Except as provided in subsections (e) and (f), the horseracing anti-doping and medication control program shall prohibit the administration of any prohibited or otherwise permitted substance to a covered horse within 48 hours of its next racing start, effective as of the program effective date.

(e) ADVISORY COMMITTEE STUDY AND REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the program effective date, the Authority shall convene an advisory committee comprised of horseracing anti-doping and medication control industry experts, including a member designated by the anti-doping and medication control enforcement agency, to conduct a study on the use of furosemide on horses during the 48-hour period before the start of a race, including the effect of furosemide on equine health and the integrity of competition and any other matter the Authority considers appropriate.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than three years after the program effective date, the Authority shall direct the advisory committee convened under paragraph (1) to submit to the Authority a written report on the study conducted under that paragraph that includes recommended changes, if any, to the prohibition in subsection (d).

(3) MODIFICATION OF PROHIBITION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—After receipt of the report required by paragraph (2), the Authority may, by unanimous vote of the Board of the Authority, modify the prohibition in subsection (d) and, notwithstanding subsection (f), any such modification shall apply to all States beginning on the date that is three years after the program effective date.

(B) CONDITION.—In order for a unanimous vote described in subparagraph (A) to effect a modification of the prohibition in subsection (d), the vote must include unanimous adoption of each of the following findings:

(i) That the modification is warranted.  
(ii) That the modification is in the best interests of horse racing.

(iii) That furosemide has no performance enhancing effect on individual horses.  
(iv) That public confidence in the integrity and safety of racing would not be adversely affected by the modification.

(f) EXEMPTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), only during the three-year period beginning on the program effective date, a State racing commission may submit to the Authority, at such time and in such manner as the Authority may require, a request for an exemption from the prohibition in subsection (d) with respect to the use of furosemide on covered horses during such period.

(2) EXCEPTIONS.—An exemption under paragraph (1) may not be requested for—

(A) two-year-old covered horses; or  
(B) covered horses competing in stakes races.

(3) CONTENTS OF REQUEST.—A request under paragraph (1) shall specify the applicable State racing commission's requested limitations on the use of furosemide that would apply to the State under the horseracing anti-doping and medication control program during such period. Such limitations shall be no less restrictive on the use and administration of furosemide than the restrictions set forth in State's laws and regulations in effect as of September 1, 2020.

(4) GRANT OF EXEMPTION.—Subject to subsection (e)(3), the Authority shall grant an exemption requested under paragraph (1) for the remainder of such period and shall allow the use of furosemide on covered horses in the applicable State, in accordance with the requested limitations.

(g) BASELINE ANTI-DOPING AND MEDICATION CONTROL RULES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (3), the baseline anti-doping and medication control rules described in paragraph (2) shall—

(A) constitute the initial rules of the horseracing anti-doping and medication control program; and

(B) except as exempted pursuant to subsections (e) and (f), remain in effect at all times after the program effective date.

(2) BASELINE ANTI-DOPING MEDICATION CONTROL RULES DESCRIBED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The baseline anti-doping and medication control rules described in this paragraph are the following:

(i) The lists of permitted and prohibited substances (including drugs, medications, and naturally occurring substances and synthetically occurring substances) in effect for the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities, including the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities International Screening Limits for urine, dated May 2019, and the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities International Screening Limits for plasma, dated May 2019.

(ii) The World Anti-Doping Agency International Standard for Laboratories (version 10.0), dated November 12, 2019.

(iii) The Association of Racing Commissioners International out-of-competition testing standards, Model Rules of Racing (version 9.2).

(iv) The Association of Racing Commissioners International penalty and multiple medication violation rules, Model Rules of Racing (version 6.2).

(B) CONFLICT OF RULES.—In the case of a conflict among the rules described in subparagraph (A), the most stringent rule shall apply.

(3) MODIFICATIONS TO BASELINE RULES.—

(A) DEVELOPMENT BY ANTI-DOPING AND MEDICATION CONTROL STANDING COMMITTEE.—The anti-doping and medication control standing committee, in consultation with the anti-doping and medication control enforcement agency, may develop and submit to the Authority for approval by the Authority proposed modifications to the baseline anti-doping and medication control rules.

(B) AUTHORITY APPROVAL.—If the Authority approves a proposed modification under this paragraph, the proposed modification shall be submitted to and considered by the Commission in accordance with section 4.

(C) ANTI-DOPING AND MEDICATION CONTROL ENFORCEMENT AGENCY VETO AUTHORITY.—The Authority shall not approve any proposed modification that renders an anti-doping and medication control rule less stringent than the baseline anti-doping and medication control rules described in paragraph (2) (including by increasing permitted medication thresholds, adding permitted medications, removing prohibited medications, or weakening enforcement mechanisms) without the approval of the anti-doping and medication control enforcement agency.

## SEC. 7. RACETRACK SAFETY PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT AND CONSIDERATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the program effective date, and after notice and an opportunity for public comment in accordance with section 4, the Authority shall establish a racetrack safety program applicable to all covered horses, covered persons, and covered horseraces in accordance with the registration of covered persons under section 5(d).

(2) CONSIDERATIONS IN DEVELOPMENT OF SAFETY PROGRAM.—In the development of the horseracing safety program for covered horses, covered persons, and covered horseraces, the Authority and the Commission shall take into consideration existing safety standards including the National Thoroughbred Racing Association Safety and Integrity Alliance Code of Standards, the International Federation of Horseracing Authority's International Agreement on Breeding, Racing, and Wagering, and the British Horseracing Authority's Equine Health and Welfare program.

(b) ELEMENTS OF HORSERACING SAFETY PROGRAM.—The horseracing safety program shall include the following:

(1) A set of training and racing safety standards and protocols taking into account regional differences and the character of differing racing facilities.

(2) A uniform set of training and racing safety standards and protocols consistent with the humane treatment of covered horses, which may include lists of permitted and prohibited practices or methods (such as crop use).

(3) A racing surface quality maintenance system that—

(A) takes into account regional differences and the character of differing racing facilities; and

(B) may include requirements for track surface design and consistency and established standard operating procedures related to track surface, monitoring, and maintenance (such as standardized seasonal assessment, daily tracking, and measurement).

(4) A uniform set of track safety standards and protocols, that may include rules governing oversight and movement of covered horses and human and equine injury reporting and prevention.

(5) Programs for injury and fatality data analysis, that may include pre- and post-training and race inspections, use of a veterinarian's list, and concussion protocols.

(6) The undertaking of investigations at racetrack and non-racetrack facilities related to safety violations.

(7) Procedures for investigating, charging, and adjudicating violations and for the enforcement of civil sanctions for violations.

(8) A schedule of civil sanctions for violations.

(9) Disciplinary hearings, which may include binding arbitration, civil sanctions, and research.

(10) Management of violation results.

(11) Programs relating to safety and performance research and education.

(12) An evaluation and accreditation program that ensures that racetracks in the United States meet the standards described in the elements of the Horseracing Safety Program.

(c) ACTIVITIES.—The following activities shall be carried out under the racetrack safety program:

(1) STANDARDS FOR RACETRACK SAFETY.—The development, by the racetrack safety standing committee of the Authority in section 3(c)(2) of uniform standards for racetrack and horseracing safety.

(2) STANDARDS FOR SAFETY AND PERFORMANCE ACCREDITATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days before the program effective date, the Authority, in consultation with the racetrack safety standing committee, shall issue, by rule in accordance with section 4—

(i) safety and performance standards of accreditation for racetracks; and

(ii) the process by which a racetrack may achieve and maintain accreditation by the Authority.

(B) MODIFICATIONS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Authority may modify rules establishing the standards issued under subparagraph (A), as the Authority considers appropriate.

(ii) NOTICE AND COMMENT.—The Commission shall publish in the Federal Register any proposed rule of the Authority, and provide an opportunity for public comment with respect to, any modification under clause (i) in accordance with section 4.

(C) EXTENSION OF PROVISIONAL OR INTERIM ACCREDITATION.—The Authority may, by rule in accordance with section 4, extend provisional or interim accreditation to a racetrack accredited by the National Thoroughbred Racing Association Safety and Integrity Alliance on a date before the program effective date.

(3) NATIONWIDE SAFETY AND PERFORMANCE DATABASE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the program effective date, and after notice and an opportunity for public comment in accordance with section 4, the Authority, in consultation with the Commission, shall develop and maintain a nationwide database of racehorse safety, performance, health, and injury information for the purpose of conducting an epidemiological study.

(B) COLLECTION OF INFORMATION.—In accordance with the registration of covered persons under section 5(d), the Authority may require covered persons to collect and submit to the database described in subparagraph (A) such information as the Authority may require to further the goal of increased racehorse welfare.

## SEC. 8. RULE VIOLATIONS AND CIVIL SANCTIONS.

(a) DESCRIPTION OF RULE VIOLATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Authority shall issue, by rule in accordance with section 4, a description of safety, performance, and anti-doping and medication control rule violations applicable to covered horses and covered persons.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The description of rule violations established under paragraph (1) may include the following:

(A) With respect to a covered horse, strict liability for covered trainers for—

(i) the presence of a prohibited substance or method in a sample or the use of a prohibited substance or method;

(ii) the presence of a permitted substance in a sample in excess of the amount allowed by the horseracing anti-doping and medication control program; and

(iii) the use of a permitted method in violation of the applicable limitations established under the horseracing anti-doping and medication control program.

(B) Attempted use of a prohibited substance or method on a covered horse.

(C) Possession of any prohibited substance or method.

(D) Attempted possession of any prohibited substance or method.

(E) Administration or attempted administration of any prohibited substance or method on a covered horse.

(F) Refusal or failure, without compelling justification, to submit a covered horse for sample collection.

(G) Failure to cooperate with the Authority or an agent of the Authority during any investigation.

(H) Failure to respond truthfully, to the best of a covered person's knowledge, to a question of the Authority or an agent of the Authority with respect to any matter under the jurisdiction of the Authority.

(I) Tampering or attempted tampering with the application of the safety, performance, or anti-doping and medication control rules or process adopted by the Authority, including—

(i) the intentional interference, or an attempt to interfere, with an official or agent of the Authority;

(ii) the procurement or the provision of fraudulent information to the Authority or agent; and

(iii) the intimidation of, or an attempt to intimidate, a potential witness.

(J) Trafficking or attempted trafficking in any prohibited substance or method.

(K) Assisting, encouraging, aiding, abetting, conspiring, covering up, or any other type of intentional complicity involving a safety, performance, or anti-doping and medication control rule violation or the violation of a period of suspension or eligibility.

(L) Threatening or seeking to intimidate a person with the intent of discouraging the person from the good faith reporting to the Authority, an agent of the Authority or the Commission, or the anti-doping and medication control enforcement agency under section 5(e), of information that relates to—

(i) an alleged safety, performance, or anti-doping and medication control rule violation; or

(ii) alleged noncompliance with a safety, performance, or anti-doping and medication control rule.

(b) TESTING LABORATORIES.—

(1) ACCREDITATION AND STANDARDS.—Not later than 120 days before the program effective date, the Authority shall, in consultation with the anti-doping and medication control enforcement agency, establish, by rule in accordance with section 4—

(A) standards of accreditation for laboratories involved in testing samples from covered horses;

(B) the process for achieving and maintaining accreditation; and

(C) the standards and protocols for testing such samples.

(2) ADMINISTRATION.—The accreditation of laboratories and the conduct of audits of accredited laboratories to ensure compliance with Authority rules shall be administered by the anti-doping and medication control enforcement agency. The anti-doping and medication control enforcement agency shall have the authority to require specific test samples to be directed to and tested by laboratories having special expertise in the required tests.

(3) EXTENSION OF PROVISIONAL OR INTERIM ACCREDITATION.—The Authority may, by rule in accordance with section 4, extend provisional or interim accreditation to a laboratory accredited by the Racing Medication and Testing Consortium, Inc., on a date before the program effective date.

(4) SELECTION OF LABORATORIES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), a State racing commission may select a laboratory accredited in accordance with the standards established under paragraph (1) to test samples taken in the applicable State.

(B) SELECTION BY THE AUTHORITY.—If a State racing commission does not select an accredited laboratory under subparagraph (A), the Authority shall select such a laboratory to test samples taken in the State concerned.

(C) RESULTS MANAGEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY PROCESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days before the program effective date, the Au-

thority shall establish in accordance with section 4—

(A) rules for safety, performance, and anti-doping and medication control results management; and

(B) the disciplinary process for safety, performance, and anti-doping and medication control rule violations.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The rules and process established under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) Provisions for notification of safety, performance, and anti-doping and medication control rule violations.

(B) Hearing procedures.

(C) Standards for burden of proof.

(D) Presumptions.

(E) Evidentiary rules.

(F) Appeals.

(G) Guidelines for confidentiality and public reporting of decisions.

(3) DUE PROCESS.—The rules established under paragraph (1) shall provide for adequate due process, including impartial hearing officers or tribunals commensurate with the seriousness of the alleged safety, performance, or anti-doping and medication control rule violation and the possible civil sanctions for such violation.

(d) CIVIL SANCTIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Authority shall establish uniform rules, in accordance with section 4, imposing civil sanctions against covered persons or covered horses for safety, performance, and anti-doping and medication control rule violations.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The rules established under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) take into account the unique aspects of horseracing;

(B) be designed to ensure fair and transparent horseraces; and

(C) deter safety, performance, and anti-doping and medication control rule violations.

(3) SEVERITY.—The civil sanctions under paragraph (1) may include—

(A) lifetime bans from horseracing, disgorgement of purses, monetary fines and penalties, and changes to the order of finish in covered races; and

(B) with respect to anti-doping and medication control rule violators, an opportunity to reduce the applicable civil sanctions that is comparable to the opportunity provided by the Protocol for Olympic Movement Testing of the United States Anti-Doping Agency.

(e) MODIFICATIONS.—The Authority may propose a modification to any rule established under this section as the Authority considers appropriate, and the proposed modification shall be submitted to and considered by the Commission in accordance with section 4.

**SEC. 9. REVIEW OF FINAL DECISIONS OF THE AUTHORITY.**

(a) NOTICE OF CIVIL SANCTIONS.—If the Authority imposes a final civil sanction for a violation committed by a covered person pursuant to the rules or standards of the Authority, the Authority shall promptly submit to the Commission notice of the civil sanction in such form as the Commission may require.

(b) REVIEW BY ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to a final civil sanction imposed by the Authority, on application by the Commission or a person aggrieved by the civil sanction filed not later than 30 days after the date on which notice under subsection (a) is submitted, the civil sanction shall be subject to de novo review by an administrative law judge.

(2) NATURE OF REVIEW.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In matters reviewed under this subsection, the administrative law judge shall determine whether—

(i) a person has engaged in such acts or practices, or has omitted such acts or practices, as the Authority has found the person to have engaged in or omitted;

(ii) such acts, practices, or omissions are in violation of this Act or the anti-doping and medication control or racetrack safety rules approved by the Commission; or

(iii) the final civil sanction of the Authority was arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, or otherwise not in accordance with law.

(B) CONDUCT OF HEARING.—An administrative law judge shall conduct a hearing under this subsection in such a manner as the Commission may specify by rule, which shall conform to section 556 of title 5, United States Code.

(3) DECISION BY ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to a matter reviewed under this subsection, an administrative law judge—

(i) shall render a decision not later than 60 days after the conclusion of the hearing;

(ii) may affirm, reverse, modify, set aside, or remand for further proceedings, in whole or in part, the final civil sanction of the Authority; and

(iii) may make any finding or conclusion that, in the judgment of the administrative law judge, is proper and based on the record.

(B) FINAL DECISION.—A decision under this paragraph shall constitute the decision of the Commission without further proceedings unless a notice or an application for review is timely filed under subsection (c).

(c) REVIEW BY COMMISSION.—

(1) NOTICE OF REVIEW BY COMMISSION.—The Commission may, on its own motion, review any decision of an administrative law judge issued under subsection (b)(3) by providing written notice to the Authority and any interested party not later than 30 days after the date on which the administrative law judge issues the decision.

(2) APPLICATION FOR REVIEW.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Authority or a person aggrieved by a decision issued under subsection (b)(3) may petition the Commission for review of such decision by filing an application for review not later than 30 days after the date on which the administrative law judge issues the decision.

(B) EFFECT OF DENIAL OF APPLICATION FOR REVIEW.—If an application for review under subparagraph (A) is denied, the decision of the administrative law judge shall constitute the decision of the Commission without further proceedings.

(C) DISCRETION OF COMMISSION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—A decision with respect to whether to grant an application for review under subparagraph (A) is subject to the discretion of the Commission.

(ii) MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED.—In determining whether to grant such an application for review, the Commission shall consider whether the application makes a reasonable showing that—

(I) a prejudicial error was committed in the conduct of the proceeding; or

(II) the decision involved—

(aa) an erroneous application of the anti-doping and medication control or racetrack safety rules approved by the Commission; or

(bb) an exercise of discretion or a decision of law or policy that warrants review by the Commission.

(3) NATURE OF REVIEW.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In matters reviewed under this subsection, the Commission may—

(i) affirm, reverse, modify, set aside, or remand for further proceedings, in whole or in part, the decision of the administrative law judge; and

(ii) make any finding or conclusion that, in the judgement of the Commission, is proper and based on the record.

(B) DE NOVO REVIEW.—The Commission shall review de novo the factual findings and conclusions of law made by the administrative law judge.

(C) CONSIDERATION OF ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE.—

(i) MOTION BY COMMISSION.—The Commission may, on its own motion, allow the consideration of additional evidence.

(ii) MOTION BY A PARTY.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—A party may file a motion to consider additional evidence at any time before the issuance of a decision by the Commission, which shall show, with particularity, that—

(aa) such additional evidence is material; and

(bb) there were reasonable grounds for failure to submit the evidence previously.

(II) PROCEDURE.—The Commission may—

(aa) accept or hear additional evidence; or

(bb) remand the proceeding to the administrative law judge for the consideration of additional evidence.

(d) STAY OF PROCEEDINGS.—Review by an administrative law judge or the Commission under this section shall not operate as a stay of a final civil sanction of the Authority unless the administrative law judge or Commission orders such a stay.

#### SEC. 10. UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES.

The sale of a covered horse, or of any other horse in anticipation of its future participation in a covered race, shall be considered an unfair or deceptive act or practice in or affecting commerce under section 5(a) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 45(a)) if the seller—

(1) knows or has reason to know the horse has been administered—

(A) a bisphosphonate prior to the horse's fourth birthday; or

(B) any other substance or method the Authority determines has a long-term degrading effect on the soundness of the covered horse; and

(2) fails to disclose to the buyer the administration of the bisphosphonate or other substance or method described in paragraph (1)(B).

#### SEC. 11. STATE DELEGATION; COOPERATION.

(a) STATE DELEGATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Authority may enter into an agreement with a State racing commission to implement, within the jurisdiction of the State racing commission, a component of the racetrack safety program or, with the concurrence of the anti-doping and medication control enforcement agency under section 5(e), a component of the horseracing anti-doping and medication control program, if the Authority determines that the State racing commission has the ability to implement such component in accordance with the rules, standards, and requirements established by the Authority.

(2) IMPLEMENTATION BY STATE RACING COMMISSION.—A State racing commission or other appropriate regulatory body of a State may not implement such a component in a manner less restrictive than the rule, standard, or requirement established by the Authority.

(b) COOPERATION.—To avoid duplication of functions, facilities, and personnel, and to attain closer coordination and greater effectiveness and economy in administration of Federal and State law, where conduct by any person subject to the horseracing medication control program or the racetrack safety program may involve both a medication control or racetrack safety rule violation and violation of Federal or State law, the Authority

and Federal or State law enforcement authorities shall cooperate and share information.

#### SEC. 12. 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 gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. 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 H.R. 1754.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

I rise to speak in support of H.R. 1754. Horseracing in the United States is more than just a sport; it is a tradition. But far too often, the joy of the races is marred by accidents that endanger both the horses and the riders.

Last year, nearly 450 thoroughbred racehorses in the United States suffered fatal injuries. The fatality rate in the U.S. is between 2½ to 5 times greater per race start than the fatality rates in Europe and Asia. Some of the key reasons for these higher fatality rates are our drug policies, training and race protocols, and racetrack standards.

In the United States, racehorses are commonly administered pain medications to ease discomfort and reduce inflammation. These medications may mask relatively minor injuries, making prerace detection of injuries more difficult.

The stress and pressure generated by a 1,100-pound racehorse sprinting at speeds up to 40 miles per hour can cause minor injuries to become catastrophic breaks that ultimately lead to a horse's death. That is why only a limited number of pain suppressors are permitted to be administered to racehorses internationally and in the U.S.

While many permitted pain suppressors are banned from being administered several days or even weeks before an international horserace, many of those same medications are permitted to be administered to racehorses a day or two before most races start in the United States.

Racehorses need appropriate time to recover after intense physical activity and should not train or race if suffering from soreness, swelling, or pain indicative of a more severe ailment. And

racehorses should not race or train on unsuitable, treacherous tracks.

Mr. Speaker, horseracing currently has no national governing body and is, instead, regulated independently by each of the 38 States in which the sport is legal. Therefore, implementing change to address these issues is difficult.

The bill, the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act, addresses these challenges head-on. The bill establishes uniform standards for antidoping and medication control and racetrack safety for thoroughbred horseracing. This will help ensure that we can maintain a safe, thriving horseracing industry.

It also applies stronger safeguards and enforcement against performance-enhancing drugs, or PEDs.

For a sport in which fans place billions of dollars of bets, trust in the authenticity of competition is crucial. The very legitimacy of the sport is undermined if the competitors and public cannot trust that all racehorses are competing on a level playing field.

I am pleased that the Humane Society, the Jockey Club, the Breeders' Cup, Animal Welfare Action, several racetracks, and many horsemen support this bill.

I want to thank Representative TONKO and Consumer Protection and Commerce Subcommittee Chair SCHAKOWSKY for their tireless leadership on this issue.

The bill is the first step toward a safer, fairer horseracing industry, and that is a bill I am proud to support.

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

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 1754, the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act of 2020.

From the Pacific Northwest to the renowned racetracks in Kentucky, New York, and New Jersey, horseracing holds a very special place in our culture and in our local community life. In my district alone, thousands of people a year travel to Pendleton, Oregon—well, most years, other than with COVID; in 2020, we didn't have the Pendleton Round-Up, but they do almost every other year—to participate in the world-famous Pendleton Round-Up. So, I am no stranger to the important role of horses and horseracing and what a role that plays in our lives.

Currently, horseracing is regulated on a State-by-State basis, as you heard, and despite the industry's best efforts, some inconsistencies still exist in the regulation of horses. This bill is designed to provide national uniformity on antidoping and medication programs, as well as racetrack safety standards.

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H.R. 1754 would establish the horse racing integrity and safety authority. This would be a private, independent, self-regulatory, nonprofit corporation that would develop and implement a

horseracing antidoping and medication control program as well as a racetrack safety program.

I am pleased to see updates to the original Horse Racing Integrity Act that my friend Senate Majority Leader MITCH MCCONNELL, as well as my colleagues Mr. TONKO and Mr. BARR, worked with industry to include.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO).

Mr. Speaker, let me say how proud we are, both he, for representing Saratoga, and I, for representing Monmouth Park, two very historic race tracks that we are very proud of.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act.

More than 5 years ago, I, along with my good friend and colleague, Representative ANDY BARR, introduced the first version of this legislation. It has been an honor to work with Representative BARR for many years to get to this point that speaks to an industry that provides many, many jobs and is a deeply rooted bit of history in these United States. Now we will move forward with a very good bill.

I offer my sincere thanks to Chairman PALLONE and Ranking Member WALDEN for their support and to also echo my support and thanks to our Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce chair, JAN SCHAKOWSKY, and the ranking member, Representative RODGERS, for their support and guidance, also, throughout this process.

Now, with the support and leadership of Majority Leader MCCONNELL and Senator KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND in the Senate, we are finally poised to cross the finish line on this historic reform.

I need to thank Jeff Morgan, our legislative director in my office, for the numerous, numerous hours that he has spent on making certain that, as we move to the finish line on this process, details were addressed and concerns were also equally responded to.

Horseracing, as it has been said, has been long woven into the fabric of our American culture. Storied names like Secretariat, War Admiral, and Man o' War, stir the imagination of racing fans not only in this country but all over the world.

In addition to its cultural import, horseracing serves as an economic driver in many parts of the country. That certainly is true in my congressional district, home of the Nation's oldest track, the fabled Saratoga Race Course.

The horseracing industry generates some \$26.1 billion in direct economic impact nationwide, including \$5 billion in my home State of New York.

In 2015, I had the chance to see, in person, the sport at its very best when

I bore witness to the historic run by American Pharaoh in the Belmont to capture the Triple Crown.

When we place a majestic equine athlete like American Pharaoh at the forefront, this endeavor can capture, truly, the imagination of the Nation, and the sport of horseracing can thrive. However, we have also seen the devastating results that can occur when these equine athletes are pushed beyond their limits, often aided by medications that can mask underlying health issues.

This same story has played out countless times across the country because the current medication reforms have been implemented unevenly, leaving patchwork systems in place that have created a wide disparity in the effectiveness of medication testing and enforcement and racetrack safety standards. That patchwork system simply doesn't work.

This national approach brings great hope to the integrity of this great industry. If horseracing is to thrive as an industry and once again capture the public's imagination, then we must do better. So I am, indeed, pleased that today, after many years of work, we will take those first steps on the road to reform.

Our legislation would recognize the horseracing integrity and safety authority as a private, not-for-profit organization responsible for developing and implementing a horseracing antidoping and medication control program and a racetrack safety program. This authority would partner with the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, USADA, to develop effective testing protocols, uniform standards and penalties, as well as proper lab accreditation.

The board of the authority would also include voices representing a spectrum of perspectives within the horseracing industry, subject to strict conflict-of-interest rules, including owners, breeders, horsemen, racetracks, and veterinarians.

The revised legislation would also require the creation of a national racetrack safety program establishing safety standards for training and racing; racetrack surfaces; injury-related data analyses; safety violation investigation, hearings, and sanctions. Adding a racetrack safety component to the bill will help make the sport significantly safer for our equine athletes and jockeys.

While no legislation is perfect, the agreement represented in this bill has the support of the overwhelming majority of not only the horseracing industry, including all three tracks that host Triple Crown races, the Jockey Club, and the Breeders' Cup, but also major animal welfare groups like the Humane Society, Animal Wellness Action, and the grassroots Water Hay Oats Alliance.

Mr. Speaker, this is truly a win-win for the industry, sports fans, and our equine athletes. It puts the equine athlete at the epicenter of this legisla-

tion and concern. It is safer as an outcome for our jockeys, important in that sport, and I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 1754.

Again, I thank the chairman of the committee, FRANK PALLONE, for bringing this forward and all who have worked so steadfastly on the results that we have achieved today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. SCANLON). Without objection, the gentlewoman from Washington will control the minority's time.

There was no objection.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, this legislation has been a huge priority for the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR). He has done a lot of work on it. He proudly represents horse country in Kentucky.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR).

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of the majestic and time-honored sport of thoroughbred racing, a beloved tradition in the United States since the early days of the Republic and the signature industry of my home State, the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Sometimes referred to as the sport of kings, Americans—and I would dare to say, especially Kentuckians—have made this the sport of all Americans through the inspiring stories of amazing athletes with names like Sir Barton, Man o' War, War Admiral, Secretariat, Seattle Slew, Affirmed, American Pharaoh, and Justify in recent years.

To that end, I further rise in favor of H.R. 1754, the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act, bipartisan legislation that I introduced in one form or another during the last three terms of Congress with my colleague and good friend, the gentleman from New York, PAUL TONKO. I thank Paul for his partnership in this long, tireless effort.

After many years of negotiation and deliberation, today I stand proud to finally bring this legislation to the House floor for a vote.

Throughout my time in Congress, I have worked diligently to enact policies that will promote economic growth and investment in this key Kentucky industry. My district, Kentucky's Sixth Congressional District, well-known as the Horse Capital of the World, is home to more than 400 horse farms and the world-famous Keeneland Race Course in Lexington, Kentucky, which not only serves as the global leader in breeding stock sales, but also hosts many notable races, including the great Toyota Blue Grass Stakes and Breeders' Cup, which will be, once again, held at the racetrack this November.

Many of my constituents have a close connection to and an affinity for both Keeneland and thoroughbred racing. My own grandfather, J.B. Faulconer, was Keeneland's first publicist and later the vice president of the Thoroughbred Racing Associations in New

York, where he was credited with naming the Eclipse Awards.

Several years ago, as I reviewed the minutes of the Jockey Club roundtable meetings when my grandfather was active in the industry, I noticed that, even then, four and five decades ago, leaders in the industry lamented the lack of unity among the various constituencies within the industry. They regretted the fact that there wasn't uniformity in the rules of racing, and particularly in medication rules.

Thoroughbred racing is not just about our culture and heritage. There has always been immense pride in the enormous contributions of this great sport to American culture. But it is also a major source of jobs and economic opportunity for our people. In fact, the industry is responsible for 44,100 direct jobs and over 16,000 indirect jobs in Kentucky alone.

With the privilege of representing this unique industry comes the responsibility of fighting for its future. This sport is not solely relevant in those States that are home to the Triple Crown, like Kentucky, Maryland, and New York. Horseracing is very much a national sport, prominent in places like California, Florida, Arkansas, New Jersey, Illinois, and Louisiana.

The horse industry contributes approximately \$26 billion, as my friend, PAUL TONKO, pointed out, but in some estimates, up to \$50 billion in direct economic impact to the U.S. economy; and it has a direct employment impact of 988,394 jobs. Therefore, advocating for this industry requires more than just celebrating its proud heritage.

I have always believed that the future prosperity of this sport depends on uniformity of the rules of racing. Currently, as has been noted, regulated by 38 separate racing jurisdictions, the thoroughbred horseracing industry labors under a patchwork of conflicting and inconsistent State-based rules governing prohibited substances, lab accreditation, testing, and penalties for violations.

This lack of uniformity has impeded interstate commerce; it has compromised the international competitiveness of the industry; it has undermined public confidence in the safety and integrity of the sport; and the industry is in desperate need of certainty.

As a conservative who believes in federalism and States' rights, I, nevertheless, understand that the Constitution gives Congress the power to regulate interstate commerce precisely for the purpose of eliminating these kinds of impediments to interstate exchange.

As I have said many times, as a limited government conservative, this legislative effort is not about more regulation. It is about creating a single, nationwide set of rules that will result in smarter, more effective, and streamlined regulation for the industry.

The Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act will remedy this lack of uniformity, the issue central to maintain-

ing the integrity of the sport, by authorizing the creation of a nongovernmental regulatory safety authority and fairness, governed by representatives of all major constituencies of the industry and responsible for implementing a national uniform medication and track safety program.

Specifically, the legislation would recognize the horseracing integrity and safety authority, which will be tasked with creating uniform national standards regarding prohibited and permitted substances for use in race horses, establishing an accreditation system for laboratories to test drug samples, and developing regional standards for racetrack safety.

As I have said, this legislation builds on the bipartisan legislation Representative TONKO and I have introduced in previous Congresses and incorporates feedback from an expanded group of industry stakeholders to enact these much-needed reforms that will protect the safety of our equine and human athletes.

I want to thank the coalition of organizations that have supported this legislation from the very beginning, including the Water Hay Oats Alliance; a special thanks goes to Arthur and Staci Hancock, my constituents, of Stone Farm in Bourbon County, Kentucky, for their tireless and relentless persistence and advocacy; the Jockey Club; Breeders' Cup International, headquartered in my district; Keeneland, Kentucky Thoroughbred Association; the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association; and the Jockeys' Guild, because the jockeys know how important safety is, with a special mention of Chris McCarron, for advocating for their fellow jockeys and their safety.

I also want to thank members of our expanded coalition, including CEO Bill Carstanjen and the board of directors of Churchill Downs International and prominent trainer Dale Romans.

I want to thank Ed Whitfield, former Member of Congress from Kentucky, who really trailblazed on this issue.

I want to thank Senate Majority Leader MITCH MCCONNELL for his leadership in not only introducing companion legislation, but legislation that I believe materially improves on our previous versions by adding a focus on track surface safety and by making reasonable minor changes that have enabled us to enlarge our coalition of support and bring more organizations within the industry together in support of our legislation.

Madam Speaker, the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act was developed through a highly deliberative and bipartisan process and takes into consideration a diversity of perspectives from all parts of the industry. I appreciate the willingness of all constituencies within the industry to compromise and to forge a consensus product. This was not easy, but it was necessary to get us to this historic day for this great sport.

□ 1315

The result is support from the majority of Members of this House and Senator MCCONNELL's bipartisan companion legislation in the Senate.

Today's vote is a vitally important step in advancing reforms to protect our equine athletes and jockeys, to ensure confidence in the safety and integrity of the sport within the majority of the wagering public, and enable the industry to attract a new generation of fans and investors to strengthen the thoroughbred breed.

And because this is truly an international sport and industry, this bill will make American thoroughbred racing and breeding stronger and more internationally competitive. And it will also secure thousands of both direct and indirect jobs in the Sixth Congressional District and beyond that depend on a thriving thoroughbred horseracing and breeding industry.

Madam Speaker, I thank Chairman PALLONE for his leadership on this issue, Ranking Member WALDEN for joining to help shepherd this legislation through the process, and especially, again, my good friend, PAUL TONKO, who represents a great American racecourse in Saratoga Springs.

I really appreciate, in this time of admitted partisanship and polarization, an opportunity for this country to come together and unite behind a great cause.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY), the chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, who has been a tireless leader on this issue, and, in particular, for the protection of animals.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1754, the Horseracing Integrity Act, and the really amazing, relentless work that my colleagues, PAUL TONKO and Mr. BARR, have exerted all session this year, last year, the year before, to make this a reality.

Madam Speaker, compromise is often hard to find. And the number of stakeholders that have been involved has made it even more complicated but, finally, successful. This legislation is the result of that compromise. The amendment includes such important improvements in establishing safety, not only for the equine athletes, our horses, but also for the jockeys.

Madam Speaker, you have heard a lot from both of the chief sponsors on this legislation, but I want to say that this bill will help achieve our overarching goal to protect the health and welfare of our racehorses and jockeys while strengthening the integrity of the sport itself, which is so important.

Madam Speaker, I want to emphasize something that Mr. TONKO was talking about, because let's not forget why we are here. Racehorses in the United States are injured at a much higher rate than the rest of the horse-racing world, resulting in nearly 500 horses dying every year.

One of the keys to stopping injuries and deaths is establishing strong drug policies, training, and racing protocols and racetrack standards. Standards like pre-race detection and appropriate treatment for injuries. The stress and pressure generated by an 1,100-pound animal sprinting down the track at, sometimes a rate of up to 40 miles an hour, can cause minor injuries to become fatal breaks.

Madam Speaker, as a former horse owner myself, and my horse came from a track not among the names that Mr. BARR listed—actually, he was probably thrown off the track, he wasn't very good—and came to the barn that I would go to. And I had the pleasure of having some years of the rest of his life for him to be my horse—BJ Sullivan.

He would take me down the paths in the forest preserve and he also helped me learn how to jump over fences, not too high, but pretty well. And I think sometimes, until this piece of legislation, maybe he was kind of lucky not to be one of the winners, and not to be one of the ones who would be drugged and not protected. And as the stand-in jockey, I was pretty safe on the back of BJ Sullivan, who was very honest when it came to jumping over fences.

Madam Speaker, I am very, very proud today. Rather than treating the underlying conditions, some racehorses are given pain medications to ease their pain, and the pain medications mask the relatively minor injuries that could actually become much more serious.

This legislation, as you heard in detail, I think is the kind of legislation that is really going to enhance the industry and enhance the safety of riders, of jockeys, as well as our horses.

Madam Speaker, I am so proud to be a cosponsor of the bill, and I thank our lead sponsors.

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

Madam Speaker, I thank everyone who spoke. I know that Ms. SCHAKOWSKY is such a champion for animals—horses and other animals. And, of course, Mr. TONKO has worked so hard and aggressively—I guess is the best way to put it—on this legislation. But also, when I listen to Mr. BARR, my colleague from Kentucky, talk about Kentucky and racetracks, I could just as easily have substituted Monmouth Park, which is my thoroughbred track, for almost everything he said.

Monmouth Park is less than a mile from my district office in my hometown. My father, my uncle—so many people in my family—either worked there or bet there or enjoyed the horses there. But particularly when you

talked about the industry, in my home county, which is Monmouth County, it is not only a question of jobs, which there are so many that depend on the track, but also open space.

As you know, New Jersey is the most densely populated State. And we are in part of the State that still has a lot of farms, but most of them are horse farms. And without those horse farms, the very character of Monmouth County would not be the same. Whether it is the economics, whether it is open space, or it is just a tradition, this bill makes it possible, in my opinion, for that to continue. And, hopefully, as Mr. BARR said, open up to new fans as well.

Madam Speaker, this is a very important piece of legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1754, 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.

#### CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY INSPECTION ENHANCEMENT ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8134) to support the Consumer Product Safety Commission's capability to protect consumers from unsafe consumer products, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8134

*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 "Consumer Product Safety Inspection Enhancement Act".

#### SEC. 2. ENHANCED RISK ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY.

Section 17 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2066) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

##### (i) ENHANCED RISK ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Consumer Product Safety Inspection Enhancement Act, the Commission shall enhance targeting, surveillance, and screening of consumer products entering the United States at ports of entry, including ports of entry for de minimis shipments, by—

"(A) working in consultation with Customs and Border Protection to—

"(i) access and leverage all available data, including manifest data, to enhance targeting of violative consumer products, including de minimis shipments containing violative consumer products;

"(ii) examine a sampling of de minimis shipments at a sufficient and representative sample of all types of ports of entry where de minimis shipments are processed, including

rights infringements and consumer product safety violations;

"(iii) prioritize shipments coming from the People's Republic of China; and

"(iv) use the Participating Government Agencies Message Set, or any successor program, and additional consumer product specific data elements, including certificates of compliance and any other data that the Commission needs, to help risk assess and target violative consumer products; and

"(B) building and improving information technology systems to support electronic access to and connection with the data and targeting systems associated with express consignment carrier facilities, international mail facilities, electronic commerce platforms, and other applicable system participants.

"(2) ELECTRONIC FILING OF CERTIFICATES OF COMPLIANCE.—Beginning not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Consumer Product Safety Inspection Enhancement Act, certificates of compliance shall be filed electronically for consumer products intended for entry into the United States to enhance risk assessment and target de minimis shipments containing violative consumer products.

"(3) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this subsection—

"(A) the term 'de minimis shipments' means articles containing consumer products entering the United States under the de minimis value exemption in 19 U.S.C. 1321(a)(2)(C);

"(B) the term 'express consignment carrier facility' means a separate or shared specialized facility approved by the port director solely for the examination and release of express consignment shipments;

"(C) the term 'ports of entry for de minimis shipments' means environments where de minimis shipments are processed, including express consignment carrier facilities, international mail facilities, and air cargo facilities;

"(D) the term 'violative consumer products' means consumer products in violation of an applicable consumer product safety rule under this Act or any similar rule, regulation, standard, or ban under any other Act enforced by the Commission.".

#### SEC. 3. ADDITIONAL CPSC SURVEILLANCE PERSONNEL AT KEY PORTS OF ENTRY FOR DE MINIMIS SHIPMENTS.

The Commission shall hire, train, and assign not fewer than 16 full-time equivalent personnel during each fiscal year and to be stationed at or supporting efforts at ports of entry, including ports of entry for de minimis shipments, for the purpose of identifying, assessing, and addressing shipments of violative consumer products. Such hiring shall continue during each fiscal year until the total number of full-time equivalent personnel equals and sustains the staffing requirements identified in the report to Congress required under section 4.

#### SEC. 4. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall transmit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make publicly available, a study and report assessing the risk to consumers associated with the targeting and screening of de minimis e-commerce shipments.

(b) REPORT REQUIREMENTS.—In the study and report, the Commission shall—

(1) examine a sampling of de minimis shipments at a sufficient and representative sample of all types of ports of entry where de minimis shipments are processed, including

express consignment carrier facilities, international mail facilities, and air cargo facilities to assess the extent to which such shipments include violative consumer products;

(2) examine a sampling of shipments coming from the People's Republic of China to identify trends associated with the shipment of products containing both intellectual property rights infringements and consumer product safety violations;

(3) detail plans and timelines to effectively address targeting and screening of de minimis shipments to prevent the entry of violative consumer products entering into the commerce of the United States taking into consideration projected growth in e-commerce;

(4) establish metrics by which to evaluate the effectiveness of the Commission efforts to reduce the number of de minimis shipments containing violative consumer products from entering into the commerce of the United States; and

(5) assess projected technology and resources, including staffing requirements necessary to implement such plans.

#### SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act—

(1) the term “Commission” means the Consumer Product Safety Commission;

(2) the term “de minimis shipments” means articles containing consumer products entering the United States under the de minimis value exemption in 19 U.S.C. 1321(a)(2)(C);

(3) the term “ports of entry for de minimis shipments” means environments where de minimis shipments are processed, including express consignment carrier facilities, international mail facilities, and air cargo facilities;

(4) the term “violative consumer products” means consumer products in violation of an applicable consumer product safety rule under the Consumer Product Safety Act or any similar rule, regulation, standard, or ban under any other Act enforced by the Commission;

(5) the term “electronic commerce platform” or “e-commerce platform” means any electronically accessed platform that includes publicly interactive features that allow for arranging the sale, purchase, payment, or shipping of goods, or that enables a person other than an operator of such platform to sell or offer to sell physical goods to consumers located in the United States; and

(6) the term “express consignment carrier facility” means a separate or shared specialized facility approved by the port director solely for the examination and release of express consignment shipments.

#### SEC. 6. SAVINGS CLAUSE.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit, affect, or conflict with any other authority of the Commission or any other statutory requirements governing the Commission.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam 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 H.R. 8134.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 8134, the Consumer Product Safety Inspection Enhancement Act, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, this bipartisan legislation was introduced by Consumer Protection and Commerce Subcommittee chair JAN SCHAKOWSKY and Representative JEFF DUNCAN and advanced out of the Committee on Energy and Commerce on September 9 by a voice vote.

This important legislation will empower the Consumer Product Safety Commission with the data it needs to protect Americans from the flood of unsafe products entering our Nation from overseas, especially e-commerce shipments entering under the de minimis value exemption. It will also help ensure the Commission has adequate staffing to support these efforts.

Madam Speaker, e-commerce spending has risen steeply during the COVID-19 pandemic as Americans turn to online shopping to safely get needed goods or to find scarce supplies. Even before the pandemic, however, the CPSC was projecting that the number of e-commerce shipments to the United States would soon reach 60 million per year and represent well over 50 percent of the total volume of imports under the agency's jurisdiction.

Despite the rapid growth in e-commerce, these shipments entering the U.S. from overseas continue to face little scrutiny at our ports and often contain fake or dangerous products.

Currently, CPSC inspectors are present at only 6 percent of U.S. ports and concentrated only at seaports that receive large, high-value shipping containers. The agency virtually has no presence at the kinds of ports where millions of e-commerce shipments enter the United States, such as express courier facilities, international mail facilities, and airports.

We need CPSC inspectors stationed in all these types of places to prevent unsafe products from entering the U.S. and harming Americans. CPSC will also need more data and more advanced IT infrastructure in order to properly assess risk and target potentially unsafe e-commerce shipments.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 8134 addresses all these issues. It expands CPSC's presence at ports, to include the type of ports where e-commerce shipments enter. It also empowers the CPSC to collect the data it needs to identify and block e-commerce shipments that disregard our consumer product safety laws and standards.

This bill would protect American consumers from unsafe consumer products, at the same time an expanded and enhanced import surveillance program will also protect manufacturers and retailers from having to carry out costly recalls.

Madam Speaker, I, again, commend Chairwoman SCHAKOWSKY and Representative DUNCAN for introducing

this bill. I also thank Ranking Member WALDEN and subcommittee Ranking Member RODGERS for working with us to move this bill through the Committee on Energy and Commerce on a bipartisan basis.

Madam Speaker, I call on my colleagues to support this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 8134, the Consumer Product Safety Inspection Enhancement Act.

This bill will give the Consumer Product Safety Commission important tools to crack down on unsafe and counterfeit products at our Nation's ports.

As dangerous items and products that infringe on our companies' intellectual property flow into the country from China and other countries, it is essential that we empower the CPSC to find these products before they enter the country.

Madam Speaker, I applaud Mr. DUNCAN and Chair SCHAKOWSKY for their leadership, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY), the subcommittee chairwoman.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding to me. I rise in strong support of H.R. 8134, the Consumer Product Safety Inspection Enhancement Act, a bill that I introduced with my friend and colleague, JEFF DUNCAN.

E-commerce spending is surging right now during the COVID-19 pandemic as Americans turn to online shopping for household essentials, personal protective equipment, back-to-school supplies, and more.

However, e-commerce shipments entering the United States from overseas face little scrutiny and often contain fake or dangerous products. It is time that we empower the Consumer Product Safety Commission to collect the data it needs to identify and block e-commerce shipments that can harm consumers and that don't offer the protection and safety that they need.

□ 1330

This legislation would give the CPSC the data that it needs to protect Americans from the flood of unsafe products that are coming in.

This legislation is a critical first step to restoring confidence in e-commerce sites, but this bill is not a silver bullet. Much more needs to happen.

Earlier this month, CNN reported that products sold on Amazon had burst into flames, causing significant bodily harm and property damage as well.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD that article.

[From CNN, Sept. 10, 2020]

DOZENS OF AMAZON'S OWN PRODUCTS HAVE BEEN REPORTED AS DANGEROUS—MELTING, EXPLODING OR EVEN BURSTING INTO FLAMES. MANY ARE STILL ON THE MARKET

(By Blake Ellis and Melanie Hicken)

(CNN) When firefighters arrived at Austin Parra's home on January 12, 2017, they could see smoke and the charred remnants of an office chair outside.

Parra, then 20, had been transported to the hospital. His mother explained to firefighters that her son's chair caught on fire while he was sleeping, and he was burned as he carried the flaming chair outside.

Anthony Dignoti, the Wethersfield, Connecticut, fire marshal in charge of investigating the incident, could see that the door and door frame were damaged by the fire as well. He noticed bowls strewn about, which he wrote in his official report had been filled with water in an attempt to extinguish the fire.

The fire at Austin Parra's home originated with an AmazonBasics USB cord, Fire Marshal Anthony Dignoti determined. (Courtesy Wethersfield Fire Marshal's Office)

But most interesting to Dignoti was a white USB cord. Part of the cord was hanging off the chair and still intact, but the other side was stuck to the seat and had melted into a bare wire, he said in his report and an interview with CNN.

Dignoti ultimately concluded that the fire originated with the cord Parra was using to charge his cellphone. His report stated the cord experienced a short circuit, and while it was unclear why this happened, "the heat produced by the cord ignited the upholstery for the office chair."

The cord had been branded with the name of the world's largest online retailer: Amazon. It was sold by one of Amazon's popular private label lines, AmazonBasics, which offers budget-friendly products including consumer electronics, household appliances, home goods and office accessories.

Launched in 2009, AmazonBasics has grown to offer more than 5,000 products, according to the retailer. Its mission: identifying everyday items that Amazon can create at a similar or higher quality and lower price point when compared to existing name brands—a strategy also employed by companies such as Costco and Target.

#### KEY FINDINGS

Using keywords including "fire," "dangerous" and "burn," reporters identified more than 1,500 reviews about AmazonBasics electronics and appliances posted by US customers on Amazon.com from 2016 through early 2020 that described safety-related issues.

More than 10 percent of the reviews identified by CNN reported that products had caught fire—in some cases describing how flames shot out of the devices.

Nearly 200 included reports of damage to homes or belongings, including charred walls and fried cellphones.

A growing number of AmazonBasics products, which the company promotes heavily on its site, have become bestsellers since the line's inception, and many have ratings above four stars, according to Marketplace Pulse research. In recent months, the online retailer's sales have been soaring as millions of Americans have been staying at home—and in many cases working remotely—during the ongoing pandemic.

But consumers have raised serious safety concerns about AmazonBasics items in complaints to government regulators and in reviews posted on Amazon's own website. Since 2016, at least 1,500 reviews, covering more than 70 items, have described products ex-

ploding, catching on fire, smoking, melting, causing electrical malfunctions or otherwise posing risks, according to an analysis of AmazonBasics electronics and appliances listed on its website.

The reviews identified represent a small fraction of the overall purchases of the products, and fires caused by consumer electronics are not unique to Amazon branded items. User error can also be a factor, as can faulty or aging wiring within a home or a defective device being used in conjunction with the product.

But when well-made and used properly by consumers, electronics like those sold under the AmazonBasics name should rarely pose dangers, said electrical engineers interviewed by CNN.

Dozens of AmazonBasics products are flagged as dangerous, but many are still being sold. Within the more than 1,500 reviews, many consumers explicitly called out items as potentially dangerous—using terms such as "hazard" or "fire" or saying the product should be recalled. Around 30 items with three or more reviews like this remain for sale on Amazon.com today. At least 11 other products that fit this criteria were no longer for sale at the time of publication. Some became unavailable after CNN began its reporting, and at least four product pages were removed from the retailer's site entirely—leaving behind dead URLs known by employees as "dog pages." Amazon confirmed that at least eight of these products had been under investigation, but said the company determined they all met its safety standards.

Customers have written in their reviews and said in interviews that they trusted that AmazonBasics purchases would be safe and well made since they were branded with Amazon's name and frequently touted as "Amazon's Choice." But even as complaints have mounted, the company has provided little or no information to consumers or the public about how it is handling allegations that some of its merchandise is unsafe.

This review was written about an AmazonBasics car charger that has multiple consumer safety complaints.

Amazon shoppers have recounted frightening malfunctions and close calls in vivid detail: A surge protector turned into a "blowtorch," one father recalled—saying that flames shot out of the device, which was near his baby's nursery. Phone chargers were said to have burned peoples' hands and legs, and exploding batteries allegedly sprayed chemicals in someone's face. A USB cord burst into flames in a parked car while a toddler was inside, according to one parent. A charger in another car was reported as starting an electrical fire on the freeway, allegedly burning the driver and a jacket. Paper shredders turned on by themselves, according to multiple consumers, and one reportedly blew up in a "fireball," burning someone's arm and singeing the hair off. And a microwave suddenly caught on fire when an 8-year-old went to heat up her macaroni and cheese cup as she had done "a zillion times," a mother claimed, saying she had to take the appliance outside and spray it with a hose. Each of these purchases were "verified," meaning Amazon confirmed that the customer who wrote the review actually purchased the product on the site and didn't receive a "deep discount," according to its website. Several were accompanied by photos of the burned items.

More than 150 reviews about the AmazonBasics microwave describe safety concerns including flames and smoke.

While the best way to determine why something malfunctioned is to physically test it and take it apart, many customers said they immediately threw out the defec-

tive devices or sent them back to Amazon at the company's request.

CNN obtained two damaged AmazonBasics products from customers: a microwave that a customer said caught fire and a USB cord a user said overheated and melted. These were tested by researchers at the failure analysis lab at the University of Maryland's Center for Advanced Life Cycle Engineering (CALCE) at CNN's request.

The USB cord was too burned for researchers to determine what had gone wrong. The microwave testing found that the design of the panel covering the heating device inside the microwave could result in the machine catching on fire, and determined that the way the panel was secured could allow debris such as food or grease to collect behind it and possibly ignite. As soon as the researchers turned it on, the microwave began sparking and smoking, causing it to react as if its user put foil or other metal inside. The testing was cut short when the lab was closed due to Covid-19.

"There's a risk in using this machine for sure, and it's a safety risk because this clearly heated up to the extent a fire could occur," said engineering professor Michael Pecht, who is the founder of CALCE and has previously assisted in government safety investigations. "This is more than a reliability problem, this is a potential safety problem."

Amazon did not comment on whether any improvements had been made to the microwave, but said it is confident the microwave is safe to use and that it continues to "meet or exceed" all of the applicable certification requirements.

The retailer said "safety is a top priority" at the company and that it takes a number of steps to ensure all AmazonBasics products are safe and high quality, such as selecting experienced manufacturers, monitoring customer feedback and testing items to ensure they pass safety and compliance standards both before and after they are available. It also said AmazonBasics offers thousands of products which combined have more than 1 million reviews, and that concerns are thoroughly investigated and that the company acts accordingly.

"Not safe," one verified purchaser wrote in a review about an AmazonBasics microwave, including a home video that shows the device sparking and making loud popping noises.

"The outcome of the investigation varies on a case by case basis and may include removing the product from the store, adjusting the design of the product, notifying customers to stop using the product, or other appropriate action," a company spokesperson said in a statement. "We want customers to shop with confidence and if ever a customer has a concern, they can contact customer service and we will investigate."

Amazon said there are a number of reasons an item may no longer be available, but that customers will be notified if a critical safety issue is identified. When asked how frequently the company has done this, Amazon said it had notified customers about an AmazonBasics product less than five times. It did not specify whether it did this for any of the items reviewed by CNN.

#### IT'S A RED FLAG

Amazon has already been under intense scrutiny for allowing third party sellers with allegedly dangerous offerings to do business on the site, and multiple court rulings have found that the retailer can be held liable for defective items sold in its third party marketplace. CNN's analysis focused on products sold with Amazon's own name on them—a growing part of the retailer's business.

The reviews come from people living all over the United States and span five years, but they often call attention to the very

same problems: The same panel within a microwave catching fire, USB cords melting or burning despite no visible wear and tear or overuse, and paint on outdoor patio heaters lighting on fire. Consumers alleged items malfunctioned the first time they plugged them in. Others said electronics were not in use when they began malfunctioning.

In general, one or two reports of problems could be more easily chalked up to user error or other external factors, multiple electrical engineers said. But as the number of reports about the same kinds of failures increases about the same item, so does the likelihood that there is a defect in the design or manufacturing.

Researchers at the CALCE lab compare a new AmazonBasics microwave to one that had visible burn damage.

"That would certainly lead to more suspicion that the product is at fault," said Mark Horenstein, a professor at Boston University's College of Engineering. "It's a red flag." Amazon said customer reviews are only one indication of a potential issue, saying it looks at a number of other factors such as sales history, returns and customer service contacts when assessing potential problems. "Using customer reviews alone to conclude a product is unsafe or imply there's a widespread issue is misleading," the company said in a statement. Former Amazon employees said that even a few reviews mentioning words like "fire" and "hazard" should automatically prompt the retailer to take action. Amazon said reviews are monitored and can trigger safety investigations, but it declined to provide details about the specific threshold needed for this to happen. The company said products may be temporarily removed during such inquiries and that in order to keep selling something, it must be confirmed to be safe. It also said that if an investigation uncovers a "potential, non-isolated safety issue," it takes appropriate measures to notify the government and "safely recall the product." This AmazonBasics surge protector remains for sale despite reviews about dangers and a report to the CPSC that it "made a loud popping noise, sparked, and the case was opened by the force of the damage." Amazon said the product is safe and that most reports involved customers who plugged in multiple large electronics. Some reviews identified by CNN said nothing was plugged into the device, however.

Businesses are required by law to immediately report "potentially hazardous" items to the federal Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) so the agency can determine whether an official recall is necessary. Companies can also initiate voluntary recalls in cooperation with the CPSC. Concerns similar to those detailed in Amazon reviews have been relayed to the CPSC in at least 10 reports that specifically mention an AmazonBasics product. The complaints cover at least eight different items and date back to 2012.

In the United States, Amazon publicly recalled two AmazonBasics items in 2018 and 2019, after the company received 53 reports in the US about power banks overheating and 25 about versions of a space heater overheating, burning or sparking. It said it proactively notified the CPSC of the results of the company's own investigation and its intent to recall the items. Beyond these two official recalls, the company has never publicly acknowledged that AmazonBasics products have any safety issues.

The CPSC said it was prohibited by law from discussing any item that had not been recalled and that in general, the agency determines if a recall is necessary based on a number of factors, including "the nature of the defect, the level of hazard associated

with the issue, and the pattern of similar problems (seen)."

Customers reported being shocked or burned in at least 100 reviews on Amazon's website. Parra from the Connecticut apartment fire said in a lawsuit that he suffered second-degree burns and injuries to his throat from smoke inhalation. Dignoti's report shows Parra spent around a day in the hospital. Parra sued Amazon in 2019, and the case settled. He and his attorney did not respond to interview requests.

CNN used the information provided by the fire department to determine that the type of cord Parra purchased had been removed from Amazon's website. While it is unclear when the cord was pulled, a version of the page captured by the Wayback Machine, an internet archive, shows the product had an average rating of 4.1 out of 5 stars. It shows the cord was still available for purchase until at least June 2017, and that there were warnings from other customers at least a year before Parra's January 2017 fire.

The link for the phone cord used by Parra now leads to nothing but a dead URL known internally at Amazon as a dog page.

"End of the cable melted and started smoking. Glad we caught it before a fire," one verified purchaser wrote in June 2016.

"DO NOT BUY! FIRE HAZARD!" another customer with a verified purchase of the cord wrote in May 2016, attaching 10 photos of the melted and warped cord—saying it ruined an expensive iPhone and that he considered himself lucky that a fire hadn't ignited. "These should be taken off the market immediately!!!"

While fires caused by USB cords are uncommon, they are possible, according to electrical engineers who said a range of factors could be at play in situations like this—from problems with whatever device the cord is plugged into to defects within the cord itself.

The AmazonBasics lightning charger that this review was written about became unavailable after CNN began its reporting.

An industry non-profit, the USB Implementers Forum Inc, said it does not believe user error is a significant cause of overheating USB cables. A cable that is sub-standard, whether because of a design or manufacturing defect, can be dangerous and lead to electric shock, overheating, sparks or fire, it said. The group has certified a number of AmazonBasics cables as meeting their standards, though it focuses on the functionality of the cables and making sure their specifications are in compliance—emphasizing that it is "not a replacement for industry best practices or any applicable local, state or government statutes, rules or regulations pertaining to safety."

The group also said it conducted an internal review of several cables CNN brought to its attention and found them to be compliant. It does not certify proprietary lightning USB cords used for Apple devices, however, such as Parra's cord. Apple said it allows manufacturers to use its lightning connectors in their products if those items are tested and confirmed to meet high quality standards, and that the company expects manufacturers to meet any applicable safety standards.

#### HAVE YOU PURCHASED AN AMAZONBASICS PRODUCT?

Amazon meanwhile said it investigated the safety claims about the kind of cord used by Parra and determined it met the company's standards. "If we determine that a product is unsafe, we remove it from our stores and take all necessary actions, which may include contacting regulators and customers," it said, specifically in response to questions about the cord used by Parra, which was removed from the site.

The retailer did introduce a new version of the product, however, saying it made updates to improve the customer experience.

#### LOSING TRUST

Matt Citro purchased his AmazonBasics surge protector to protect his family from a fire. Instead, he said that in January 2018, the surge protector itself caught fire. A single phone charger was plugged into the device, but was not being used at the time.

Sitting on the couch as his 9-month-old son slept in his nursery nearby, Citro said he noticed flames coming out of the surge protector—turning it into what resembled a "blowtorch." He told CNN that he quickly pulled the flaming device from the wall. He wasn't injured but said he was left with more than \$1,000 of damage after the surge protector burned a hole in the wall outlet and seared part of his wall.

Matt Citro says that he sent back his charred surge protector so that it could be investigated by Amazon. He never heard anything back, but did receive a payment to cover damage to his home. (Courtesy Matt Citro)

He had never experienced any electrical issues in his home before this, he said, and was convinced the AmazonBasics surge protector was to blame.

"DO NOT BUY THIS PRODUCT!!! . . . If I wasn't home my entire house would have burnt down from this cheap product," Citro wrote in a review. "I'm extremely disappointed in Amazon. We put a lot of faith in their products and to have (one) almost burn down my home does not make me trust them. This product has amazons name on it!"

Citro said he immediately contacted Amazon and told the company what happened. At first, he said he was offered a replacement or a refund. Not satisfied, he continued to call customer service.

He said he finally got through to someone who connected him with an insurance company, and he was ultimately paid \$1,469, according to a settlement document reviewed by CNN in which Amazon denies any liability.

Amazon continued to sell the surge protector for nearly two years after Citro posted his review, during which time more reviews about similar situations and other concerns piled up. More than 40 customers reported that the product was a fire hazard, had caused damage to their home or belongings or described other dangers.

These reviews represented around 1.7% of the roughly 2,600 US reviews posted about the \$10.99 device as of late last year, before Amazon removed it from the site. Several included claims of flames and fires like Citro's. As a comparison, a similar product made by a major consumer electronics company and also sold on Amazon's site had six reviews about possible safety concerns earlier this year, representing .07% of its more than 8,000 reviews. And none of the six mentioned actual fires. Amazon said its own analysis, which added global reviews about the AmazonBasics surge protector, found 1.1 % involved claims of overheating, fire and other dangers.

One former AmazonBasics product manager, who asked to remain anonymous because she still works in the industry, said she was surprised to hear that such a high percentage of reviews raised safety issues about an AmazonBasics item. "Once you get 40, oh my gosh, no, that would not be acceptable in any shape, way or form," she said of the reviews found by CNN, adding that a ratio of around .05% would have been seen as more acceptable when she worked there. But she defended her former employer, saying this was just one product and that during her

time with the company, she believed the retailer was even more vigilant than competitors in trying to react to safety concerns.

More than 40 customers reported dangers involving the same surge protector that Citro said burst into flames.

Weeks after CNN began reporting on the surge protector—reaching out to customers and employees and ordering the same item as part of the investigation—Amazon pulled it from its site in December despite its high average rating of 4.4 stars as of a month earlier. The company did not appear to provide any notification to customers, including to the reporters who purchased it. And it did not post any message on its site about why it was taken down.

Amazon declined to comment on individual customers, and would not say why the page was removed or whether Citro's surge protector was tested. It did say an updated version of the product had been released, but when asked for the link to the updated version, the company said “this product is currently unavailable.”

Citro, who said he still shops at Amazon frequently, said he sent his burned surge protector back for testing as the company requested, but never heard anything about what its investigation found.

“I do wish this particular product was tested more thoroughly,” he said. “A lot was on the line with my son’s bedroom in the next room.”

Just like Parra’s phone cord, this specific kind of surge protector has not been officially recalled.

#### BEHIND THE SCENES

Three former Amazon employees said the vast majority of AmazonBasics electronics are made in Asia. The company’s list of suppliers used for its various private label lines—including AmazonBasics—shows that only around 10% are in the United States and nearly half are located in China.

The retailer typically brings AmazonBasics items to market in two ways, explained the former product manager. It either goes straight to manufacturers that are able to meet its standards and works closely with them to create items for the AmazonBasics line. Or Amazon finds an existing product and works with a third-party company, which may use an outside manufacturer of its own, to brand the item with the AmazonBasics name.

#### The reviews

More than 90% of the reviews CNN analyzed were about “verified purchases.”

Some 400 reviews posted on the site included photos or videos as visual evidence of their claims.

Reviews came from around 70 product pages, which sometimes included multiple variations of an item (such as USB cords in different lengths or colors), which may have separate identification numbers.

Reviews were excluded if a product had clearly been used incorrectly—for example, those saying non-rechargeable batteries were placed in a charger.

Most reviews did not include people’s full names, but CNN did reach more than 30 customers, and many provided information such as evidence of their purchases, photos, additional details and correspondence with Amazon.

She said both methods have been implemented for electronics, but that in this second scenario, Amazon typically has less insight into the manufacturing process and is less involved in quality and safety testing. Amazon disputed this, saying it verifies that products meet the same safety standards regardless of the business model. The company also said it most frequently works directly with manufacturers.

#### RELATED: FAKE AND DANGEROUS KIDS PRODUCTS ARE TURNING UP FOR SALE ON AMAZON

Another former employee who was involved with AmazonBasics in its earlier years and asked to remain anonymous because of a confidentiality agreement, said employees on the AmazonBasics team would randomly order items to inspect and stay on top of reviews to make sure red flags were being caught. “We didn’t have a lot of problems in my time but were much smaller than they are now so it was easy to keep things under control,” the former employee said.

Former Amazon manager Rachel Greer, who left the company in 2015, said that when she worked in compliance at the company, she believed AmazonBasics products were closely monitored from conception to the years following their launch, saying there was extensive testing done. She said safety issues were rare, but when they occurred, they were caught quickly and addressed as soon as possible. “If someone complained on a review, we took it very seriously,” she said.

This required staying on top of manufacturers and making sure corners weren’t cut, she and the AmazonBasics product manager both said. In the case of USB cords, for example, Greer described how she made sure there was frequent testing of the cords to ensure that manufacturers hadn’t begun to swap in thinner wiring which could be more likely to cause cords to overheat.

A customer said this AmazonBasics retractable USB cord began melting only a few months after he purchased it. “Had my wife not heard it crackling it could have started a fire,” he wrote in a review.

“When you’re in charge of compliance for something that has the Amazon brand on it, I didn’t think it should be something we’re messing around with,” Greer said. “When you’re outsourcing production there’s a lot of things that can go wrong.”

When she left Amazon, she said she was growing concerned that a drive to increase sales would overshadow a focus on safety as the number of AmazonBasics offerings continued to rise. Prior to her departure, she would increasingly disagree with product managers, who she said pushed to get items into the pipeline faster and more cheaply. Performance evaluations reviewed by reporters backed up the idea that Greer had clashed with colleagues but also described her as “an evangelist for product safety,” saying “she is passionate about keeping customers safe.”

Greer now works as a consultant to third-party sellers, and said she wasn’t surprised to hear that customers were complaining of alleged dangers. She said that when she worked for Amazon, she was never aware of anything close to the number or level of seriousness of the reviews identified by CNN, and questioned whether testing was still as rigorous as it had been in the past.

“If this had happened on a seller product, the second complaint of fire it would have been taken down,” she said, while scanning through some of the more than 150 reviews about serious problems with a voice-activated AmazonBasics microwave—the same product tested by CALCE.

Greer said that if she was still at the company and had seen so many reports of fire about a single item, she likely would have reported the microwave to the CPSC and worked with the business teams to enact a voluntary recall by the company.

Since the microwave’s release in the fall of 2018, its product page has been flooded with reports from consumers about problems including flames, smoke and sparks. These kinds of reviews made up roughly 5% of the AmazonBasics microwave’s more than 3,000

reviews as of February, when CNN’s final analysis was conducted. Another roughly 1,000 reviews have been posted since then, with fires being reported as recently as September. A microwave that has been reviewed less frequently but is the same size and wattage had only 10 reviews describing similar safety issues—amounting to around .7% of its roughly 1,350 reviews on Amazon.

Research scientists use x-ray CT scanning to test AmazonBasics retractable charging cords and microwave parts.

While the retailer did not provide unit sales, Amazon said that as the best-selling microwave on the site, it may have a higher number of sales and reviews, which could result in more mentioning possible concerns.

The company disputed Greer’s comments, saying safety testing had not become any less rigorous and that it was not aware of any manufacturers using thinner cables “than they were directed to use.” It said safety testing is handled by reputable third-party labs with global facilities, including in China and that her statements about the microwave were speculative since she was not part of the team that worked on this item and was not involved in the testing of the device. Amazon also said it proactively sends safety-related customer reports to the CPSC and noted the agency has not issued any consumer warnings about the AmazonBasics microwave.

#### STILL FOR SALE

Amazon declined to provide details about why certain products were investigated and removed from its site, while others with repeated complaints about the same hazards are still available to purchase today.

Leeona Smail said her AmazonBasics battery charger began to melt and smoke.

New mom Leeona Smail posted her review about an AmazonBasics battery charger late last year. When CNN reached her, she recounted how she and her husband were forced to evacuate their home in the middle of the night when they detected the unmistakable smell of something burning. They gathered their dogs, cats and 4-month-old baby by their front porch, called 911 and waited for help to arrive.

It wasn’t until after the firefighters left that the Smalls said they found what they believed was the culprit: an AmazonBasics battery charger. They had used the device for several years to charge batteries. But this time, Smail said, after unplugging it from the wall and placing it in a box on their coffee table, it began to melt and smoke. When the fire chief returned the next day to check on them, she said, he was amazed to see the source of the smell.

Vandergrift, Pennsylvania fire chief confirmed that his team was dispatched to investigate “a smoke odor and light haze” at the Smail home. He said they ultimately learned that a battery charger “overheated and melted,” and said it was unclear whether it would have caused the house to catch fire if it hadn’t been found.

Other reviews about the same battery charger have described similar concerns. It is still available for sale.

Smail posted a photo of the burned device along with her review before throwing it away. Amazon eventually gave her a refund—though she said she only received a partial one because the warranty window had passed.

#### Credits

At least 21 other reviews about the same battery charger, which had around 2,000 total reviews at the time of CNN’s analysis, also said the device had overheated, melted or burned. Three described the same situation that Smail reported: the charger had not even been plugged in and had no batteries in it at the time.

The item was still for sale on Amazon at the time of publication.

The company said an investigation confirmed the product was safe, and that there were no broader design or safety concerns. But when asked whether it tested any of the actual chargers customers had flagged, and if so, what those tests had found, Amazon said it did not have “information to share.”

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. In July, I introduced the INFORM Consumers Act with Congresswoman KATHY CASTOR, which would require platforms such as Amazon to verify third-party sellers. It is my sincere hope that this body can move, first, on the legislation that we are addressing today and, finally, on legislation that would protect consumers in a deeper way.

I thank Representative DUNCAN, my friend and colleague, for introducing this legislation with me, this important consumer safety legislation. I would also like to take a moment to recognize both majority and minority committee staff who worked hard on this and each of the other bills that are before us today that moved through the subcommittee that I have the privilege of chairing: Lisa Goldman, Anna Yu, Daniel Greene, Chloe Rodriguez, Alex Hoehn-Saric, Tim Kurth, and Bijan Koohmaraei.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN), the former chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee. I appreciate his leadership.

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I thank the leaders of the Energy and Commerce Committee on both sides of the aisle for moving forward with H.R. 8134, the Consumer Product Safety Inspection Enhancement Act.

I especially want to thank Chairwoman SCHAKOWSKY, who has worked so hard on this, and Representative JEFF DUNCAN, who has also led on this bill. This bill will improve coordination with U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the CBP, to target and prevent consumer products that violate American laws from entering the United States. Importantly, this effort prioritizes shipments from China, where we know the overwhelming majority of counterfeit goods originate.

By prioritizing inspection of shipments from China, H.R. 8134 will help the CPSC and the CBP identify trends and better position us to prevent goods that violate our laws and, by the way, hurt our small businesses from entering our country.

The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the importance of addressing supply chain threats. This bill is an important step in making that happen.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I would ask 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 gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8134, 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.

## CONSUMER SAFETY TECHNOLOGY ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8128) to direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to establish a pilot program to explore the use of artificial intelligence in support of the consumer product safety mission of the Commission, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8128

*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 “Consumer Safety Technology Act”.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Definitions.

### TITLE I—ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY

Sec. 101. Short title.

Sec. 102. Pilot program for use of artificial intelligence by Consumer Product Safety Commission.

### TITLE II—BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION

Sec. 201. Short title.

Sec. 202. Study on blockchain technology and its use in consumer protection.

### TITLE III—DIGITAL TOKEN TAXONOMY

Sec. 301. Short title.

Sec. 302. Findings.

Sec. 303. Reports on unfair or deceptive acts or practices in transactions relating to digital tokens.

### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

*In this Act—*

(1) the term “consumer product” has the meaning given such term in section 3(a) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2052(a)); and

(2) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Commerce.

### TITLE I—ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY

#### SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.

*This title may be cited as the “AI for Consumer Product Safety Act”.*

#### SEC. 102. PILOT PROGRAM FOR USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE BY CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Consumer Product Safety Commission shall establish a pilot program to explore the use of artificial intelligence by the Commission in support of the consumer product safety mission of the Commission.

(b) **REQUIREMENTS.**—In conducting the pilot program established under subsection (a), the Commission shall do the following:

(1) Use artificial intelligence for at least 1 of the following purposes:

(A) Tracking trends with respect to injuries involving consumer products.

(B) Identifying consumer product hazards.

(C) Monitoring the retail marketplace (including internet websites) for the sale of recalled consumer products (including both new and used products).

(D) Identifying consumer products required by section 17(a) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2066(a)) to be refused admission into the customs territory of the United States.

(2) Consult with the following:

(A) Technologists, data scientists, and experts in artificial intelligence and machine learning.

(B) Cybersecurity experts.

(C) Members of the retail industry.

(D) Consumer product manufacturers.

(E) Consumer product safety organizations.

(F) Any other person the Commission considers appropriate.

(c) **REPORT TO CONGRESS.**—Not later than 180 days after the conclusion of the pilot program established under subsection (a), the Consumer Product Safety Commission shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make publicly available on the website of the Commission, a report on the findings and data derived from such program, including whether and the extent to which the use of artificial intelligence improved the ability of the Commission to advance the consumer product safety mission of the Commission.

### TITLE II—BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION

#### SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.

*This title may be cited as the “Blockchain Innovation Act”.*

#### SEC. 202. STUDY ON BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY AND ITS USE IN CONSUMER PROTECTION.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—

(1) **STUDY REQUIRED.**—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the Federal Trade Commission, and in consultation with the any other appropriate Federal agency the Secretary determines appropriate, shall conduct a study on current and potential use of blockchain technology in commerce and the potential benefits of blockchain technology for limiting fraud and other unfair and deceptive acts and practices.

(2) **REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDY.**—In conducting the study, the Secretary shall examine—

(A) trends in the commercial use of and investment in blockchain technology;

(B) best practices in facilitating public-private partnerships in blockchain technology;

(C) potential benefits and risks of blockchain technology for consumer protection;

(D) how blockchain technology can be used by industry and consumers to reduce fraud and increase the security of commercial transactions;

(E) areas in Federal regulation of blockchain technology that greater clarity would encourage domestic innovation; and

(F) any other relevant observations or recommendations related to blockchain technology and consumer protection.

(3) **PUBLIC COMMENT.**—In producing the study required in subsection (a)(2), the Secretary shall provide opportunity for public comment and advice relevant to the production of the study.

(b) **REPORT TO CONGRESS.**—Not later than 6 months after the completion of the study required pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make publicly available on the website of the Department of Commerce, a report that contains the results of the study conducted under subsection (a).

**TITLE III—DIGITAL TOKEN TAXONOMY****SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.**

This title may be cited as the “Digital Taxonomy Act”.

**SEC. 302. FINDINGS.**

Congress finds that—

(1) it is important that the United States remains a leader in innovation;

(2) digital tokens and blockchain technology are driving innovation and providing consumers with increased choice and convenience;

(3) the use of digital tokens and blockchain technology is likely to increase in the future;

(4) the Federal Trade Commission is responsible for protecting consumers from unfair or deceptive acts or practices, including relating to digital tokens;

(5) the Commission has previously taken action against unscrupulous companies and individuals that committed unfair or deceptive acts or practices involving digital tokens; and

(6) to bolster the Commission’s ability to enforce against unfair or deceptive acts or practices involving digital tokens, the Commission should ensure staff have appropriate training and resources to identify and pursue such cases.

**SEC. 303. REPORTS ON UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES IN TRANSACTIONS RELATING TO DIGITAL TOKENS.**

Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act and each year thereafter until fiscal year 2024, the Federal Trade Commission shall transmit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make publicly available on its website, a report of—

(1) any actions taken by the Commission relating to unfair or deceptive acts or practices in transactions relating to digital tokens;

(2) the Commission’s other efforts to prevent unfair or deceptive acts or practices relating to digital tokens; and

(3) any recommendations by the Commission for legislation that would improve the ability of the Commission and other relevant Federal agencies—

(A) to further protect consumers from unfair or deceptive acts or practices in the digital token marketplace; and

(B) to promote competition and promote innovation in the global digital token sector.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. PALLONE. Madam 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 H.R. 8128.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 8128, and I want to begin by thanking Representatives McNearney and Burgess for their leadership on H.R. 8128, the Consumer Safety Technology Act. This bill advanced out of the Energy and Commerce Committee earlier this month, on September 9, by voice vote.

The legislation will help modernize our consumer protection agencies and encourage the use of advanced technologies, like artificial intelligence and blockchain, in support of product safety and consumer protection. These technologies can help the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the Federal Trade Commission improve their operations and more effectively carry out their mission.

Technological advances and globalization have greatly expanded the range of consumer products on the market, and as consumers shop online, more and more of these products are being shipped directly to homes. AI could help the CPSC oversee the increasingly complex range of products under its jurisdiction by helping identify new injury trends and emerging hazards.

AI can also help the CPSC monitor online marketplaces for the illegal sale of recalled products. The persistence of recalled products on online third-party marketplaces is a particularly pernicious problem that puts Americans needlessly at risk.

For example, months after the dangerous Fisher-Price Rock ‘n Play and other infant inclined sleepers were recalled, a Consumer Reports investigation found that these products were still being sold on sites like Facebook Marketplace and Craigslist, even though they had been linked to dozens of infant fatalities. I am hopeful that AI can be harnessed here to help eradicate the sale of recalled products in these online marketplaces.

Madam Speaker, the CPSC could also use AI to assess the risk of the growing number of imported consumer products entering our country and being sent directly to consumers.

I want to thank Representatives SOTO, GUTHRIE, and MATSUI for introducing the Blockchain Innovation Act, which was incorporated into H.R. 8128 during the full committee’s consideration of the bill. So, too, was the Digital Taxonomy Act, which was introduced by Representatives DAVIDSON and SOTO.

Together, these bills will help identify ways blockchain technology can be used to further support consumer protection. It will also make sure that scammers and fraudsters don’t get ahead of consumers and law enforcement in the realm of blockchain and digital tokens.

Finally, I want to thank Ranking Member WALDEN and subcommittee Ranking Member RODGERS for working with us to move this bill through the Energy and Commerce Committee on a bipartisan basis.

Madam Speaker, I call on my colleagues to support the measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 8128, the Consumer Safety Technology Act. It combines the AI for

Consumer Product Safety Act, led by Dr. BURGESS and Mr. MCNERNEY, and the Blockchain Innovation Act, led by Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. SOTO, and Ms. MATSUI.

Both of these bills help consumer protection agencies utilize emerging technologies, such as AI and blockchain, to better fulfill their missions. Bringing the Federal Government into the 21st century by modernizing its technology has been a long-term goal of mine. I appreciate the leadership of these bills’ sponsors in doing just that for the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the Federal Trade Commission.

Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE), who has been a leader on blockchain policies.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 8128, the AI for Consumer Product Safety Act, a bipartisan bill introduced by my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee, Representatives MCNERNEY and BURGESS.

Emerging technologies can be a useful tool to help prevent fraud and to protect consumers. This bipartisan package of bills will help us learn more about AI technology to better protect Americans.

I want to thank Representatives MCNERNEY and BURGESS for including my legislation, the Blockchain Innovation Act, which I introduced with Representative SOTO and Representative MATSUI.

This legislation will help us harness blockchain technology for the betterment of our consumers and our economy.

I urge my colleagues to support the AI for Consumer Product Safety Act.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCNERNEY).

Mr. MCNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my legislation, H.R. 8128, the Consumer Safety Technology Act.

H.R. 8128 will encourage the use of emerging technologies, specifically artificial intelligence and blockchain, to help keep consumers safe, and it will aid our consumer protection agencies with carrying out their mission.

H.R. 8128 incorporates the AI for Consumer Product Safety Act, legislation that I authored with Representative BURGESS. The provisions direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission, CPSC, to establish a pilot program for the agency to use AI in furtherance of the agency’s work to protect consumers from unsafe products.

For example, CPSC could use AI to more quickly and efficiently identify consumer product hazards, such as exploding laptops that have faulty batteries, defective USB chargers, furniture that tips over, and unsafe infant

sleep products. Being able to identify these hazards more quickly will enable the CPSC to also recall the products more quickly and, in turn, save lives.

We have heard firsthand from the CPSC Commissioners when they testified before the House Energy and Commerce Committee that AI can benefit the agency's work in serving the American public.

I am pleased that just 2 weeks ago, the House passed my bill, H.R. 2575, the AI in Government Act, which will help the Federal Government increase AI adoption in a smart and responsible way. H.R. 8128 marks another critical step in advancing this effort.

H.R. 8128 also incorporates the Blockchain Innovation Act introduced by Representatives SOTO, GUTHRIE, and MATSUI. These provisions will help ensure that we can use the benefits of blockchain technology to stop scams and fraud.

Additionally, H.R. 8128 incorporates the Digital Taxonomy Act from Representatives SOTO and DAVIDSON. These provisions will help ensure that scammers and fraudsters don't get ahead of consumers and law enforcement in the realm of blockchain and digital tokens.

I want to thank Representatives BURGESS, SOTO, GUTHRIE, MATSUI, and DAVIDSON for their work on H.R. 8128 and Chairman PALLONE and Ranking Member WALDEN for moving this legislation through the committee.

I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY), the chairwoman of the subcommittee.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I also would like to thank the authors of this legislation, Representatives MCNERNEY, BURGESS, SOTO, MATSUI, and DAVIDSON.

This legislation would direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to establish a pilot program that uses artificial intelligence technology to protect consumers from unsafe products.

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CPSC would have to use AI technology to track trends related to injuries from consumer products, monitor the sale of recalled products, or identify products prohibited from being imported into the United States. In carrying out the pilot program, the agency would have to consult with AI experts, manufacturers, and consumer product safety organizations.

CPSC would have to report to Congress on the extent to which AI technologies improved the agency's work after the pilot program has ended. This is exactly the right approach and a good complement to all the consumer protection bills that we are moving today.

The measure would also direct the Commerce Department to conduct, in consultation with the Federal Trade

Commission, FTC, and other relevant agencies a study on the commercialization and use of blockchain technology that was added to this bill. It would direct the FTC to report on deceptive practices related to digital tokens and provide recommendations to Congress on improving Federal protection of consumers from blockchain-related fraud.

Again, I want to thank Chairman PALLONE and the sponsors of this legislation.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, let me just thank my colleagues and urge support of this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 8128, the Consumer Safety Technology Act. I want to thank Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. SOTO, and Mr. GUTHRIE for their leadership on this effort.

This bipartisan bill directs the Consumer Product Safety Commission to conduct a pilot program to determine how artificial intelligence may be used to advance the agency's mission. Given the agency's broad jurisdiction over so many different consumer products, being able to efficiently and accurately analyze data is critical.

This bill also includes an important study on how blockchain technology may be used to address fraud and other unfair and deceptive acts and practices. This is complimentary to the American COMPETE Act that also prioritizes this emerging technology.

Blockchain technology would help bolster our supply chains, improve privacy—especially relating to contact tracing during the COVID-19 pandemic, and combat the spread of misinformation and fraud. I am glad to see this provision included in the legislation.

Relatedly, H.R. 8128 also focuses on digital tokens and targets ways in which we can protect consumers from fraud in the digital token marketplace.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8128, 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 direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to establish a pilot program to explore the use of artificial intelligence in support of the mission of the Commission and direct the Secretary of Commerce and the Federal Trade Commission to study and report on the use of blockchain technology and digital tokens, respectively."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### AMERICAN COMPETITIVENESS OF A MORE PRODUCTIVE EMERGING TECH ECONOMY ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8132) to require the Federal

Trade Commission and the Secretary of Commerce to conduct studies and submit reports on the impact of artificial intelligence and other technologies on United States businesses conducting interstate commerce, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8132

*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 "American Competitiveness Of a More Productive Emerging Tech Economy Act" or the "American COMPETE Act".

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Study to advance artificial intelligence.

Sec. 3. Study to advance internet of things in manufacturing.

Sec. 4. Study to advance quantum computing.

Sec. 5. Study to advance blockchain technology.

Sec. 6. Study to advance new and advanced materials.

Sec. 7. Study to advance unmanned delivery services.

Sec. 8. Study to advance internet of things.

Sec. 9. Study to advance three-dimensional printing.

Sec. 10. Study to combat online harms through innovation.

#### SEC. 2. STUDY TO ADVANCE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) STUDY REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce and the Federal Trade Commission shall complete a study on the state of the artificial intelligence industry and the impact of such industry on the United States economy.

(2) REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDY.—In conducting the study, the Secretary and the Commission shall—

(A) develop and conduct a survey of the artificial intelligence industry through outreach to participating entities as appropriate to—

(i) establish a list of industry sectors that implement and promote the use of artificial intelligence;

(ii) establish a list of public-private partnerships focused on promoting the adoption and use of artificial intelligence, as well as industry-based bodies, including international bodies, which have developed, or are developing, mandatory or voluntary standards for artificial intelligence;

(iii) the status of such industry-based mandatory or voluntary standards; and

(iv) provide a description of the ways entities or industry sectors implement and promote the use of artificial intelligence;

(B) develop a comprehensive list of Federal agencies with jurisdiction over the entities and industry sectors identified under subparagraph (A);

(C) identify which Federal agency or agencies listed under subparagraph (B) each entity or industry sector interacts with;

(D) identify all interagency activities that are taking place among the Federal agencies listed under subparagraph (B), such as working groups or other coordinated efforts;

(E) develop a brief description of the jurisdiction and expertise of the Federal agencies listed under subparagraph (B) with regard to such entities and industry sectors;

(F) identify all regulations, guidelines, mandatory standards, voluntary standards, and other policies implemented by each of the Federal agencies identified under subparagraph (B), as well as all guidelines, mandatory standards, voluntary standards, and other policies implemented by industry-based bodies; and

(G) identify Federal Government resources that exist for consumers and small businesses to evaluate the use of artificial intelligence.

(b) MARKETPLACE AND SUPPLY CHAIN SURVEY.—The Secretary and Commission shall conduct a survey of the marketplace and supply chain of artificial intelligence to—

(1) assess the severity of risks posed to such marketplace and supply chain;

(2) review the ability of foreign governments or third parties to exploit the supply chain in a manner that raises risks to the economic and national security of the United States; and

(3) identify emerging risks and long-term trends in such marketplace and supply chain.

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 6 months after the completion of the study required under subsection (a), the Secretary and the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make publicly available on their respective websites, a report that contains—

(1) the results of the study conducted pursuant to subsection (a) and the survey conducted pursuant to subsection (b); and

(2) recommendations to—

(A) grow the United States economy through the secure advancement of artificial intelligence;

(B) develop a national strategy to advance the United States business sectors' position in the world on the adoption of artificial intelligence;

(C) develop strategies to mitigate current and emerging risks to the marketplace and supply chain of artificial intelligence; and

(D) develop legislation that may advance the expeditious adoption of artificial intelligence.

### SEC. 3. STUDY TO ADVANCE INTERNET OF THINGS IN MANUFACTURING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) STUDY REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce, in coordination with the head of any other appropriate Federal agency, shall complete a study on the state of manufacturing in the United States.

(2) REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDY.—In conducting the study, the Secretary shall—

(A) develop and conduct a survey of the manufacturing industry through outreach to participating entities as appropriate to—

(i) establish a list of the industry sectors that implement and promote the use of internet-connected devices and internet-connected solutions in manufacturing;

(ii) establish a list of public-private partnerships focused on promoting the adoption and use of internet-connected devices and internet-connected solutions in manufacturing, as well as industry-based bodies, including international bodies, that have developed, or are developing, mandatory or voluntary standards for such uses;

(iii) the status of such industry-based mandatory or voluntary standards;

(iv) provide a description of the ways entities or industry sectors implement and promote the use of internet-connected devices and internet-connected solutions in manufacturing;

(B) develop a comprehensive list of Federal agencies with jurisdiction over the entities and industry sectors identified under subparagraph (A);

(C) identify which Federal agency or agencies listed under subparagraph (B) each entity or industry sector interacts with;

(D) identify all interagency activities that are taking place among the Federal agencies listed under subparagraph (B), such as working groups or other coordinated efforts;

(E) develop a brief description of the jurisdiction and expertise of the Federal agencies listed under subparagraph (B) with regard to such entities and industry sectors;

(F) identify all regulations, guidelines, mandatory standards, voluntary standards, and other policies implemented by each of the Federal agencies identified under subparagraph (B), as well as all guidelines, mandatory standards, voluntary standards, and other policies implemented by industry-based bodies; and

(G) identify Federal Government resources that exist for consumers and small businesses to evaluate the use of internet-connected devices and internet-connected solutions in manufacturing.

(b) MARKETPLACE AND SUPPLY CHAIN SURVEY.—The Secretary shall conduct a survey of the marketplace and supply chain of internet-connected devices and internet-connected solutions used in manufacturing to—

(1) assess the severity of risks posed to such marketplace and supply chain;

(2) review the ability of foreign governments or third parties to exploit the supply chain in a manner that raises risks to the economic and national security of the United States; and

(3) identify emerging risks and long-term trends in such marketplace and supply chain.

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 6 months after the completion of the study required pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make publicly available on the website of the Department of Commerce, a report that contains—

(1) the results of the study conducted pursuant to subsection (a) and the surveys conducted pursuant to subsection (b); and

(2) recommendations to—

(A) grow the United States economy through the secure advancement of the use of internet-connected devices and internet-connected solutions in manufacturing;

(B) develop a national strategy to advance the United States business sectors' position in the world on the adoption of internet-connected devices and internet-connected solutions used in manufacturing;

(C) develop strategies to mitigate current and emerging risks to the marketplace and supply chain of internet-connected devices and internet-connected solutions used in manufacturing;

(D) develop policies that States can adopt to encourage the growth of manufacturing, including the use of internet-connected devices and internet-connected solutions in manufacturing; and

(E) develop legislation that may advance the expeditious adoption of the use of internet-connected devices and internet-connected solutions in manufacturing;

### SEC. 4. STUDY TO ADVANCE QUANTUM COMPUTING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) STUDY REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce and the Federal Trade Commission shall complete a study on

the state of the quantum computing industry and the impact of such industry on the United States economy.

(2) REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDY.—In conducting the study, the Secretary and the Commission shall—

(A) develop and conduct a survey of the quantum computing industry through outreach to participating entities as appropriate to—

(i) establish a list of industry sectors that implement and promote the use of quantum computing;

(ii) establish a list of public-private partnerships focused on promoting the adoption and use of quantum computing, as well as industry-based bodies, including international bodies, which have developed, or are developing, mandatory or voluntary standards for quantum computing;

(iii) the status of such industry-based mandatory or voluntary standards; and

(iv) provide a description of the ways entities or industry sectors implement and promote the use of quantum computing;

(B) develop a comprehensive list of Federal agencies with jurisdiction over the entities and industry sectors identified under paragraph (A);

(C) identify which Federal agency or agencies listed under subparagraph (B) each entity or industry sector interacts with;

(D) identify all interagency activities that are taking place among the Federal agencies listed under subparagraph (B), such as working groups or other coordinated efforts;

(E) develop a brief description of the jurisdiction and expertise of the Federal agencies listed under subparagraph (B) with regard to such entities and industry sectors;

(F) identify all regulations, guidelines, mandatory standards, voluntary standards, and other policies implemented by each of the Federal agencies identified under subparagraph (B), as well as all guidelines, mandatory standards, voluntary standards, and other policies implemented by industry-based bodies; and

(G) identify Federal Government resources that exist for consumers and small businesses to evaluate the use of quantum computing.

(b) MARKETPLACE AND SUPPLY CHAIN SURVEY.—The Secretary and Commission shall conduct a survey of the marketplace and supply chain of quantum computing to—

(1) assess the severity of risks posed to such marketplace and supply chain;

(2) review the ability of foreign governments or third parties to exploit the supply chain in a manner that raises risks to the economic and national security of the United States; and

(3) identify emerging risks and long-term trends in such marketplace and supply chain.

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 6 months after the completion of the study required pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary and the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make publicly available on their respective websites, a report that contains—

(1) the results of the study conducted pursuant to subsection (a) and the survey conducted pursuant to subsection (b); and

(2) recommendations to—

(A) grow the United States economy through the secure advancement of quantum computing;

(B) develop a national strategy to advance the United States business sectors' position in the world on the adoption of quantum computing;

(C) develop strategies to mitigate current and emerging risks to the marketplace and supply chain of quantum computing; and

(D) develop legislation that may advance the expeditious adoption of quantum computing.

**SEC. 5. STUDY TO ADVANCE BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) STUDY REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce and the Federal Trade Commission shall complete a study on the state of the blockchain technology industry and the impact of such industry on the United States economy.

(2) REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDY.—In conducting the study, the Secretary and the Commission shall—

(A) develop and conduct a survey of the blockchain technology industry through outreach to participating entities as appropriate to—

(i) establish a list of industry sectors that implement and promote the use of blockchain technology;

(ii) establish a list of public-private partnerships focused on promoting the adoption and use of blockchain technology, as well as industry-based bodies, including international bodies, which have developed, or are developing, mandatory or voluntary standards for blockchain technology;

(iii) the status of such industry-based mandatory or voluntary standards; and

(iv) provide a description of the ways entities or industry sectors implement and promote the use of blockchain technology;

(B) develop a comprehensive list of Federal agencies with jurisdiction over the entities and industry sectors identified under paragraph (A);

(C) identify which Federal agency or agencies listed under subparagraph (B) each entity or industry sector interacts with;

(D) identify all interagency activities that are taking place among the Federal agencies listed under subparagraph (B), such as working groups or other coordinated efforts;

(E) develop a brief description of the jurisdiction and expertise of the Federal agencies listed under subparagraph (B) with regard to such entities and industry sectors;

(F) identify all regulations, guidelines, mandatory standards, voluntary standards, and other policies implemented by each of the Federal agencies identified under subparagraph (B), as well as all guidelines, mandatory standards, voluntary standards, and other policies implemented by industry-based bodies; and

(G) identify Federal Government resources that exist for consumers and small businesses to evaluate the use of blockchain technology.

(b) MARKETPLACE AND SUPPLY CHAIN SURVEY.—The Secretary and Commission shall conduct a survey of the marketplace and supply chain of blockchain technology to—

(1) assess the severity of risks posed to such marketplace and supply chain;

(2) review the ability of foreign governments or third parties to exploit the supply chain in a manner that raises risks to the economic and national security of the United States; and

(3) identify emerging risks and long-term trends in such marketplace and supply chain.

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 6 months after the completion of the study required pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary and the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make pub-

licly available on their respective websites, a report that contains—

(1) the results of the study conducted pursuant to subsection (a) and the survey conducted pursuant to subsection (b); and

(2) recommendations to—

(A) grow the United States economy through the secure advancement of blockchain technology;

(B) develop a national strategy to advance the United States business sectors' position in the world on the adoption of blockchain technology;

(C) develop strategies to mitigate current and emerging risks to the marketplace and supply chain of blockchain technology; and

(D) develop legislation that may advance the expeditious adoption of blockchain technology.

**SEC. 6. STUDY TO ADVANCE NEW AND ADVANCED MATERIALS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) STUDY REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce and the Federal Trade Commission, in coordination with the head of any other appropriate Federal agency, shall complete a study on the state of new and advanced materials industry, including synthetically derived or enhanced natural properties, and the impact of such industry on the United States economy.

(2) REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDY.—In conducting the study, the Secretary and the Commission shall—

(A) develop and conduct a survey of the new and advanced materials industry through outreach to participating entities as appropriate to—

(i) establish a list of industry sectors that implement and promote the use of new and advanced materials;

(ii) establish a list of public-private partnerships focused on promoting the adoption and use of new and advanced materials, as well as industry-based bodies, including international bodies, which have developed, or are developing, mandatory or voluntary standards for new and advanced materials;

(iii) the status of such industry-based mandatory or voluntary standards; and

(iv) provide a description of the ways entities or industry sectors implement and promote the use of new and advanced materials;

(B) develop a comprehensive list of Federal agencies with jurisdiction over the entities and industry sectors identified under subparagraph (A);

(C) identify which Federal agency or agencies listed under subparagraph (B) each entity or industry sector interacts with;

(D) identify all interagency activities that are taking place among the Federal agencies listed under subparagraph (B), such as working groups or other coordinated efforts;

(E) develop a brief description of the jurisdiction and expertise of the Federal agencies listed under subparagraph (B) with regard to such entities and industry sectors;

(F) identify all regulations, guidelines, mandatory standards, voluntary standards, and other policies implemented by each of the Federal agencies identified under subparagraph (B), as well as all guidelines, mandatory standards, voluntary standards, and other policies implemented by industry-based bodies; and

(G) identify Federal Government resources that exist for consumers and small businesses to evaluate the use of new and advanced materials.

(b) MARKETPLACE AND SUPPLY CHAIN SURVEY.—The Secretary and Commission shall conduct a survey of the marketplace and supply chain of new and advanced materials to—

(1) assess the severity of risks posed to such marketplace and supply chain;

(2) review the ability of foreign governments or third parties to exploit the supply chain in a manner that raises risks to the economic and national security of the United States; and

(3) identify emerging risks and long-term trends in such marketplace and supply chain.

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 6 months after the completion of the study required pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary and the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make publicly available on their respective websites, a report that contains—

(1) the results of the study conducted pursuant to subsection (a) and the survey conducted pursuant to subsection (b); and

(2) recommendations to—

(A) grow the United States economy through the secure advancement of new and advanced materials;

(B) develop a national strategy to advance the United States business sectors' position in the world on the adoption of new and advanced materials;

(C) develop strategies to mitigate current and emerging risks to the marketplace and supply chain of new and advanced materials; and

(D) develop legislation that may advance the expeditious adoption of new and advanced materials.

**SEC. 7. STUDY TO ADVANCE UNMANNED DELIVERY SERVICES.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) STUDY REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce, in coordination with the head of any other appropriate Federal agency, shall complete a study on the impact of unmanned delivery services on United States businesses conducting interstate commerce.

(2) REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDY.—In conducting the study, the Secretary shall do the following:

(A) Conduct a survey through outreach to participating entities to—

(i) establish a list of the industry sectors that develop and use unmanned delivery services, including the use of autonomous vehicles, drones, and robots;

(ii) review how unmanned delivery services are currently being used and any potential future applications of such services;

(iii) identify any challenges to the development and adoption of unmanned delivery services;

(iv) review how such services may be used to—

(I) deliver groceries, meals, medications, and other necessities to senior citizens, people with disabilities, and people without access to traditional public transportation;

(II) address challenges public health emergencies present, including delivering groceries, meals, medications, medical supplies, and other necessities during such emergencies; and

(III) any other potential use of such services;

(v) identify any safety risks associated with the adoption of unmanned delivery services on roads, in the air, or other environments, including any dangers posed to pedestrians, bicyclists, motorcyclists, motorists, or property;

(vi) identify the effect of unmanned delivery services on traffic safety and congestion;

(vii) evaluate the extent to which software, technology, and infrastructure behind unmanned delivery services are developed and manufactured in the United States;

(viii) identify the number and types of jobs that may be lost or substantially changed due to the development and adoption of unmanned delivery services;

(ix) identify the number and types of jobs that may be created due to the development and adoption of unmanned delivery services; and

(x) evaluate the effect of the adoption of unmanned delivery services on job quality for low, middle, and high-skilled workers.

(B) Develop and conduct a survey of Federal activity related to unmanned delivery services to—

(i) establish a list of Federal agencies asserting jurisdiction over industry sectors identified under subparagraph (A)(i);

(ii) develop a brief description of the jurisdiction and expertise of the Federal agencies regarding unmanned delivery services; and

(iii) identify all interagency activities regarding unmanned delivery services.

(C) Conduct a survey of the marketplace and supply chain of unmanned delivery services to—

(i) assess the severity of risks posed to such marketplace and supply chain;

(ii) review the ability of foreign governments or third parties to exploit such supply chain in a manner that raises risks to the economic and national security of the United States; and

(iii) identify emerging risks and long-term trends in such marketplace and supply chain.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 6 months after the completion of the study required pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary, in coordination with the head of any other appropriate Federal agency, shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make publicly available on the website of the Department of Commerce, a report that contains—

(1) the results of the study conducted under subsection (a); and

(2) recommendations to—

(A) develop and implement a comprehensive plan to promote the development and adoption of unmanned delivery services in the United States;

(B) develop policies that States can adopt to encourage the development and adoption of unmanned delivery services;

(C) develop a national strategy to advance the United States position in the world on the development and adoption of unmanned delivery services, and manufacture of technology behind unmanned delivery services;

(D) develop strategies to mitigate current and emerging risks to the marketplace and supply chain of unmanned delivery services; and

(E) develop legislation to accomplish such recommendations.

#### SEC. 8. STUDY TO ADVANCE INTERNET OF THINGS.

(a) STUDY.—The Secretary of Commerce shall conduct a study on the state of the internet-connected devices industry (commonly known as the “Internet of Things”) in the United States. In conducting the study, the Secretary shall—

(1) develop and conduct a survey of the internet-connected devices industry through outreach to participating entities as appropriate, including—

(A) a list of the industry sectors that develop internet-connected devices;

(B) a list of public-private partnerships focused on promoting the adoption and use of internet-connected devices, as well as industry-based bodies, including international bodies, which have developed, or are developing, mandatory or voluntary standards for internet-connected devices;

(C) the status of the industry-based mandatory or voluntary standards identified in subparagraph (B); and

(D) a description of the ways entities or industry sectors develop, use, or promote the use of internet-connected devices;

(2) develop a comprehensive list of Federal agencies with jurisdiction over the entities and industry sectors identified under paragraph (1);

(3) identify which Federal agency or agencies listed under paragraph (2) each entity or industry sector interacts with;

(4) identify all interagency activities that are taking place among the Federal agencies listed under paragraph (2), such as working groups or other coordinated efforts;

(5) develop a brief description of the jurisdiction and expertise of the Federal agencies listed under paragraph (2) with regard to such entities and industry sectors;

(6) identify all regulations, guidelines, mandatory standards, voluntary standards, and other policies implemented by each of the Federal agencies identified under paragraph (2), as well as all guidelines, mandatory standards, voluntary standards, and other policies implemented by industry-based bodies; and

(7) identify Federal Government resources that exist for consumers and small businesses to evaluate internet-connected devices.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make publicly available on the website of the Department of Commerce, a report that contains—

(1) the results of the study conducted under subsection (a); and

(2) recommendations of the Secretary for growth of the United States economy through the secure advancement of internet-connected devices.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term “Federal agency” means an agency, as defined in section 551 of title 5, United States Code; and

(2) the term “internet-connected device” means a physical object that—

(A) is capable of connecting to the internet, either directly or indirectly through a network, to communicate information at the direction of an individual; and

(B) has computer processing capabilities for collecting, sending, receiving, or analyzing data.

#### SEC. 9. STUDY TO ADVANCE THREE-DIMENSIONAL PRINTING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) STUDY REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce, in coordination with the head of any other appropriate Federal agency, shall complete a study on the state of the three-dimensional printing industry and the impact of such industry on the United States economy.

(2) REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDY.—In conducting the study, the Secretary shall—

(A) develop and conduct a survey of the three-dimensional printing industry through outreach to participating entities as appropriate to—

(i) establish a list of industry sectors that implement and promote the use of three-dimensional printing;

(ii) establish a list of public-private partnerships focused on promoting the adoption and use of three-dimensional printing, as well as industry-based bodies, including

international bodies, which have developed, or are developing, mandatory or voluntary standards for three-dimensional printing;

(iii) the status of such industry-based mandatory or voluntary standards; and

(iv) provide a description of the ways entities or industry sectors implement and promote the use of three-dimensional printing;

(B) develop a comprehensive list of Federal agencies with jurisdiction over the entities and industry sectors identified under paragraph (A);

(C) identify which Federal agency or agencies listed under subparagraph (B) each entity or industry sector interacts with;

(D) identify all interagency activities that are taking place among the Federal agencies listed under subparagraph (B), such as working groups or other coordinated efforts;

(E) develop a brief description of the jurisdiction and expertise of the Federal agencies listed under subparagraph (B) with regard to such entities and industry sectors;

(F) identify all regulations, guidelines, mandatory standards, voluntary standards, and other policies implemented by each of the Federal agencies identified under subparagraph (B), as well as all guidelines, mandatory standards, voluntary standards, and other policies implemented by industry-based bodies; and

(G) identify Federal Government resources that exist for consumers and small businesses to evaluate the use of three-dimensional printing.

(b) MARKETPLACE AND SUPPLY CHAIN SURVEY.—The Secretary shall conduct a survey of the marketplace and supply chain of three-dimensional printing to—

(1) assess the severity of risks posed to such marketplace and supply chain;

(2) review the ability of foreign governments or third parties to exploit the supply chain in a manner that raises risks to the economic and national security of the United States; and

(3) identify emerging risks and long-term trends in such marketplace and supply chain.

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 6 months after the completion of the study required pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make publicly available on the website of the Department of Commerce, a report that contains—

(1) the results of the study conducted pursuant to subsection (a) and the survey conducted pursuant to subsection (b); and

(2) recommendations to—

(A) grow the United States economy through the secure advancement of three-dimensional printing;

(B) develop a national strategy to advance the United States business sectors’ position in the world on the adoption of three-dimensional printing;

(C) develop strategies to mitigate current and emerging risks to the marketplace and supply chain of three-dimensional printing; and

(D) develop legislation that may advance the expeditious adoption of three-dimensional printing.

#### SEC. 10. STUDY TO COMBAT ONLINE HARMS THROUGH INNOVATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) STUDY REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal Trade Commission shall conduct and complete a study on how artificial intelligence may be used to address the online harms described in paragraph (2).

(2) REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDY.—In conducting the study, the Commission shall consider whether and how artificial intelligence may be used to identify, remove, or take any other appropriate action necessary to address the following online harms:

(A) Deceptive and fraudulent content intended to scam or otherwise harm individuals, including such practices directed at senior citizens.

(B) Manipulated content intended to mislead individuals, including deepfake videos and fake individual reviews.

(C) Website or mobile application interfaces designed to intentionally mislead or exploit individuals.

(D) Illegal content online, including the illegal sale of opioids, child sexual exploitation and abuse, revenge pornography, harassment, cyberstalking, hate crimes, the glorification of violence or gore, and incitement of violence.

(E) Terrorist and violent extremists' abuse of digital platforms, including the use of such platforms to promote themselves, share propaganda, and glorify real-world acts of violence.

(F) Disinformation campaigns coordinated by inauthentic accounts or individuals to influence United States elections.

(G) The sale of counterfeit products.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 6 months after the completion of the study required pursuant to subsection (a), the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make publicly available on its website, a report that contains—

(1) the results of the study conducted under subsection (a);

(2) recommendations on how artificial intelligence may be used to address the online harms described in subsection (a)(2);

(3) recommendations on what reasonable policies, practices, and procedures may be implemented to utilize artificial intelligence to address such online harms; and

(4) recommendations for any legislation that may advance the adoption and use of artificial intelligence to address such online harms.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 8132.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 8132.

This bipartisan legislation was introduced by the ranking member of the Consumer Protection and Commerce Subcommittee, CATHY RODGERS, and Representative BOBBY RUSH. I thank them for drafting this measure to help the U.S. thrive and stay competitive in this global economy. It advanced out of

the Energy and Commerce Committee on September 9 by a voice vote.

This bill calls on relevant Federal agencies to examine the state of various industries in the U.S., helping protect America's leadership with respect to emerging technology. For small business, this legislation will help them take advantage of different kinds of emerging technologies, like quantum computing and 3D printing.

The bill will also protect Americans, ensuring that we have a full understanding of the effect unmanned delivery services will have on road safety, traffic congestion, and labor, including how any negative effects can be mitigated.

I am also pleased that this bill requires the Federal Trade Commission to examine how artificial intelligence can be used to combat online harms. With disinformation proliferating on the internet and foreign meddling in our elections picking up once again, we need to be using all the tools at our disposal to put a stop to wrongful online abuses that endanger Americans and undermine our democracy.

Madam Speaker, I call on my colleagues to support this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY,

Washington, DC, September 25, 2020.

Hon. FRANK PALLONE, Jr.,  
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN PALLONE: I am writing to you concerning H.R. 8132, the "American Competitiveness of a More Productive Emerging Tech Economy Act" or the "American COMPETE Act." This legislation involves various aspects of technology development. However, in an effort to expedite consideration of this measure, I agree to not seek a sequential referral so that the bill may be considered expeditiously.

I take this action with our mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 8132 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation. I ask to be appropriately consulted and involved as the bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues that fall within our Rule X jurisdiction.

Finally, I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming this understanding and ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the bill report filed by the Committee on Energy and Commerce, as well as inserted in the Congressional Record during floor consideration, to memorialize our understanding.

Sincerely,

EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON,  
Chairwoman, Committee on Science,  
Space, and Technology.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE,  
Washington, DC, September 28, 2020.

Hon. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON,  
Chairwoman, Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRWOMAN JOHNSON: I am writing concerning H.R. 8132, the "American Compete Act," which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce on August 28, 2020.

I appreciate you not seeking a sequential referral of H.R. 8132 so that the bill may be

considered expeditiously. I acknowledge that forgoing your referral claim does not waive, reduce, or otherwise affect the jurisdiction of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology over this legislation, or any similar legislation. I will appropriately consult and involve the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology as this bill progresses.

I will ensure our letters on H.R. 8132 are included in the bill report filed by the Committee on Energy and Commerce and entered into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

FRANK PALLONE, Jr.,  
Chairman.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 8132, the American Competitiveness Of a More Productive Emerging Tech Economy Act, or American COMPETE Act. This package is the result of months of hard work by the members of the Energy and Commerce Committee's Consumer Protection and Commerce Subcommittee.

In May, we unveiled a package of 15 Republican bills for America to win the future in emerging technologies. In 4 months, we built bipartisan support with the majority on nine priorities drawn from those bills, and those proposals are incorporated within H.R. 8132.

Since the beginning of this Congress, Republicans on our subcommittee have focused on America's competitive edge and beating China in emerging technologies, such as AI, quantum computing, blockchain, IoT, and autonomous vehicles, among others.

I appreciate the willingness of Chairman PALLONE and Chairwoman SCHAKOWSKY for working with us on this package and ensuring policymakers have the information and tools necessary to craft future legislation that will unleash American innovation and drive economic success.

Madam Speaker, I would especially like to thank Mr. RUSH, Ms. KELLY, and Mr. SOTO for introducing the American COMPETE Act to make it bipartisan. A big thank you also to Tim Kurth and BJ Kooohmaraie from the Energy and Commerce Committee minority staff, and Michael Taggart from my personal office, as well as Alex Hoehn-Saric, and Lisa Goldman from the majority staff for all their hard work in preparing these bills for passage. It is important to note that this passed our committee with unanimous support.

Finally, I would like to thank our Republican leader, GREG WALDEN, for his leadership on these issues and his years of leadership on the Energy and Commerce Committee. He has led for years in shaping American policy on tech and telecommunications that have helped us lead the world. He will be sorely missed next year.

From the telegraph to the internet, the locomotive to the automobile, the

light bulb to nuclear energy, the United States has led the world in innovations that have raised the standard of living and improved the lives of billions of people.

Today, the stakes for our global leadership could not be higher. To lead a new era of innovation, the American COMPETE Act is an important first step that incentivizes free-market ingenuity by reducing barriers for the deployment of tech-like artificial intelligence, quantum computing, and blockchain. Because who would you rather lead in these emerging technologies, America or China?

One of the proposals incorporated is drawn from the Generating Artificial Intelligence Networking Security Act, or GAINS Act, which I introduced. It would direct the Department of Commerce to look at adoption barriers and spur deployment of AI here in America.

It also includes an assessment of vulnerabilities in AI supply chain and recommendations to address identified risks, especially from China. Remember, the Chinese Communist Party is using this technology today to suppress minorities, track its own citizens, expand its surveillance state, and empower other authoritarian regimes.

Unlike the CCP that uses this technology for evil, we can use this technology as a force for good and save people's lives by upholding our American values for human dignity, human rights, and freedom.

We can win the future in artificial intelligence. AI technology and deep-learning algorithms can detect brain cancers earlier. Clinical trials are already underway, making breakthroughs to diagnose cancers. Of course, it has been a critical asset that it has helped our top researchers and scientists speed up the development of coronavirus treatments.

All of that and more is possible if America unleashes the power of our innovators to lead.

For an American competitive agenda, this package also includes proposals authored by my colleagues. These include provisions from Dr. BURGESS to ensure that we lead in 3D printing development, Dr. BUCSHON to lead on the Advancing New and Advanced Materials Act, Mr. HUDSON to boost deployment in connected manufacturing, and Mr. GRIFFITH to ensure that we lead in quantum.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank, again, all the Members and staff who worked so hard to put this package together. I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues on E&C on both sides of the aisle to make sure America wins the future and encourages the world to follow our leadership, too. These are not Republican or Democrat solutions; they are American.

Madam Speaker, I urge support for the American COMPETE Act, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to

the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY), the chairwoman of the subcommittee.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairman PALLONE and Ranking Member WALDEN for your leadership, and of course, to the leadership of my ranking member on the Subcommittee of Consumer Protection and Commerce, Representative RODGERS, for her innovative work on the American COMPETE Act. I am so proud to support that, and I urge all of my colleagues, along with Representative RODGERS and, from the Democratic side, Mr. RUSH, as a cosponsor of that legislation.

Madam Speaker, I think all of us would agree with the importance, and I love the phrase about winning the future. I think this legislation does lay a kind of blueprint of the direction that we can go in and the kinds of technologies that are really at hand if we put our energy and our minds to making it happen. I thank you very much.

Madam Speaker, I also just want to take this opportunity to say a special thank you at this moment and recognize the service of the ranking member of the full committee, Mr. WALDEN.

There are so many things that you can now attribute your service to, the legislation that has passed, but I think even more than that, I just wanted to thank you for the kind of tone that you have set, both as the chairman and as the ranking member of the committee.

I think we can be so proud of the Energy and Commerce Committee. We have passed so many bills. We really are a legislative powerhouse. But we have also done it with the kind of integrity that I think shines so well on the Congress of the United States.

I just want to acknowledge what a great colleague he has been. I consider him a friend, and I wish him absolutely the best of luck. He will definitely be missed. I thank him so much.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to recognize Consumer Protection and Commerce Subcommittee Ranking Member RODGERS for the part that she has played and the partnership that I believe we have had. Of course, we have sometimes wanted to move at a different pace or had different ideas, but again, I just want to thank the gentlewoman for the tone that she helped set at our hearings and in our efforts to pass legislation.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Ranking Member RODGERS on her hard work to move this bill, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1400

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN), our leader of the Energy and Commerce Committee, the former chairman. Madam Speaker, I thank him for his leadership.

As the subcommittee chairman, JAN SCHAKOWSKY, was just speaking, I was reminded and appreciated her words, and Mr. WALDEN has always led with integrity and forward thinking for our country.

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, and I especially thank Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, whom I have had the great privilege to serve with for many years. There is no more fierce warrior for consumers and consumer protection than the gentlewoman from Illinois. It has been a delight to serve with the gentlewoman and work with the gentlewoman from Illinois on many causes.

And while we haven't always agreed, we have always tried to be agreeable with each other. I think that, Madam Speaker, is what is often missed outside of this institution is that we come here representing different people, different philosophies, and then we also come here with a common goal: to solve problems. We have different approaches to that from time to time, but we generally come together and move a lot of good legislation, especially in the Energy and Commerce Committee.

I think I can brag on that committee, having been a member of it for 20 years, rose to not only chair a subcommittee, but chair the full committee; and now, as I kiddingly say, I am chairman in exile, in permanent exile. But it has been a great run, and I am not one of those Members who is cranky or grumpy about leaving either. It is a fine institution.

Democracy was built to be messy and loud, and some days it is a little louder and messier than any of us would like, but we do come together, as we are on this legislation and on other things. I thank the gentlewoman for her very kind comments.

I rise today in support of this legislation, H.R. 8132, the COMPETE Act. I thank Ms. SCHAKOWSKY and Mrs. RODGERS for their hard work. The gentlewomen have worked really well together on these and many other issues.

I asked committee members earlier in the year to prioritize our leadership on emerging technologies, and the importance of that was emphasized by the COVID-19 pandemic. We cannot let other countries, especially China or any other adversary, advance past us on emerging technologies while our economy recovers.

I applaud the leadership on artificial intelligence and our committee's commitment to ensuring America leads the world in emerging technologies.

For America to lead, we need to be laser-focused on critical technologies that will define our future, and that is what this bill does. The American COMPETE Act will help us unleash American innovation and free-market ingenuity in artificial intelligence, quantum computing, autonomous tech, and other emerging technologies.

The American COMPETE Act also aims to help us secure our supply chains and develop national strategies to advance our private-sector industries.

By the way, that means good American, high-paying jobs.

These technologies will drive information breakthroughs, save lives, spur economic growth, and will do so for generations to come. I am proud to see the Energy and Commerce Committee so focused on these issues.

Madam Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to vote in support of this bill.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE), who is a leader on blockchain in Congress and led on the Advancing Blockchain Act and the Counterfeiting Online Harms Act.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 8132, the American COMPETE Act.

This bipartisan package includes two of my bills, the Advancing Blockchain Act, which would continue our important work in blockchain, and the Countering Online Harms Act, to protect Americans from misinformation and dangerous content.

Along with my legislation, the COMPETE Act includes several bipartisan bills from my Energy and Commerce Committee colleagues, all aimed at maintaining American dominance in emerging technology. The United States has always been a leader in technology, and we need to keep it that way.

I thank Representative McMORRIS RODGERS and Representative RUSH for their leadership on this important issue.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan package.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I say a final word of appreciation to the chairman of the committee, FRANK PALLONE, and the subcommittee chairwoman, JAN SCHAKOWSKY, for working together to bring us to this place where we could pass this package of bills with bipartisan support today to make sure that America continues to win the future.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I guess I should say that, I don't know, maybe because I don't want Mr. WALDEN to retire or maybe because it is only September, I am not ready to say good-bye yet, so even though some wonderful comments have been made by Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, I am going wait a while.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. MCCOLLUM). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8132, 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.

#### TIMELY REAUTHORIZATION OF NECESSARY STEM-CELL PROGRAMS LENDS ACCESS TO NEEDED THERAPIES ACT OF 2019

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4764) to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4764

*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 “Timely Re-Authorization of Necessary Stem-cell Programs Lends Access to Needed Therapies Act of 2020” or the “TRANSPLANT Act of 2020”.

##### SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF THE C.W. BILL YOUNG CELL TRANSPLANTATION PROGRAM.

(a) ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS.—Subsection (a) of section 379 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274k) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(7) The Secretary shall convene the Advisory Council at least two times each calendar year.”

##### (b) INCREASING COLLECTION.

(1) TECHNICAL CLARIFICATION.—Effective as if included in the enactment of Public Law 114-104 (the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act of 2015), the amendment to section 379(d)(2)(B) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274k(d)(2)(B)) in section 2(a)(2) of Public Law 114-104 is amended by inserting “goal of increasing collections of high quality” before “cord blood units.”

(2) ELIMINATING DEADWOOD.—Subparagraph (B) of section 379(d)(2) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274k(d)(2)) is amended by striking the second and third sentences in such subparagraph.

(c) PERIODIC REVIEW OF STATE OF SCIENCE.—Section 379 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274k) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

##### “(o) PERIODIC REVIEW OF STATE OF SCIENCE.—

“(1) REVIEW.—Not less than every two years, the Secretary, in consultation with the Director of the National Institutes of Health, the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, the Advisory Council, and other stakeholders, where appropriate given relevant expertise, shall conduct a review of the state of the science of using adult stem cells and birthing tissues to develop new types of therapies for patients, for the purpose of considering the potential inclusion of such new types of therapies in the Program.

“(2) RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than June 30, 2024, the Secretary shall—

“(A) complete the second review required by paragraph (1); and

“(B) informed by such review, submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Com-

mittee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives recommendations on the appropriateness of the inclusion of new types of therapies in the Program.”.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 379B of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274m) is amended by striking “\$33,000,000 for fiscal year 2015 and \$30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2020” and inserting “\$30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025”.

##### SEC. 3. CORD BLOOD INVENTORY.

Subsection (g) of section 2 of the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 274k note) is amended to read as follows:

“(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated \$23,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025.”.

##### SEC. 4. ADVANCING THE FIELD OF REGENERATIVE MEDICINE.

Section 402 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 282) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(o) REGENERATIVE MEDICINE.—The Director of NIH shall, as appropriate, continue to consult with the directors of relevant institutes and centers of the National Institutes of Health, other relevant experts from such institutes and centers, and relevant experts within the Food and Drug Administration, to further the field of regenerative medicine using adult stem cells, including autologous stem cells, therapeutic tissue engineering products, human cell and tissue products, human gene therapies, and genetically modified cells.”.

##### SEC. 5. GAO REPORT ON REGENERATIVE MEDICINE WORKFORCE.

Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that assesses the national blood stem cell workforce, including those related to the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program established under section 379 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274k). The report shall include—

(1) an overview of the current employment levels, in both commercial and academic settings, for—

(A) positions necessary for the collection and transplantation of stem cell therapeutics, including bone marrow and cord blood; and

(B) positions in the field of regenerative medicine using adult stem cells and related to product development;

(2) the identification of gaps, if any, in the projected workforce capacity for—

(A) positions described in paragraph (1)(A); and

(B) the field of regenerative medicine using adult stem cells, including workforce gaps related to the development of new cellular therapies using adult stem cells;

(3) an overview of the availability of training programs related to the development, refinement, and utilization of adult stem cells, including training on good manufacturing practices for such activities, and the performance of such programs; and

(4) recommendations, if any, for improving the workforce capacity related to—

(A) the positions described in paragraph (1)(A); or

(B) the field of regenerative medicine using adult stem cells.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam 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 H.R. 4764.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, the C.W. Bill Young Transplantation Program was first established through a partnership with the Navy in 1986, transferred to the National Institutes of Health for oversight in 1987, and then authorized by the Energy and Commerce Committee in 1990. The program has since been reauthorized four times, and every time it has been accomplished with strong bipartisan support.

I believe that bipartisan support will continue today with H.R. 4764, the TRANSPLANT Act of 2019, which will reauthorize the C.W. Bill Young Transplantation Program for the fifth time.

Year after year, this program provides lifesaving bone marrow and umbilical cord blood transplants to help patients suffering from over 70 diseases. The program assists transplant patients by providing additional information about bone marrow and cord blood transplants, maintaining an efficient process for identifying donor matches, increasing the number of unrelated donors available for transplant, and collecting data and expanding research to improve patient outcomes.

I thank my committee colleagues, Representatives MATSUI and BILIRAKIS, for their leadership on this bill.

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

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today, also, in support of H.R. 4764, the Timely Reauthorization of Necessary Stem-Cell Programs Lends Access to Needed Therapies Act, or the TRANSPLANT Act.

This critical bill, led by Representatives MATSUI, BILIRAKIS, and PINGREE, reauthorizes the C.W. Bill Young Transplantation Program, which provides lifesaving bone marrow and umbilical blood transplants to patients suffering from over 70 diseases that can be treated with blood or immune system reconstruction using bone marrow, peripheral blood, or cord blood. These diseases include leukemia, lymphoma, sickle cell anemia, and certain other immune system disorders.

I thank our colleagues, Representatives MATSUI, BILIRAKIS, and PINGREE, for being tireless advocates for this program. They truly have just never stopped working to get this done.

I also express my appreciation to Representative CHRIS SMITH from New Jersey, who played a critical role in the creation of this program, spearheaded previous reauthorizations, and has been a longtime champion for patients whose only chance at life is a transplant through this program. Representative SMITH wanted to be here today to express his strong support for this bipartisan initiative, but, unfortunately, he could not be present because of a death in his own family.

All of this is to say that I am incredibly grateful for all of the bipartisan efforts from multiple Members of Congress who have prioritized this program and worked together to get this bill across the finish line.

Madam Speaker, I strongly urge a “yes” vote on this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

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

I have a statement from Congressman CHRIS SMITH of New Jersey that I will include in the RECORD in support of this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), who is one of the real advocates of this legislation.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4764, the Timely Reauthorization of Necessary Stem-Cell Programs Lends Access to Needed Therapies, or the TRANSPLANT Act.

As co-chair of the Blood Cancers Caucus, I urge my colleagues to support the TRANSPLANT Act. This bill is about providing hope to those who are struggling with life-threatening illnesses.

The TRANSPLANT Act reauthorizes the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program in addition to the National Cord Blood Inventory. I know that this was a priority for Congressman YOUNG, and it was an honor to serve with him and help him pass this bill initially.

This Federal program provides critical support in the advancement of research for better treatments and the infrastructure necessary to organize registries which help ensure transplant patients have access to lifesaving procedures. Simply put, its continued reauthorization is vital for patients with diseases like blood disorders, blood cancer, sickle cell anemia, and inherited metabolic or immune system disorders.

I sincerely appreciate the work of my friend and colleague and fellow Blood Cancers Caucus co-chair, Congresswoman MATSUI, in addition to the legacy of bipartisan leadership and support of these programs by Members like Congressman CHRIS SMITH and, of course, our good chairman and ranking member.

Additionally, I appreciate the critical daily work of the National Marrow

Donor Program, operating the Be the Match national registry, connecting patients in search of a cure with life-saving bone marrow donors, even in the midst of this historic pandemic.

I also would like to take a moment to recognize the great work of Dr. Joanne Kurtzberg, the president of the Cord Blood Association. She also serves in multiple roles at Duke University, including director of the Carolinas Cord Blood Bank.

Dr. Kurtzberg has dedicated her professional career to cord blood research, banking, and transplantation, and is an internationally recognized umbilical cord blood transplanter. She advised Congress on the creation of the public cord blood banking program, which was part of the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, and I believe that was led by Representative CHRIS SMITH. Dr. Kurtzberg continues to be a trusted adviser to Congress on this important program.

Again, I urge my colleagues to join us in expediting the passage of this lifesaving bipartisan bill, and it is a very crucial bill for a lot of people, Madam Speaker.

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I also ask for bipartisan support for this legislation. I mention that I do intend to seek a recorded vote.

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

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, Margaret Hahn—my mother-in-law—passed away on Friday and a Mass of Christian burial will be held today at St. Mary Church in South Amboy, New Jersey. She was 96 and was deeply loved and will be deeply missed.

Margaret—Peg—was a great woman—wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She selflessly devoted her life to public service including her amazing work as Sayreville Borough Clerk for twenty years. She had an incredible reputation for getting things done for the people. No matter who served as mayor or on Council, everyone knew she was the power.

My wife Marie and I will join family and friends today at her funeral and interment making it impossible for me to speak today during the debate on the reauthorization of a law I originally authored fifteen years ago—the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005—and the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2015.

So, I submit these comments for the RECORD:

Madam Speaker, today the House of Representatives will vote to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act.

This was an original idea of mine 20 years ago. Joined by 70 cosponsors, I introduced it in 2001 and again in 2003.

After five long years of hard work and numerous setbacks, my bill was finally enacted into law in 2005.

Beginning in 2001, Dr. Joanne Kurtzberg, who is President of the Cord Blood Association, helped draft my original law. Dr. Kurtzberg has said, “Cord blood transplantation is now an established field with enormous potential. In the future, it may emerge

as a source of cells for cellular therapies focused on tissue repair and regeneration."

The new law created a nationwide umbilical cord blood stem cell program, designed to collect, derive, type, and freeze cord blood units for transplantation into patients to mitigate and to even cure serious disease. Pursuant to the law, it also provided stem cells for research. The new cord blood program was combined in our 2005 law with an expanded bone marrow initiative, which was crafted over several years by our distinguished colleague, Congressman Bill Young.

I was the prime sponsor again when it was reauthorized in 2015.

Umbilical cord blood stem cells, obtained after the birth of a child, have proved highly efficacious in treating 70 diseases, including sickle-cell disease, lymphoma, and leukemia. And scientists are continuing to study and better understand the regenerative effects of cord blood cell therapies for other diseases and conditions. Bone marrow donations provide lifesaving transplants to treat diseases like blood cancer, sickle cell anemia, or inherited metabolic or immune system disorders.

The National Cord Blood Inventory (NCBI) provides funding to public cord blood banks participating in the program to allow them to expand the national inventory of cord blood units available for transplant. These units are then listed on the registry by the "Be the Match" Program. The funds appropriated thus far have led to an important increase in the overall number of high-quality cord blood units available through the national registry, including 150,000 NCBI units. Within the Be the Match registry, there are more than 783,000 NCBI units worldwide.

The Program registry allows patients and physicians to locate matching cord blood units, as well as adult donors for marrow and peripheral blood stem cells, when a family donor is not available. The Program is the world's largest, most diverse donor registry, with more than 22 million volunteers and more than 300,000 public cord blood units. To date, the National Marrow Donor Program/Be The Match (NMDP), through its operation of the Program, has facilitated more than 100,000 transplants. More than 45,000 patients have received cord blood transplants, according to Dr. Joanne Kurtzberg.

The reauthorization before us authorizes \$23 million to be appropriated for fiscal year 2021 through fiscal year 2025. It also authorizes \$30 million to be appropriated for fiscal years 2021 through 2025 for the bone marrow transplant program. This continues funding at the same levels authorized in the 2015 authorization bill.

Madam Speaker, each year nearly 4 million babies are born in America. In the past, virtually every placenta and umbilical cord was tossed as medical waste. Today, doctors have turned this medical waste into medical miracles.

Not only has God in His wisdom and goodness created a placenta and umbilical cord to nurture and protect the precious life of an unborn child, but now we know that another gift awaits us immediately after birth. Something very special is left behind—cord blood that is teeming with lifesaving stem cells. Indeed, it remains one of the best kept secrets in America that umbilical cord blood stem cells and adult stem cells in general are curing people of a myriad of terrible conditions and dis-

eases—over 70 diseases in adults as well as in children.

The legislation that is before us will enable even more patients to receive the treatments that they so desperately need.

□ 1415

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4764, 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.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam 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.

#### UNITED STATES ANTI-DOPING AGENCY REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2020

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5373) to reauthorize the United States Anti-Doping Agency, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5373

*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 "United States Anti-Doping Agency Reauthorization Act of 2020".*

##### SEC. 2. PROMOTION OF YOUTH SPORTS.

*Section 701(b) of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (21 U.S.C. 2001(b)) is amended—*

*(1) in paragraph (4), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and*

*(2) by adding at the end the following:*

*“(5) promote a positive youth sport experience by using a portion of its funding to provide educational materials on sportsmanship, character building, and healthy performance for athletes, parents, and coaches participating in youth sports.”.*

##### SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

*Section 703 of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (21 U.S.C. 2003) is amended to read as follows:*

##### “SEC. 703. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

*“There are authorized to be appropriated to the United States Anti-Doping Agency—*

*“(1) for fiscal year 2021, \$15,500,000;*

*“(2) for fiscal year 2022, \$16,200,000;*

*“(3) for fiscal year 2023, \$16,900,000;*

*“(4) for fiscal year 2024, \$17,700,000;*

*“(5) for fiscal year 2025, \$18,500,000;*

*“(6) for fiscal year 2026, \$21,900,000;*

*“(7) for fiscal year 2027, \$22,800,000;*

*“(8) for fiscal year 2028, \$24,900,000; and*

*“(9) for fiscal year 2029, \$23,700,000.”.*

##### SEC. 4. COORDINATION AND SHARING OF INFORMATION WITH USADA.

*(a) INFORMATION SHARING.—Except as otherwise prohibited by law and except in cases in which the integrity of a criminal investigation would be affected, in furtherance of the obligation of the United States under Article 7 of the*

*Convention, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Commissioner of Food and Drugs shall coordinate with the United States Anti-Doping Agency with regard to any effort to prevent the use of performance-enhancing drugs or prohibit performance-enhancing methods by sharing with the United States Anti-Doping Agency all information which may be relevant to preventing the use of such performance-enhancing drugs or prohibiting such performance-enhancing methods.*

*(b) CONVENTION DEFINED.—In this section, the term “Convention” means the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization International Convention Against Doping in Sport done at Paris October 19, 2005, and ratified by the United States in 2008.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

##### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam 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 H.R. 5373.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 5373, the United States Anti-Doping Agency Reauthorization Act of 2020.

For two decades, Madam Speaker, the United States Anti-Doping Agency, or USADA, has worked to ensure integrity in our American Olympic and Paralympic sporting activities.

In the 1990s, countries around the world viewed American athletes as dirty and only winning because they were doping.

In an effort to bring credibility back to the United States, an Olympic committee task force recommended that an independent organization be created to conduct a comprehensive antidoping program. In 2000, Congress acted on this recommendation and gave USADA the authority to manage this comprehensive antidoping program.

Since then, USADA has performed hundreds of thousands of tests and contributed to the advancement of clean sports through scientific research, antidoping education, and outreach programs.

In order to enable USADA to continue this work, H.R. 5373 would extend and increase the authorization level and empower the organization to encourage a positive sporting environment for youth by way of promoting educational materials on sportsmanship, character building, and healthy performance. By advancing this bill, we will send a strong message to young athletes about the importance of integrity, respect, and responsibility in sports.

The bill also improves antidoping efforts in the U.S. by encouraging Federal agencies to coordinate and share

information with the USADA to prevent the use of performance-enhancing drugs and methods.

Taken together, these actions will make positive improvements to the good work USADA is already doing. And passage takes on additional importance as USADA gears up for the 2028 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games in Los Angeles.

Before I conclude, Madam Speaker, I thank my colleagues, Representatives MIKE THOMPSON, BILL JOHNSON, and DIANA DEGETTE, for leading this important legislation. I also thank our Ranking Member WALDEN and all the members and staff of our committees for their efforts to move this legislation forward in a bipartisan manner.

So, Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise today to speak in support of H.R. 5373, as did the chairman, the United States Anti-Doping Agency Reauthorization Act, sponsored by Representatives MIKE THOMPSON, BILL JOHNSON, and DIANA DEGETTE.

This bill reauthorizes the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, which is the national entity charged with administering antidoping programs for the United States for Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American, and Parapan American sports.

The U.S. Anti-Doping Agency handles in-competition and out-of-competition testing, results management processes, drug reference resources, and athlete education for all of our United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee-recognized sports' national governing bodies, their athletes, and their events. USADA is also the administrator for the Ultimate Fighting Championship Anti-Doping Program.

Reauthorizing this important agency furthers the advancement of clean sports, fair games, and positive sportsmanship, so I urge support of the legislation.

I don't believe I have any speakers on my side of the aisle, Madam Speaker, so I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I urge support for the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5373, my bipartisan legislation reauthorizing the United States Anti-Doping Agency.

As you know, USADA is recognized by Congress as the official antidoping agency for Olympic, Paralympic, and other sporting competitions in the United States. Among other responsibilities, USADA conducts drug testing for athletes, manages test results, and pursues bad actors who seek to undermine the principles of clean and fair sport through the use of illicit or banned substances.

Current funding for USADA expires this year. My legislation, authored with Representatives JOHNSON (R-OH) and DEGETTE (D-CO), would reauthorize USADA through Fiscal Year 2027. The bill also provides a slight fund-

ing boost beginning in 2026, to allow USADA to prepare for the 2028 Olympics in Los Angeles.

In addition, this legislation would require USADA to devote a portion of its funding to clean sport initiatives for young athletes, and authorizes the Department of Justice and other federal agencies to cooperate with USADA in the course of its investigations.

As recent doping scandals have shown—particularly in the world of cycling—the abuse of performance enhancing drugs often begins at a young age.

Many young athletes, especially those with promising careers, face enormous pressure to gain any competitive edge available to them—including pressure from coaches, trainers, parents and other adults. It is critical that these young competitors have the education and resources they need to surmount that pressure, stay clean, and stay healthy.

I am grateful to my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee for advancing this legislation to the Floor, and I urge my colleagues to vote Yes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5373, 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.

#### EARLY ACT REAUTHORIZATION OF 2020

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4078) to reauthorize the Young Women's Breast Health Education and Awareness Requires Learning Young Act of 2009, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4078

*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 "EARLY Act Reauthorization of 2020".

#### SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF THE YOUNG WOMEN'S BREAST HEALTH EDUCATION AND AWARENESS REQUIRES LEARNING YOUNG ACT OF 2009.

Section 399NN(h) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280m(h)) is amended by striking "\$4,900,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 through 2019" and inserting "\$9,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam 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 H.R. 4078.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, tragically, one in eight women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer over their lifetime. Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer in women and the second leading cause of cancer death in women. From 2013 to 2017, breast cancer death rates in older women declined. However, breast cancer death rates have remained steady in younger women.

We know that breast health education, awareness, and screening saves lives.

The bill we are considering today, H.R. 4078, the EARLY Act Reauthorization, reauthorizes initiatives at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to increase knowledge of breast cancer and risks of breast cancer among young women. This bill nearly doubles the investment Congress is making in this program, because we believe it is crucial that we stop losing young moms, daughters, sisters, and friends, to breast cancer.

This program is critically important, and I want to thank Representatives WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and BROOKS for their bipartisan leadership on this program.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4078, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the bill, Young Women's Breast Health Education and Awareness Act, the EARLY Act Reauthorization, which was introduced by Representatives WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and BROOKS. This bill reauthorizes the EARLY Act of 2009, which established a national public health education campaign to promote awareness and early detection of breast cancer among young women.

Breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in women under the age of 40, and each year almost 24,000 new cases are diagnosed. It is critical that both young women and healthcare professionals are equipped with the knowledge and healthcare services needed for early detection and treatment of breast cancer.

Madam Speaker, by reauthorizing the EARLY Act, H.R. 4078 would enhance early detection of breast cancer, increase public awareness of risk factors and risk reduction strategies, and support the provision of psychosocial and medical services for young women diagnosed with breast cancer.

Madam Speaker, I thank Mrs. BROOKS for all of her work on the Energy and Commerce Committee. From day one on our committee, we all knew she was going to be prepared and ready to go to work. Congresswoman BROOKS

has the experience. She was a U.S. Attorney and has been an invaluable member of our committee, and she will be retiring and leaving Congress at the end of this term. Her grace, her skill, her knowledge, her friendship, her incredible work ethic will all be missed as this Congress and the next one continues to navigate complex issues that come across our desks.

So, Madam Speaker, to Congresswoman BROOKS, I thank her for her service. The committee will miss her, but she has left an indelible mark in an important chapter in American history.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), the sponsor of the legislation.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise today to support my bill, the Breast Cancer Education and Awareness Requires Learning Young Act Re-authorization, or the EARLY Act.

I do want to start by thanking Chairman PALLONE and Ranking Member WALDEN, as well as my Republican co-lead, Congresswoman SUSAN BROOKS. I deeply appreciate their advocacy and assistance shepherding this bill through the Energy and Commerce Committee. I also thank Senators KLOBUCHAR and CRAPO for sponsoring the Senate version of this important bipartisan reauthorization bill.

The EARLY Act, which I first introduced in 2009, became law in 2010 as part of the Affordable Care Act.

The inspiration for this bill was born from my own battle against breast cancer at the age of 41. That was 13 years ago. It is hard to believe.

I was a young woman at high risk, but I didn't know it. I was aware enough to know the right questions to ask and to understand the steps that were necessary in my treatment.

But many young women, Madam Speaker, are not aware that they possess genetic or other factors that expose them to higher risk of getting breast cancer. And when it strikes them, they and even their doctors are often unprepared to deal with this terrible diagnosis.

But knowledge is power, and it can also be lifesaving, too.

The earlier that breast cancer cases are identified, the better the chances are of survival. That is exactly why, after surviving 15 months of surgeries and treatment, I introduced the EARLY Act—in order to fill this major gap in our healthcare system.

We could not then and cannot now afford to be silent about these specific risks and how they impact certain communities, not when so many lives are on the line.

Breast cancer is a disease that knows no boundaries. It strikes women from all backgrounds, races and ethnicities,

the rich and the poor, the old and the young. About one in eight women, as the ranking member and the chairman have said, will get breast cancer in their lifetime.

About 11 percent of all new cases of breast cancer in the United States are found in women younger than 45 years of age.

Breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in women under 40 and breast cancer in younger women tends to be more aggressive.

Each year, approximately 70,000 women age 15 to 39 are diagnosed with cancer in the United States. Breast cancer is the most common cancer for women in this age group.

Nearly 80 percent of young women diagnosed with breast cancer find their breast abnormality themselves.

Additionally, certain ethnic groups, including Ashkenazi Jews—my ethnic origin—and African-American young women have an increased risk of breast cancer. Black women are exposed to a greater risk because systemic racism has limited their access to preventive care.

I am proud that the bill before us today not only reauthorizes the program, but also increases the authorized funding level for breast cancer education and awareness programs.

The bill allows the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to continue administering its crucial education and outreach campaign that highlights breast cancer risks facing young women, including campaigns specifically for African-American and Jewish women.

The EARLY Act is designed to help educate healthcare providers on the specific threats and warning signs of breast cancer in younger women. This education can often lead to early detection, diagnosis, and survival.

The bill also aids organizations that support young women diagnosed with breast cancer and, further, helps them overcome the unique challenges that we face, including dealing with the social and psychological stress that comes with a cancer diagnosis for far longer in our lifetimes.

The EARLY Act has already benefited women. Mortality rates from breast cancer have dropped in the past 10 years, in large part due to early detection.

After 10 years of successful implementation, it is now time to again reauthorize the EARLY Act and increase funding to ensure we can reach more young women and healthcare providers across the country.

At a time when people with pre-existing conditions across the country are at greater risk, prevention and awareness can be the difference between life and death.

Not knowing can kill you.

Not being aware of the importance of paying attention to your breast health can be life ending and life altering.

As a public servant and a cancer survivor, it has become my life's mission

to help women, especially younger women and women at higher risk, like I was without knowing it, to better advocate on behalf of themselves and their breast health.

Madam Speaker, I thank and encourage my colleagues to support this urgent and lifesaving legislation.

□ 1430

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I have no additional speakers. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I would just conclude by thanking the gentlewoman from Florida for sharing her story. I know it has been a rugged journey that she has endured on, but this legislation will save lives. It is so important that we do this work today.

I had a dear friend who was diagnosed at an early age, and they had it pretty much under control. Then, after the birth of their second child, it came back with a vengeance and claimed her young life.

This is a vicious, vicious attack on the body. I know we have all joined together to invest in research, and someday, we hope we will overcome this and save all lives.

But in the meantime, reauthorizing this important body of work that the gentlewoman has led on is critical. So, I would encourage our colleagues to join us in passing this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4078, 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.

#### HELPING MEDICAID OFFER MATERNITY SERVICES ACT OF 2020

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4996) to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide for a State option under the Medicaid program to provide for and extend continuous coverage for certain individuals, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4996

*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 “Helping Medicaid Offer Maternity Services Act of 2020” or the “Helping MOMS Act of 2020”.

#### SEC. 2. MODIFICATIONS TO CERTAIN COVERAGE UNDER MEDICAID AND CHIP FOR PREGNANT AND POSTPARTUM WOMEN.

(a) STATE OPTION.—Section 1902(e) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(e)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(16) EXTENDING CERTAIN COVERAGE FOR PREGNANT AND POSTPARTUM WOMEN.—At the option of the State, the State plan (or waiver of such State plan) may provide that an individual who, while pregnant, is eligible for and has received medical assistance under the State plan approved under this title (or waiver of such plan) (including during a period of retroactive eligibility under subsection (a)(34)) shall, in addition to remaining eligible under paragraph (5) for all pregnancy-related and postpartum medical assistance available under the State plan (or waiver) through the last day of the month in which the 60-day period (beginning on the last day of her pregnancy) ends, remain eligible under the State plan (or waiver) for medical assistance and such medical assistance shall include all services covered under the State plan (or waiver) that is not less in amount, duration, or scope, or is determined by the Secretary to be substantially equivalent, to the medical assistance available for an individual described in subsection (a)(10)(A)(i) for the period beginning on the first day occurring after the end of such 60-day period and ending on the last day of the month in which the one-year period (beginning on the last day of her pregnancy) ends.”

(b) APPLICATION TO CHIP.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 2107(e)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397gg(e)(1)) is amended—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (J) through (S) as subparagraphs (K) through (T), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after subparagraph (I) the following new subparagraph:

“(J) In the case of a State that has elected to apply the option under section 1902(e)(16) with respect to coverage for pregnant and postpartum women under title XIX, the provisions of such section with respect to coverage of pregnant and postpartum women under this title, except that such coverage shall be required and not at the option of the State.”

(2) OPTIONAL COVERAGE OF TARGETED LOW-INCOME PREGNANT WOMEN.—Section 2112(d)(2)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397l(d)(2)(A)) is amended by inserting after “60-day period” the following: “, or, in the case that section 1902(e)(16) applies to the State child health plan (or waiver of such plan) pursuant to section 2107(e)(1), the 1-year period”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to State elections made under paragraph (16) of section 1902(e) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(e)), as added by subsection (a), under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.) on or after the first day of the first fiscal year quarter beginning at least one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

**SEC. 3. MACPAC REPORT.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission (referred to in this section as “MACPAC”) shall publish a report on the coverage of doula services under State Medicaid programs, which shall at a minimum include the following:

(1) Information about coverage for doula services under State Medicaid programs that currently provide coverage for such services, including the type of doula services offered (such as prenatal, labor and delivery, postpartum support, and also community-based and traditional doula services).

(2) An analysis of barriers to covering doula services under State Medicaid programs.

(3) An identification of effective strategies to increase the use of doula services in order

to provide better care and achieve better maternal and infant health outcomes, including strategies that States may use to recruit, train, and certify a diverse doula workforce, particularly from underserved communities, communities of color, and communities facing linguistic or cultural barriers.

(4) Recommendations for legislative and administrative actions to increase access to doula services in State Medicaid programs, including actions that ensure doulas may earn a living wage that accounts for their time and costs associated with providing care.

(b) STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION.—In developing the report required under subsection (a), MACPAC shall consult with relevant stakeholders, including—

(1) States;

(2) organizations representing consumers, including those that are disproportionately impacted by poor maternal health outcomes;

(3) organizations and individuals representing doula services providers, including community-based doula programs and those who serve underserved communities, including communities of color, and communities facing linguistic or cultural barriers; and

(4) organizations representing health care providers.

**SEC. 4. GAO REPORT.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act and every five years thereafter, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report on the State adoption, under the Medicaid program under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.) and the Children’s Health Insurance Program under title XXI of such Act, of extending coverage to 365 days postpartum pursuant to the provisions of (and amendments made by this Act). Such report shall include the information and recommendations described in subsection (b) and shall also identify ongoing gaps in coverage for—

(1) pregnant women under the Medicaid program and the Children’s Health Insurance Program; and

(2) postpartum women under the Medicaid program and the Children’s Health Insurance Program who received assistance under either such program during their pregnancy.

(b) CONTENT OF REPORT.—The report under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) Information regarding the extent to which States have elected to extend coverage to 365 days postpartum pursuant to the provisions of (and amendments made by this Act), including which States make the election and when, impacts on perinatal insurance churn in those States compared to States that did not make such election, other health impacts of such election including regarding maternal mortality and morbidity rates, and impacts on State and Federal Medicaid spending.

(2) Information about the abilities, successes, and challenges of State Medicaid agencies in—

(A) transitioning their eligibility systems to incorporate such an election by a State and in determining whether pregnant and postpartum women are eligible under another insurance affordability program; and

(B) transitioning any such women who are so eligible to coverage under such a program, pursuant to section 1943(b)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396w-3(b)(3)).

(3) Information on factors contributing to ongoing gaps in coverage resulting from women transitioning from coverage under the Medicaid program or Children’s Health Insurance Program that disproportionately impact underserved populations, including low-income women, women of color, women

who reside in a health professional shortage area (as defined in section 332(a)(1)(A) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254e(a)(1)(A))), or who are members of a medically underserved population (as defined by section 330(b)(3) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 254b(b)(3)(A))).

(4) Recommendations for addressing and reducing such gaps in coverage.

(5) Such other information as the Comptroller General determines appropriate.

**SEC. 5. REPORT ON MEDICAID BUNDLED PAYMENTS FOR PREGNANCY-RELATED SERVICES.**

Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Medicaid and CHIP Payment Advisory Commission shall submit to Congress a report containing an analysis of the use of bundled payments for reimbursing health care providers with respect to pregnancy-related services furnished under State plans (or waivers of such plans) under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.).

**SEC. 6. SUNSET ON MAXIMUM REBATE AMOUNT FOR SINGLE SOURCE DRUGS AND INNOVATOR MULTIPLE SOURCE DRUGS.**

Section 1927(c)(2)(D) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r-8(c)(2)(D)) is amended by inserting after “December 31, 2009,” the following: “and before January 1, 2023.”

**SEC. 7. MEDICAID IMPROVEMENT FUND.**

Section 1941(b)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396w-1(b)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “for fiscal year 2025 and thereafter, \$1,960,000,000” and inserting “for fiscal year 2022 and thereafter, \$9,286,000,000”; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking “fiscal year 2025” and inserting “fiscal year 2022”.

**SEC. 8. 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 gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. PALLONE. Madam 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 H.R. 4996.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in strong support of H.R. 4996, the Helping Medicaid Offer Maternity Services Act, or the Helping MOMS Act of 2020.

The U.S. has some of the world’s leading healthcare providers. We have cutting-edge researchers and first-class facilities for those who can afford it.

At the same time, women are more likely to die from complications from

childbirth here in the U.S. than in other nations in the developed world. Maternal mortality especially affects women of color. Black women and American Indian and Alaska Native women are three times more likely than White women to die from pregnancy-related causes. Even more tragically, most of these deaths are preventable.

These statistics are unacceptable. They are an indictment of our healthcare system, Madam Speaker, and I believe we can do better.

Ensuring that women have access to health insurance for the first year postpartum is an obvious first step that we can take to ensure that all women, regardless of income, have access to the care they need for the critical first year after giving birth.

Currently, Medicaid covers pregnant women for 60 days postpartum. After that, many women lose eligibility and go without a consistent source of care. The Helping MOMS Act would build on this coverage by giving States the option to extend Medicaid coverage to women to a full year postpartum.

This bill is endorsed by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs, the National Birth Equity Collaborative, the March of Dimes, and many more organizations.

I want to commend Representative ROBIN KELLY for her passion and commitment to this bill and to improving the lives of new mothers.

I also want to thank and recognize Representative MICHAEL BURGESS, the ranking member of the Health Subcommittee, for his steadfast leadership on the Republican side.

Finally, I want to recognize the efforts of Representatives LAUREN UNDERWOOD, CATHY RODGERS, AYANNA PRESSLEY, and BUDDY CARTER for their leadership on this issue and their commitment to bipartisan solutions.

Too many children in this country, Madam Speaker, grow up knowing their mothers only as a fading picture on the wall or as someone whose name brings a bittersweet smile and a tear to friends and loved ones. It doesn't have to be this way.

This bill will not singlehandedly fix the maternal health crisis in this country, but it will mean that more of these children will have a mother to take care of them, tuck them in at night, comfort them in moments of need, and share in their moments of joy and sorrow. I urge my colleagues to support this bill for these children and their mothers.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4996. This is the Helping Medicaid Offer Maternity Services, or MOMS, Act of 2019. It was introduced by Representative KELLY from Illinois and Dr. BURGESS from Texas.

As you have heard, this legislation gives States the option to extend the length of continuous postpartum eligibility for Medicaid to 12 months. Now, this is a critically important bill. Despite everything that is going on in the country, it is an example of, once again, Congress coming together to do the right thing for the right reason.

This bipartisan legislation furthers the Committee on Energy and Commerce's mission to address maternal mortality, which we all agree needs further attention, and to improve the health outcomes in expectant or new moms.

Last Congress, Madam Speaker, President Trump signed bipartisan legislation from our committee into law to advance maternal health. We are now building on that progress today.

Medicaid is the largest single-payer of maternity care in the United States. Medicaid covered 43 percent of all births in 2017, the latest data we have. Now, in some of our States, the share of healthcare costs of births financed by Medicaid is even higher. As such, this program plays a significant role in improving maternal health and helping to eliminate preventable maternal mortality.

I want to thank Ms. KELLY and Dr. BURGESS for leading this effort, and I want to thank Chairman PALLONE and his staff for working together to find a path forward with this important legislation.

Getting this measure signed into law will have a meaningful impact on the maternal mortality crisis. We will make a difference with this legislation. We will save more moms' lives.

Madam Speaker, I urge all Members to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. KELLY), the sponsor of the bill.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise to encourage my colleagues to support the Helping MOMS Act. This bipartisan legislation, which I authored together with my colleagues on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, would allow States to use their own funds to extend Medicaid coverage for new moms to the entire postpartum period of 1 year, which is the recommendation of medical professionals and experts. Right now, States must seek a waiver from the Secretary of Health and Human Services to expand postpartum coverage beyond 60 days.

With Medicaid providing coverage for more than half of new American moms, expanding Medicaid would save lives. Study after study has proven this to be the case. This bill will help correct a hurdle that has existed for too many women.

Tragically, we know that our Nation's maternal mortality crisis, like so many public health challenges, is taking a disproportionate toll on African-American moms. Black moms die

at 2½ times the rate of White moms. In my home State of Illinois, the disparity grows to six times. It is time for us to give new moms that opportunity to stay healthy by seeing their doctors.

On top of removing the waiver requirement, this bill also studies the availability of, access to, and success of doulas in providing care to moms before, during, and after birth within the Medicaid program.

For those unfamiliar with the term, a doula is a trained companion who, while not always a healthcare professional, supports mothers through the pregnancy process. Studies have shown that doulas are a powerful and cost-effective way to improve care delivery and prevent maternal death.

Before closing, I want to thank my colleagues from Texas and Washington for their leadership and support. Likewise, I would like to thank the more than dozen organizations that endorsed this legislation, including the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

While the Helping MOMS Act is a compromise and not as comprehensive as I had hoped, this is a major step forward that Congress can and should take in a bipartisan way to help save mothers' lives.

In 2020, starting or growing a family should never cost a woman her life, so I urge a "yes" on the Helping MOMS Act. It will help ensure healthy and happy moms, babies, and families across America.

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I have no other speakers on this measure. I would encourage its passage.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I would urge support for the bill, and I also yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4996, the Helping MOMS Act of 2019. I'm proud to have advanced this bipartisan bill through my Health Subcommittee and I'm pleased to support it on the Floor today.

My thanks to Reps. KELLY, BURGESS, UNDERWOOD, RODGERS, PRESSLEY, and CARTER for introducing the Helping Medicaid Offer Maternity Services Act, a bipartisan bill to make it easier for states to expand Medicaid or CHIP coverage for one year postpartum.

While the uninsured rate among postpartum women has decreased thanks to the Affordable Care Act, many women still lose Medicaid coverage two months after having a baby.

In Texas, Georgia, and Oklahoma, 20 percent of new mothers are uninsured. Lack of coverage keeps women from receiving needed care, including mental health services to detect and treat postpartum depression.

This bill makes it easier for states to expand coverage by removing administrative red tape and by offering a small financial incentive to states to expand postpartum care.

I think we should go further and make postpartum coverage a mandatory benefit in the Medicaid program, but I'm pleased we're taking this step today to make it an easy option for states.

I ask my colleagues to join me in voting for this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4996, 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.

### SOUTH ASIAN HEART HEALTH AWARENESS AND RESEARCH ACT OF 2020

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3131) to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for research and improvement of cardiovascular health among the South Asian population of the United States, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3131

*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 "South Asian Heart Health Awareness and Research Act of 2020".

#### SEC. 2. HEART HEALTH PROMOTION GRANTS.

Title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 317U (42 U.S.C. 247b-23) the following new section:

#### "SEC. 317V. HEART HEALTH PROMOTION GRANTS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make grants to States for the purpose of promoting awareness of the increasing prevalence of heart disease, including, where appropriate, its relationship to type 2 diabetes, in communities disproportionately affected by heart disease such as South Asian communities in the United States.

"(b) USE OF FUNDS.—A State that receives a grant under subsection (a) shall use such grant funds—

"(1) to develop culturally appropriate materials on evidence-based topics such as nutrition education, optimal diet plans, and programs for regular exercise;

"(2) to support heart health promotion activities of community organizations that work with or serve communities disproportionately affected by heart disease, such as South Asian communities in the United States; or

"(3) to support conferences or workshops on research practices, methodology, and design to include more members of communities disproportionately affected by heart disease, such as South Asian communities in the United States, in scientific studies.

"(c) ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the South Asian Heart Health Awareness and Research Act of 2020, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on outreach efforts and data relating to heart disease in communities disproportionately affected by heart disease, such as South Asian communities in the United States.

"(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For purposes of carrying out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025."

#### SEC. 3. HEART HEALTH RESEARCH.

Part B of title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 284 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

#### "SEC. 409K. HEART HEALTH RESEARCH.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may—

"(1) conduct or support research and related activities regarding cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, and other heart health-related ailments among at-risk populations, including South Asian communities in the United States; and

"(2) establish an Internet clearinghouse to catalog existing evidence-based heart health research and treatment options for communities disproportionately affected by heart disease, such as South Asian communities in the United States, to prevent, treat, or reverse heart disease and diabetes.

"(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

For purposes of carrying out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam 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 H.R. 3131.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States, and tragically, the risk of heart disease death differs dramatically by race and ethnicity.

Overall, racial and ethnic minorities have an elevated risk of morbidity and mortality due to heart disease. Racial and ethnic minorities confront more barriers to heart health care than White Americans, including higher comorbidity rates, less culturally competent care, and fewer proactive heart health interventions.

This bill, the South Asian Heart Health Awareness and Research Act of 2020, directs the Department of Health and Human Services to build on current heart disease programs to improve further heart health awareness, education, training, and research for groups disproportionately affected by heart disease.

In November 2019, the American Heart Association and other medical groups issued updated cholesterol guidelines that, for the first time, urged doctors to consider ethnicity when determining a patient's cardiovascular risk and treatment options.

This bill builds upon the work of determined medical partners like the American Heart Association to provide more resources for States that wish to expand their heart health programs.

This bill would not be on the floor today without the determined effort of Congresswoman JAYAPAL, and I commend her for her leadership on this. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3131.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about H.R. 3131, the South Asian Heart Health Awareness and Research Act of 2020 sponsored by my friend and colleague from the Northwest, Representative JAYAPAL. This bill authorizes initiatives that will help improve our understanding of cardiovascular disease in South Asians living in the United States, a laudable goal.

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The intent of this bill is laudable, as South Asians are a population disproportionately impacted by diabetes and heart disease. In fact, according to the American College of Cardiology, South Asians represent approximately 25 percent of the world's population, yet they account for 60 percent of the world's heart disease patients.

While I support initiatives to improve health in ethnic and minority communities, I do have some concerns with the bill itself.

In providing technical feedback on the legislation, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC, expressed concerns that the grants authorized under the legislation would be duplicative of their current efforts to address cardiovascular disease in disproportionately impacted communities. These efforts include the CDC's Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity, in addition to the health promotion grants to States and the WISEWOMAN Program, which stands for Well-Integrated Screening and Evaluation for WOMEN Across the Nation.

In addition, the CDC expressed concerns that it would not be able to provide the data that the bill is mandating the agency report on.

Broadly, the agency does have data on minority and disproportionately impacted groups with regard to cardiovascular disease; that is true. However, they do not have enough data on the specific subgroup of the South Asian population in order to put together a complete and meaningful report that would be useful for Congress in making future policy decisions. While unfortunate, it is because CDC does not yet have the data collection technology nor the capabilities to obtain that kind of granular data.

Therefore, before mandating such a report, Congress should instead pass H.R. 5821, the Public Health Infrastructure Modernization Act, led by Representatives CARTER and MCBATH, bipartisan legislation which would modernize CDC's data infrastructure and

improve the collection of more granular information on communities disproportionately impacted by cardiovascular disease, such as South Asian communities. It would be nice if we had that bill moving through, because that, I think, would provide the ability for CDC to get the data that this bill before us today requires.

So I appreciate the gentlewoman from Washington for bringing needed attention to this issue. I would like to thank the majority for working with us to get this bill to a better place. While we agree with the administration's concerns, we also think the bill is a good first step in raising awareness about this important public health issue.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL), who is the sponsor of the bill.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Madam Speaker, I thank the chairman for his leadership and the ranking member for his excellent comments.

I understand the concerns, and I would just say that, as the first South Asian-American woman ever elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, I am so proud to see this important bill come to the floor, and I want to thank my colleague, Representative JOE WILSON, for his help and support of this important bipartisan bill.

South Asians are the second fastest growing minority group in the United States, and yet this group is four times more at risk of developing heart disease than the general population and has the highest prevalence of type 2 diabetes.

The research and understanding of why we are so prone to heart disease is limited, while the devastating impact on our families is only increasing. In fact, the story of this bill, as much legislation happens, began when my former deputy chief of staff, Ven Neralla, unexpectedly lost his mother to heart disease. Wanting to understand why this happened, we found that this was not just an isolated incident, but an alarming trend that had received far too little attention.

The South Asian Heart Health bill will fund the creation of culturally appropriate materials, engagement with community groups working to promote South Asian heart health, and create an information clearinghouse about South Asian heart health. The bill also funds grants for the CDC and NIH to conduct research on the impact of heart disease on South Asians in the United States.

The bill has been endorsed by an incredible number of medical organizations, including the American College of Cardiology, the American Heart Association, WomenHeart, the South Asian Public Health Association, and many, many more.

COVID-19 has taught us the value of preventing underlying health condi-

tions and addressing health inequities afflicting communities of color. The South Asian Heart Health bill is a significant step in raising the alarm, reversing the trend of heart disease in our communities, and saying to South Asian-American communities across the country: We see you here in Congress, and we are ready to help.

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I have no additional speakers on my side of the aisle, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of the South Asian Heart Health Awareness and Research Act.

This bipartisan measure will raise awareness in the South Asian community about alarming increases in heart disease and invest in ways to reverse this trend.

South Asians in the United States are those who immigrated or whose families immigrated from countries including India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Nepal. South Asians represent the sixth largest and fastest-growing ethnic group in our nation.

Despite a traditional diet high in lentils, vegetables, grains and spices, heart disease is on the rise in these communities. A Stanford study found that South Asians' risk of having a heart attack before 50 is four times greater than the general population's.

South Asians also have the highest prevalence of Type 2 diabetes. As diabetes is one of the most serious drivers of heart disease, stats underscore the urgent need for action.

The tools and research this bill promotes will give us the insight needed to save lives not just in the South Asian community, but the greater public, too.

I thank Congresswoman JAYAPAL for her vision in developing this bill and urge my colleagues to support it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3131, 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.

#### SCHOOL-BASED ALLERGIES AND ASTHMA MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2468) to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the preference given, in awarding certain allergies and asthma-related grants, to States that require certain public schools to have allergies and asthma management programs, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2468

*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 "School-Based Allergies and Asthma Management Program Act".*

#### SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL PREFERENCE TO CERTAIN STATES THAT REQUIRE CERTAIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO HAVE ALLERGIES AND ASTHMA MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS.

Section 399L(d) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g(d)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(F)—

(A) by redesignating clauses (i), (ii), and (iii) as subclauses (I), (II), and (III), respectively, and moving each of such subclauses (as so redesignated) 2 ems to the right;

(B) by striking "EPINEPHRINE.—In determining" and inserting "EPINEPHRINE OR SCHOOL COMPREHENSIVE ALLERGIES AND ASTHMA MANAGEMENT PROGRAM.—"

(C) by striking "in the State—" and inserting

"in the State satisfy the criteria described in clause (ii) or clause (iii)."

(ii) CRITERIA FOR SCHOOL PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION OF EPINEPHRINE.—For purposes of clause (i), the criteria described in this clause, with respect to each public elementary school and secondary school in the State, are that each such school—; and

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

"(iii) CRITERIA FOR SCHOOL COMPREHENSIVE ALLERGIES AND ASTHMA MANAGEMENT PROGRAM.—For purposes of clause (i), the criteria described in this clause, with respect to each public elementary school and secondary school in the State, are that each such school—

"(I) has in place a plan for having on the premises of the school during all operating hours of the school a school nurse or one or more other individuals who are designated by the principal (or other appropriate administrative staff) of the school to direct and apply the program described in subclause (II) on a voluntary basis outside their scope of employment; and

"(II) has in place, under the direction of a school nurse or other individual designated under subclause (I), a comprehensive school-based allergies and asthma management program that includes—

"(aa) a method to identify all students of such school with a diagnosis of allergies and asthma;

"(bb) an individual student allergies and asthma action plan for each student of such school with a diagnosis of allergies and asthma;

"(cc) allergies and asthma education for school staff who are directly responsible for students who have been identified as having allergies or asthma, such as education regarding basics, management, trigger management, and comprehensive emergency responses with respect to allergies and asthma;

"(dd) efforts to reduce the presence of environmental triggers of allergies and asthma; and

"(ee) a system to support students with a diagnosis of allergies or asthma through coordination with family members of such students, primary care providers of such students, primary asthma or allergy care providers of such students, and others as necessary.;" and

(2) in paragraph (3)(E)—

(A) in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting "such as the school nurse" after "individual"; and

(B) in clause (i), by inserting "school nurse" before "principal".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam 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 H.R. 2468.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, more than 8 percent of children in the U.S. under the age of 18 live with asthma. For these children and children with respiratory issues caused by asthma, access to appropriate treatment and trained personnel can mean the difference between life and death in emergency situations.

In 2004, Congress authorized children's asthma treatment grants to expand access to medical care for children who live in areas with a prevalence of asthma. Today, CDC provides financial assistance to health departments in 24 States and Puerto Rico to ensure that guidelines-based medical management and pharmacotherapy for those with asthma are both available and accessible. The CDC also offers funding to State programs and national organizations promoting asthma quality measures and informing policymakers about the burden of asthma.

H.R. 2468, the School-Based Allergies and Management Program Act, takes the most recent data and builds on this program to make it work best for kids and schools today. To achieve this, preference will be given for certain grants to States that require schools to have a school-based allergies and asthma program, as well as the presence of a school nurse or other trained personnel who can support students and staff treat those with allergies and asthma.

Helping States and schools to better support students and families treat asthma and allergies is critical to the health and well-being of our students, and this bill will go a long way towards achieving this goal.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank Majority Leader HOYER for his leadership on this bill as well as our colleague, Representative ROE. I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2468, the School-Based Allergies and Asthma Management Program Act, introduced by Representatives ROE and HOYER.

This important legislation would direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in making asthma-related grants, to give preference to States that require schools to implement policies that improve the care of children with allergies and asthma. These policies include having plans in place for managing students with allergies and asthma and having at least one person trained to administer rescue medication on the premises during operating hours.

By incentivizing States to have comprehensive school-based asthma and allergy management programs in place, this bill will help ensure that school nurses, staff, and administrators are prepared to help students with allergies and asthma excel at school in a safe environment.

I want to thank Dr. ROE and Leader HOYER, who have championed the cause of ensuring children at school have access to needed medicines for many, many years.

I also want to thank Dr. ROE for his years of service to this institution. Like some of the rest of us, he, too, will be retiring at the end of this year. As a veteran, as a doctor, and as a leader—and, by the way, as a great musician, not that he will be able to perform that here on the House floor—he has done so much for veterans, for improving healthcare, and for the people of the district he represents. He has left his mark, and he doesn't have to worry about whether he made a difference, because he has.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), who is our majority leader.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, the chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, and Mr. WALDEN, the ranking member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, for bringing this bill to the floor.

But, most of all, I want to thank my friend, Dr. PHIL ROE from Tennessee. He is a medical doctor. He and I, as Mr. WALDEN pointed out, for many, many years have been focused on making sure that those children with asthma are safer in the school than they otherwise would be if the schools were not prepared to deal with an asthmatic or allergic attack. I want to thank Dr. ROE, who has been such a steadfast ally and partner in this effort.

I am hopeful that this bill will go to the Senate, and when we come back in the lame duck, hopefully, we will pass this and we will have another bipartisan bill that will help children and the school systems of America.

I am proud to be joined by Dr. ROE. It is emblematic of when you have a problem that is needed to be solved, Madam Speaker; it is not a partisan problem. These are not partisan issues. These are issues that kids have, families have, and schools have.

We stood together on this floor 7 years ago when the House passed our School Access to Emergency Epinephrine Act. President Obama signed that bipartisan bill into law in November 2013. It encouraged States to adopt policies that require schools to stock emergency epinephrine and train staff how to use it in case a student experiences a severe allergy or asthma attack. Those attacks can result in death.

This is not just an inconvenience; this is just not an illness; it is a mortal

challenge, and I am proud that we got that bill done together and we do again, today, the same.

This new bipartisan legislation would build on that earlier success, as the ranking member and chairman of have all explained, by providing additional incentives for States to ensure that American schools create asthma management plans for students who need them.

This is not a difficult task, I might say, and it is not an expensive task, but it has a lifesaving result.

I know all too well how terrifying severe childhood asthma can be. I was diagnosed with asthma at age 4 when I went to the hospital in Mexia, Texas. My father was stationed at a POW camp in Mexia, Texas, not too far from Galveston. So I know the consequences of asthma.

In addition to that, my granddaughter has experienced severe food allergies, a peanut allergy which is so much more evident today than it was, for whatever reason, and is life threatening. I have been with my granddaughter twice in the emergency room. Luckily, she got there in time so that her life was not in danger, but had she not gotten there in a timely fashion, it would have been.

Like many families, we constantly have to be vigilant and always keep asthma inhalers present. My granddaughter always keeps an EpiPen with her. She is 18 years of age, and she does not go anywhere without an EpiPen.

Very frankly, my daughter, her mother, every school that she went to, counseled with the principal, with the teacher, and with the school personnel to let them know, A, that Alexa had that challenge and, B, how to help her deal with it.

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Having a plan to manage asthma and peanut allergies makes a critical difference. This legislation will help reduce school absenteeism, for which asthma is one of the leading causes. I know that because as an elementary school and junior high school student, I lost significant time because of asthma.

Madam Speaker, again, I thank Dr. ROE for his leadership on this issue and for working with me on these bills over the years. He is retiring at the end of this Congress, and I will certainly miss working with him. We will miss his expertise here in the Congress of the United States, and I know the Committee on Energy and Commerce will miss his advice and counsel as well. I believe that legislation like this and the law we enacted in 2013 will be a fitting part of his legacy of public service.

Madam Speaker, I hope that all of our colleagues will join us in supporting this legislation and in thanking Dr. ROE for his efforts to ensure that protecting our Nation's children against asthma consequences remains a truly bipartisan effort.

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I thank the majority leader for his comments in support and authorship of this

legislation. Our son battled childhood asthma. It is a really scary thing as a parent to watch a child deal with an asthma attack.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DAVID P. ROE), the champion of this legislation, the great champion for a positive public health outcome for all of us, especially for our veterans.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, today, I rise in support of H.R. 2468, the School-Based Allergies and Asthma Management Program Act, a bill I have been proud to work on with my friend, Leader HOYER, that will help students with asthma excel in an asthma-friendly learning environment.

Madam Speaker, I will say that I had the privilege of visiting Mr. WALDEN's district a few years ago when we were working on the VA MISSION Act, and he explained to me that his congressional district had more square miles than the State of Tennessee. I didn't believe that, but it happens to be true. It has more square miles. And that one statement really helped me in composing that bill.

I also thank Leader HOYER—when he mentioned that in 2013, we didn't know each other very well then, but we got to know each other. And that bill, the EpiPen bill it is called, passed. And in my own community, just a community about 20 miles north of me, not 2, 3 years ago, a middle school student, who didn't know she had allergies, had anaphylaxis, and because the EpiPen was available, because of Mr. HOYER's work and others, that child survived.

I also thank Mr. PALLONE and Mr. WALDEN. Remember the incredible arguments we had about the cost of the EpiPen? I travel with one all the time because I am more concerned about an allergy of some kind when I travel. They always ask on airplanes: "Is there a doctor here?" I am always with one. And you all helped push the price of that down—your work on that did—from \$600, which was absurd for an EpiPen.

And you know, Mr. HOYER, with your daughter, I don't care how much money you have, that is a lot of money to pay. And you have to have two of them, not one. So that price has dropped dramatically because I think a lot of the work this Congress has done.

Last week marked the beginning of fall, as we all know. And for many of us, the cooler weather means the return to football and a new school year—different school year, but back. For millions of other Americans living with asthma, seasonal allergies, and other respiratory diseases, these changes of temperature mean difficulty breathing.

There are roughly 6 million school-aged children in the U.S. currently living with asthma. This is one of the leading causes of absenteeism. In fact, according to the National Asthma Education and Prevention Program, par-

ents have reported that students collectively miss 14 million days of school every year due to asthma alone. While asthma poses serious health risks, it can be effectively managed with proper education, planning, and treatment, and does not have to negatively impact a child's access to education.

The Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services both recommend that schools have comprehensive management programs in place to support children with lower airway disorders like asthma and keep these disorders under control while they are at school. Unfortunately, most schools do not have such programs in place. And that is why our bill, the School-Based Allergies and Asthma Management Program uses a proven model to encourage States to ensure schools are prepared to help children suffering from asthma.

The two most important strategies for preparing schools are implementing management plans and ensuring that school staff members are prepared to assist children experiencing an attack. Our bill encourages States to do just that. This type of preparation and management in schools will not only improve a child's health but also ensure that students are able to focus on learning. No student should be at risk in a school because of a failure for them to manage a respiratory disorder. The good news is that together, we can fix this.

The start of the new school year serves as a valuable reminder of the work that still needs to be done, and I look forward to passing this bipartisan legislation today and getting it one step closer to the President's desk so that students with asthma and allergies can focus on their education.

Madam Speaker, I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their very, very kind comments, and I encourage support of this bill.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I urge support of this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2468, the "School-Based Allergies and Asthma Management Program Act," which would provide important guidance to schools on how to support students who have asthma.

Across the United States nearly 25 million people have been diagnosed with asthma, including almost 7 million children.

Childhood asthma is a common, chronic pediatric condition, affecting 6.3 million children.

Morbidity from childhood asthma adversely affects school performance, with 1 in 2 children reporting school absences due to asthma each year.

These asthma related absences influence academic achievement, leading to decreased levels of reading proficiency and increased risk of learning disabilities.

Improving health and school-related outcomes for children with asthma requires the use of school-based partnerships that focus on integrated care coordination amongst families, clinicians, and school nurses.

The best defense to asthma attacks is immediate treatment as soon as symptoms present themselves.

Instead of contributing to the nearly 2 million asthma-related emergency room visits each year, this bill would provide schools with the necessary guidance on how to treat asthma attacks and support lung health of student while in school and at home.

Improving health and school-related outcomes for children with asthma requires the use of school-based partnerships that focus on integrated care coordination amongst families, clinicians and school nurses.

Every day in America 30,000 Americans have an asthma attack, and 11 are killed by them.

The School-based Asthma Management Program as outlined by H.R. 2468, is supported by the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology.

For asthma care, the School-based Asthma Management Program has four components to integrate schools, and specifically school nurses, within the asthma care team.

First, the creation of a Circle of Support amongst the families, clinicians and schools' nurses are centered around the child with asthma.

Second, the creation and transmission of Asthma Management Plans to schools, which includes an Asthma Emergency Treatment Plan for emergency management of asthma symptoms and an individualized Asthma Action Plan for each child with asthma.

Third, the development of a comprehensive Asthma Education Plan for school personnel.

Finally, a comprehensive Environmental Asthma Plan to assess and remediate asthma triggers at home and in school.

This bill is supported by the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (AAAAI) and the National Association of School Nurses (NASN).

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2468, 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.

#### FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES FOR ADDICTION ACT OF 2020

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5572) to establish a grant program for family community organizations that provide support for individuals struggling with substance use disorder and their families, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5572

*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 “Family Support Services for Addiction Act of 2020”.

**SEC. 2. FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS STRUGGLING WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER.**

Part D of title V of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290dd et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

**“SEC. 553. FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS STRUGGLING WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER.**

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

“(i) the term ‘family community organization’ means an independent nonprofit organization that—

“(A) mobilizes resources within and outside of the community of families with individuals living with addiction, to provide a support network, education, and evidence-informed tools for families and loved ones of individuals struggling with substance use disorders; and

“(B) is governed by experts in the field of addiction, which may include—

“(i) experts in evidence-informed interventions for family members;

“(ii) experts in the impact of addiction on family systems;

“(iii) families who have experience with substance use disorders and addiction; and

“(iv) other experts in the field of addiction; and

“(2) the term ‘family support services’ means resources or programs that support families that include an individual with substance use disorder.

“(b) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary shall award grants to family community organizations to enable such organizations to develop, expand, and enhance evidence-informed family support services.

“(c) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the costs of a program funded by a grant under this section may not exceed 85 percent.

“(d) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants awarded under subsection (b)—

“(1) shall be used to develop, expand, and enhance community and statewide evidence-informed family support services; and

“(2) may be used to—

“(A) build connections between family support networks, including providing technical assistance between family community organizations and peer support networks, and with other family support services, focused on enhancing knowledge of evidence-informed interventions for family members and loved ones of individuals living with substance use disorders and reducing harm by educating service providers on current evidence regarding addiction and the family, including—

“(i) behavioral health providers, including such providers focused specifically on family and couples therapy in the context of addiction;

“(ii) primary care providers;

“(iii) providers of foster care services or support services for grandparents, guardians, and other extended family impacted by addiction; and

“(iv) other family support services that connect to community resources for individuals with substance use disorders, including non-clinical community services;

“(B) reduce stigma associated with the family of individuals with substance use disorders by improving knowledge about addiction and its treatment, providing compassionate support, and dispelling myths that perpetuate such stigma;

“(C) conduct outreach on issues relating to substance use disorders and family support, which may include education, training, and resources with respect to—

“(i) building a resilience- and strengths-based approach to prevention of, and living with, addiction in the family;

“(ii) identifying the signs of substance use disorder;

“(iii) adopting an approach that minimizes harm to all family members; and

“(iv) families of individuals with a substance use disorder, including with respect to—

“(I) navigating the treatment and recovery systems;

“(II) paying for addiction treatment;

“(III) education about substance use disorder; and

“(IV) avoiding predatory treatment programs; and

“(D) connect families to evidence-informed peer support programs.

“(e) DATA REPORTING AND PROGRAM OVERSIGHT.—With respect to a grant awarded under subsection (a), not later than 90 days after the end of the first year of the grant period, and annually thereafter for the duration of the grant period, the entity shall submit data, as appropriate and to the extent practicable, to the Secretary regarding—

“(1) the programs and activities funded by the grant;

“(2) health outcomes of the population of individuals with a substance use disorder who received services through programs supported by the grant, as evaluated by an independent program evaluator through the use of outcomes measures, as determined by the Secretary; and

“(3) any other information that the secretary may require for the purpose of ensuring that the grant recipient is complying with all the requirements of the grant.

“(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. PALLONE. Madam 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 H.R. 5572.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5572, the Family Support Services for Addiction Act of 2020.

According to new data from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, nearly 20 million Americans live with a substance use disorder. While we are making progress in connecting Americans with treatment, the reality is that only a fraction of those Americans receives the care they really need.

The Family Support Services for Addiction Act builds upon recent congressional efforts, such as the 21st Century Cures Act and the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act, to help close the treatment gap and get Americans on the road to recovery. We know that families can play a significant role in helping an individual find treatment, yet there isn’t a one-size-fits-all solution to ensuring a family member or loved one can get the care they

need. We also know that substance use disorders affect more than just the individual. It affects the family in its entirety.

Madam Speaker, as my colleagues and I heard during our hearings on this bill, getting families evidence-based guidance and connecting them with other community support systems can dramatically influence the trajectory of an individual’s path to recovery. That is exactly what this bill sets out to do.

H.R. 5572 would authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to family community organizations that would work to develop, expand, and enhance evidence-based family support services. These family community organizations can use the grant to reduce stigma around substance use disorder and build connections between families and providers, foster care services, and other peer-support services.

Madam Speaker, given the impact of this drug epidemic, chances are that many of us know someone—whether it be a loved one, a neighbor, a co-worker, or a classmate—who has a substance use disorder. And while we know that substance use disorders are complex, they are treatable. An individual’s road to treatment can be driven by family supports encouraged through this legislation.

I commend the lead sponsor of this legislation, Representative DAVID TRONE and also Representative DANIEL MEUSER, and their staff, for advocating for additional support for families. I also thank the Democratic and Republican members of our committee, as well as bipartisan committee staff, for working together to move this bill, and I hope the Senate will act on it swiftly.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5572, the Family Support Services for Addiction Act, which was introduced by Representatives Trone and Meuser.

This legislation would establish grant programs for family community organizations to provide evidence-informed and family-based approaches to substance use and addiction management. Family-based approaches have demonstrated stronger outcomes in substance use disorder recovery when compared with individual approaches, as they address several psychosocial dimensions of addiction and strengthen support networks for affected individuals.

Madam Speaker, the legislation before us today supports family community organizations that are committed to pursuing evidence-based interventions for substance use disorder, reduce the stigma of addiction, and strengthen both families and communities through recovery.

Madam Speaker, I thank our two colleagues that sponsored this important bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. TRONE).

Mr. TRONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to show my support for the millions of families struggling to help their loved ones suffering through addiction.

My family fought to get help for my nephew, Ian, that he needed before he lost his life to an overdose in 2016. It was hard for us to do, even with the resources we had at our disposal.

For most families, it is nearly impossible to navigate our behavioral health system in its current form. It is a confusing system that leaves families like mine with no clue what treatment option is right for their loved one.

Now more than ever, families are on the front lines of this fight. Overdoses are on the rise across America, and COVID-19 is making matters much worse. Every single county in my district saw an increase in overdose deaths last quarter—some as much as 50 percent. And last year, more Americans died of drug overdoses than ever before—more than 70,000.

Madam Speaker, that is why I introduced the Family Support Services for Addiction Act with Congressman DAN MEUSER. This bipartisan bill provides for nonprofits working with families struggling with addiction. The bill will provide grants to reach more families, create more tailored treatments, and save more lives.

Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman MEUSER, Chairman PALLONE, Chairwoman ESHOO, and Ranking Member WALDEN for this much-needed bill. We have got to get this done. Lives are depending on it.

Madam Speaker, I urge a “yes” vote on this legislation.

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER), one of the coauthors of this very, very important and meaningful legislation, who serves Pennsylvania’s Ninth Congressional District in the U.S. House.

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, it is really my honor to be here today in support with Congressman TRONE, and I thank him for his partnership and his leadership on this very important issue.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer support for our bill, H.R. 5572, the Family Support Services for Addiction Act, which provides a family and community-based approach to addiction treatment that works to address the deep-seated effects of the addiction crisis on so many families.

The opioid epidemic is ravaging my district and many States across America, and all of Pennsylvania is by no means an exception. In 2017, Pennsylvania experienced 5,456 drug-related

overdose deaths. It has impacted virtually every family throughout the Commonwealth.

Far too many families struggling with substance use disorder feel like they have nowhere to turn for the resources and very important information.

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This bill would establish a grant program for family community organizations that provide support for families of individuals struggling with substance use disorder. These services can include information and referral sources, support groups, system navigation to assist the family in finding resources, parent training and education, specialized crisis support, and, really, much, much more, again, where they currently don’t know where to turn.

As a member of the Freshman Working Group on Addiction, I am very proud to be the Republican lead on a bill that takes critical steps to help families feel empowered and equipped to support their loved ones struggling with substance use disorder.

I again want to very, very sincerely congratulate and thank Congressman DAVID TRONE for his hard work, his dedication, and his great care in helping those suffering from drug addiction.

I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I urge its swift passage.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I also urge support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5572, the “Family Support Services for Addiction Act of 2020.” I’m proud to have advanced this bipartisan bill through my Health Subcommittee and I’m pleased to support it on the Floor today.

H.R. 5572, the “Family Support Services for Addiction Act of 2020” was introduced by Reps. DAVID TRONE (D-MD) and DANIEL MEUSER (R-PA) and provides grants to community organizations that provide support services for families and family members living with substance use disorders or addiction. When family members are empowered and supported to help their loved one struggling with substance use disorder, patients and families achieve better outcomes.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimated that more than 70,000 people died in the U.S. from an opioid overdose in 2019. These numbers are projected to be higher in 2020, in part because of the COVID pandemic. We have to do everything we can to address the substance use disorder crisis by helping patients and their families. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5572, 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.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam 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.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 1812. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish Vet Center readjustment counseling and related mental health services to certain individuals.

H.R. 2372. An act to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an assessment of all memoranda of understanding and memoranda of agreement between Under Secretary of Health and non-Department of Veterans Affairs entities relating to suicide prevention and mental health services.

H.R. 4779. An act to extend the Undertaking Spam, Spyware, And Fraud Enforcement With Enforcers beyond Borders Act of 2006, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6168. An act to increase, effective as of December 1, 2020, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2693. An act to improve oversight by the Federal Communications Commission of the wireless and broadcast emergency alert systems.

#### SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2020

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2075) to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize school-based health centers, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2075

*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 “School-Based Health Centers Reauthorization Act of 2020”.

#### SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS.

(a) ELIMINATION OF LIMITATION ON ELIGIBILITY OF HEALTH CENTERS.—

(1) REPEAL.—Section 399Z-1(f)(3) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280h-5(f)(3)) is amended by striking subparagraph (B).

(2) CONFORMING CHANGE.—Section 399Z-1(f)(3) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280h-5(f)(3)) is amended by striking

“LIMITATIONS” and all that follows through “Any provider of services” and inserting “LIMITATION.—Any provider of services”.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 399Z-1(l) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280h-5(l)) is amended by striking “2010 through 2014” and inserting “2021 through 2025”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam 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 H.R. 2075.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2075, the School-Based Health Centers Reauthorization Act, which reauthorizes school-based health centers.

These centers serve as critical access points that provide comprehensive care to children and adolescents in their school, a location that is safe, convenient, and accessible. They provide this care through partnerships with community health providers, such as federally qualified health centers, public health departments, hospitals, schools, and other community institutions.

School-based health centers serve primarily low-income and medically underserved populations of children and adolescents. These centers, Madam Speaker, are a powerful tool for achieving health equity among children and adolescents who unjustly experience disparities in health outcomes because of ethnicity, race, or family income.

While many communities struggle with ways to keep students healthy, school-based health centers are more important than ever. H.R. 2075 would reauthorize school-based health centers through fiscal year 2024, ensuring continued access to these centers for the children and families who need them most.

I want to thank Representatives SARBANES, TONKO, UPTON, and STEFANIK for their bipartisan leadership on this legislation.

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

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2075. This is the School-Based Health Centers Reauthorization Act of 2020. It was introduced by Representative SARBANES, whom I know we are going to hear from in a moment; Congressman UPTON, former chairman

of the Energy and Commerce Committee; and Representatives STEFANIK and TONKO.

This bill reauthorizes the School-Based Health Centers program, which supports the provision of primary care, behavioral healthcare, dental health, counseling, nutritional education, and so many other really critical health services in our schools.

Madam Speaker, I remember back in my days in the State legislature supporting community-based, school-based healthcare because, oftentimes, this was the only place many of our children could get basic healthcare services. It is so essential.

I know, during the pandemic, we are getting reports from our doctors and others that say this loss of access to these kinds of services is taking its toll, especially in mental health services.

These health centers usually operate as a partnership between the school and a community health organization so that the services provided by the health center best meet the needs of the community and the local school district.

As I said, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, the need for basic healthcare has not gone away just because students are learning from home. School-based health centers will continue to help in keeping students healthy and ready to learn, and we should reauthorize them, as we do in this act.

So I urge support of this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES).

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I want to thank Chairman PALLONE for his leadership of our committee with respect to all of these bills, particularly the health bills we are talking about today, and, also, Ranking Member WALDEN. As you know, many of these are bipartisan. They reflect the input and work of Members over a period of years.

I am very pleased that H.R. 2075, the School-Based Health Centers Reauthorization Act, is on the floor today. I introduced this bill with our colleagues, Representatives STEFANIK, TONKO, and UPTON. I want to thank them for their work and the bipartisan dimension of this effort.

This would reauthorize, as was indicated, Federal support for school-based health centers through 2024. These are institutions that provide critical primary and mental health services to vulnerable children and youth.

“Institutions” may not be the best word. Teams of professionals, I think, is how you describe these school-based health centers across the country.

These health centers really marshal response to the needs of young people in schools in a way that you really can’t replicate anywhere else in the community. That is why they are so vital.

They offer comprehensive healthcare to youth, delivering it in a setting where they already spend, obviously, much of their time, a captive audience, in a sense. Let’s take advantage of that and provide the services that they need.

There are 80 school-based health centers in the State of Maryland—I am familiar with many of them, having visited a number—and over 2,500 of them nationwide that serve 6.3 million students. Many of these school-based health centers provide care to underserved communities. In fact, over a third of them are located in rural areas.

What the research shows us is that, when a student has access to a school-based health center, we see a decrease in negative outcomes, such as asthma morbidity and the rate of hospital admissions, while educational outcomes, such as school performance and graduation rates, increase.

Now, of course, the services that school-based health centers provide are needed more than ever, given the coronavirus pandemic. Young people are grappling with uncertainty and changes to their lives, and being able to receive care in a familiar and supportive setting is critically important.

Again, I thank my colleagues for their support of this, and I urge all of the Members to support this bill.

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I call on my colleagues to support this important legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as the Founding Chair of the Congressional Children’s Caucus and a senior member of the Judiciary and Homeland Security Committees, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2075, the “School-Based Health Centers Reauthorization Act,” which reauthorizes school-based health centers through Fiscal Year 2024 as well as make technical changes that allow more health centers, that serve medically underserved children and adolescents, to qualify for funding.

First and foremost, I would like to thank Representatives SARBANES, TONKO, STEFANIK, and UPTON for their leadership on this key piece of legislation.

In 2014, the authorization for school-based health centers lapsed.

By passing H.R. 2075, Congress would rectify this issue and help deliver primary care, including dental screenings and mental health services, to millions of American students.

These health centers are a powerful tool for achieving health equity among children and adolescents who unjustly experience disparities in outcomes because of their race and family income.

Improved access to school-based health centers is tied to reducing negative health outcomes, such as asthma morbidity and the rate of hospital admissions as well as increasing positive outcomes like educational outcomes, school performance, and graduation rates.

Across the United States, there are over 2,500 school-based health centers and approximately one-third of them are in rural

areas, which traditionally suffer from limited access to care.

The coronavirus pandemic has shed a light on the current disparities riddled throughout our health care system.

As an increasing number of students go back to school, schools are on the front line in terms of managing the pandemic, and school-based health centers will be at the center of that response, making this reauthorization more essential than ever.

We must utilize this opportunity to strengthen these programs with additional federal funding.

I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to come together and pass this important legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2075, 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.

#### TRIBAL HEALTH DATA IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2020

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7948) to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the collection and availability of health data with respect to Indian Tribes, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7948

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 “Tribal Health Data Improvement Act of 2020”.

#### SEC. 2. COLLECTION AND AVAILABILITY OF HEALTH DATA WITH RESPECT TO INDIAN TRIBES.

(a) DATA COLLECTION.—Section 3101(a)(1) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300kk(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking “, by not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this title,”; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “Tribal,” after “State,.”.

(b) DATA REPORTING AND DISSEMINATION.—Section 3101(c) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300kk(c)) is amended—

(1) by amending subparagraph (F) of paragraph (1) to read as follows:

“(F) the Indian Health Service, Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, and epidemiology centers authorized under the Indian Health Care Improvement Act;”; and

(2) in paragraph (3), by inserting “Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, and epidemiology centers,” after “Federal agencies.”.

(c) PROTECTION AND SHARING OF DATA.—Section 3101(e) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300kk(e)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(3) DATA SHARING STRATEGY.—With respect to data access for Tribal epidemiology centers and Tribes, the Secretary shall create a data sharing strategy that takes into consideration recommendations by the Secretary’s Tribal Advisory Committee for—

“(A) ensuring that Tribal epidemiology centers and Indian Tribes have access to the data sources necessary to accomplish their public health responsibilities; and

“(B) protecting the privacy and security of such data.

#### “(4) TRIBAL PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITY.—

“(A) AVAILABILITY.—Beginning not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the Tribal Health Data Improvement Act of 2020, the Secretary shall make available to the entities listed in subparagraph (B) all data that is collected pursuant to this title with respect to health care and public health surveillance programs and activities, including such programs and activities that are federally supported or conducted, so long as—

“(i) such entities request the data pursuant to statute; and

“(ii) the data is requested for use—

“(I) consistent with Federal law and obligations; and

“(II) to satisfy a particular purpose or carry out a specific function consistent with the purpose for which the data was collected.

“(B) ENTITIES.—The entities listed in this subparagraph are—

“(i) the Indian Health Service;

“(ii) Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations; and

“(iii) epidemiology centers.”.

(d) TECHNICAL UPDATES.—Section 3101 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300kk) is amended—

(1) by striking subsections (g) and (h); and

(2) by redesignating subsection (i) as subsection (h).

(e) DEFINITIONS.—After executing the amendments made by subsection (d), section 3101 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300kk) is amended by inserting after subsection (f) the following new subsection:

“(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) The term ‘epidemiology center’ means an epidemiology center established under section 214 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, including such Tribal epidemiology centers serving Indian Tribes regionally and any Tribal epidemiology center serving Urban Indian organizations nationally.

“(2) The term ‘Indian Tribe’ has the meaning given to the term ‘Indian tribe’ in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act.

“(3) The term ‘Tribal organization’ has the meaning given to the term ‘tribal organization’ in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act.

“(4) The term ‘Urban Indian organization’ has the meaning given to that term in section 4 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act.”.

(f) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 3101(b) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300kk(b)) is amended by striking “DATA ANALYSIS.” and all that follows through “For each federally” and inserting “DATA ANALYSIS.—For each federally”.

#### SEC. 3. IMPROVING HEALTH STATISTICS REPORTING WITH RESPECT TO INDIAN TRIBES.

(a) TECHNICAL AID TO STATES AND LOCALITIES.—Section 306(d) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 242k(d)) is amended by inserting “, Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, and epidemiology centers” after “jurisdictions”.

(b) COOPERATIVE HEALTH STATISTICS SYSTEM.—Section 306(e)(3) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 242k(e)(3)) is amended by inserting “, Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, and epidemiology centers” after “health agencies”.

(c) FEDERAL-STATE-TRIBAL COOPERATION.—Section 306(f) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 242k(f)) is amended—

(1) by inserting “the Indian Health Service,” before “the Departments of Commerce”;

(2) by inserting a comma after “the Departments of Commerce and Labor”;

(3) by inserting “, Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, and epidemiology centers” after “State and local health departments and agencies”; and

(4) by striking “he shall” and inserting “the Secretary shall”.

(d) REGISTRATION AREA RECORDS.—Section 306(h)(1) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 242k(h)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking “in his discretion” and inserting “in the discretion of the Secretary”; and

(2) by striking “Hispanics, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders” and inserting “American Indians and Alaska Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans, and Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders”.

(e) NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON VITAL AND HEALTH STATISTICS.—Section 306(k) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 242k(k)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by striking “, not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996,” each place it appears; and

(2) in paragraph (7), by striking “Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, and annually thereafter, the Committee shall” and inserting “The Committee shall, on an biennial basis.”.

(f) GRANTS FOR ASSEMBLY AND ANALYSIS OF DATA ON ETHNIC AND RACIAL POPULATIONS.—Section 306(m)(4) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 242k(m)(4)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) by striking “Subject to subparagraph (B), the” and inserting “The”; and

(B) by striking “and major Hispanic subpopulation groups and American Indians” and inserting “, major Hispanic subgroups, and American Indians and Alaska Natives”; and

(2) by amending subparagraph (B) to read as follows:

“(B) In carrying out subparagraph (A), with respect to American Indians and Alaska Natives, the Secretary shall—

“(i) consult with Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, the Tribal Technical Advisory Group of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services maintained under section 5006(e) of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, and the Tribal Advisory Committee established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in coordination with epidemiology centers, to develop guidelines for State and local health agencies to improve the quality and accuracy of data with respect to the birth and death records of American Indians and Alaska Natives;

“(ii) confer with Urban Indian organizations to develop guidelines for State and local health agencies to improve the quality and accuracy of data with respect to the birth and death records of American Indians and Alaska Natives;

“(iii) enter into cooperative agreements with Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, Urban Indian organizations, and epidemiology centers to address misclassification and undersampling of American Indians and Alaska Natives with respect to—

“(I) birth and death records; and

“(II) health care and public health surveillance systems, including, but not limited to, data with respect to chronic and infectious diseases, unintentional injuries, environmental health, child and adolescent health, maternal health and mortality, foodborne and waterborne illness, reproductive health, and any other notifiable disease or condition;

“(iv) encourage States to enter into data sharing agreements with Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, and epidemiology centers to improve the quality and accuracy of public health data; and

“(v) not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Tribal Health Data Improvement Act of 2020, and biennially thereafter, issue a report on the following:

“(I) Which States have data sharing agreements with Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations,

*Urban Indian organizations, and Tribal epidemiology centers to improve the quality and accuracy of health data.*

*“(II) What the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is doing to encourage States to enter into data sharing agreements with Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, Urban Indian organizations, and Tribal epidemiology centers to improve the quality and accuracy of health data.*

*“(III) Best practices and guidance for States, Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, Urban Indian organizations, and Tribal epidemiology centers that wish to enter into data sharing agreements.*

*“(IV) Best practices and guidance for local, State, Tribal, and Federal uniform standards for the collection of data on race and ethnicity.”.*

*(g) DEFINITIONS.—Section 306 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 242k) is amended—*

*(1) by redesignating subsection (n) as subsection (o); and*

*(2) by inserting after subsection (m) the following:*

*“(n) In this section:*

*“(1) The term ‘epidemiology center’ means an epidemiology center established under section 214 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, including such Tribal epidemiology centers serving Indian Tribes regionally and any Tribal epidemiology center serving Urban Indian organizations nationally.*

*“(2) The term ‘Indian Tribe’ has the meaning given to the term ‘Indian tribe’ in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act.*

*“(3) The term ‘Tribal organization’ has the meaning given to the term ‘tribal organization’ in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act.*

*“(4) The term ‘Urban Indian organization’ has the meaning given to that term in section 4 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act.”.*

*(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 306(o) of the Public Health Service Act, as redesignated by subsection (g), is amended to read as follows:*

*“(o)(1) To carry out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated \$185,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2021 through 2025.*

*“(2) Of the amount authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall not use more than 10 percent for the combined costs of—*

*“(A) administration of this section; and*

*“(B) carrying out subsection (m)(2).”.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam 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 H.R. 7948.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, the health of American Indian and Alaska Native populations lags behind all other races in the United States. Economic adversity and poor social conditions have contributed to disproportionate disease burden, lower life expectancies, and

other health inequalities in Tribal communities. Tragically, Tribal members are expected to live 5.5 fewer years than other races.

Now, the coronavirus pandemic has further highlighted these longstanding health inequalities. According to CDC data, more than one-third of non-elderly American Indians and Alaska Natives are at high risk of developing a serious illness resulting from a COVID-19 infection, compared with one-fifth of the White nonelderly adults.

Today, we are taking an important step in improving health outcomes by improving data access for Tribal Epidemiology Centers. These centers manage regional public health information systems, disease prevention and control programs, and coordinate with other public health authorities in the collection and study of epidemiological data. None of these functions work if Federal, State, and local partners are not sharing relevant data in a secured manner.

H.R. 7948, the Tribal Health Data Improvement Act, ensures that Tribal Nations are equipped with the necessary public health data to operate public health programs and improve health outcomes within their communities. It does this by clarifying the Federal role in collection and availability of health data with respect to Indian Tribes.

The legislation also mandates ways of improving health statistics reporting with respect to Indian Tribes, such as requiring the Secretary to release all applicable public health data on Tribal Epidemiology Centers within 180 days of enactment and requiring the CDC to expand and improve their assistance to States with respect to sharing data with Tribal entities.

Finally, the bill reauthorizes the National Center for Health Statistics with additional funding for the new programs that are established by the bill.

I want to thank Representatives GIANFORTE, LUJÁN, RODGERS, MULLIN, O’HALLERAN, and RUIZ for the excellent bipartisan work on this legislation.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 7948, the Tribal Health Data Improvement Act, introduced by my Energy and Commerce Committee colleagues, Representatives GIANFORTE, RUIZ, RODGERS, O’HALLERAN, and LUJÁN.

This is really important public health legislation. It addresses some chronic challenges that are faced by Tribal Nations and Tribal Epidemiology Centers as they try to gain access to critical Federal healthcare and public health surveillance data.

Obtaining this data is critical for engaging in preventive public health work and combating current health crises in American Indian and Alaska

Native communities. However, structural barriers to accessing data have been especially problematic during the COVID-19 pandemic, which, tragically, has disproportionately impacted these very communities.

In order to ensure Tribal Nations and Tribal Epidemiology Centers have access to the data necessary to accomplish public health priorities, this legislation requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to create a data-sharing strategy that takes into consideration the recommendations of the Secretary’s Tribal Advisory Committee.

In addition, in reauthorizing the CDC’s National Center for Health Statistics, the bill requires the Secretary to make public health surveillance data available to the Indian Health Service, Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, and Tribal Epidemiology Centers, so long as the data requested for use is consistent with Federal law and, of course, obligations.

The Secretary must also consult with Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, urban Indian organizations, and the Tribal Health Advisory Group of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to develop guidelines for State and local health agencies to improve the quality and accuracy of birth and death records of American Indians and Alaska Natives.

By improving the sharing of data between the Federal Government and the Tribes, this important bill would help address the health disparities in American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

Madam Speaker, I urge a “yes” vote on this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1530

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN), a leader on Tribal issues.

Mr. LUJÁN. Madam Speaker, during this COVID-19 pandemic, which has already killed more than 200,000 Americans, it is crucial that the CDC and State health departments are sharing essential, lifesaving public health data from Tribal epidemiology centers to protect the health of the people they serve.

TECs, like any State or local health department, are legally entitled to access to the same data, but for the first months of the public health emergency, this data was withheld, despite the urging of Tribal leaders, myself, and fellow members of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

This data, including information on COVID-19 testing, positive case numbers, contact tracing, and more, is essential for Tribes and TECs to protect the health and well-being of the communities they serve.

That is why Representative GIANFORTE and I introduced the bipartisan Tribal Health Data Improvement Act with the support of the National

Indian Health Board. While the CDC Director has fulfilled the commitment he made to me to share COVID-related data with all the TECs, there are still barriers to accessing other important data sets that are crucial to protecting the public health during and after this pandemic.

This important legislation makes it clear that the Department of Health and Human Services and State health departments are required to share data with Tribal health authorities, and it includes additional funding to make this happen.

This legislation is about justice and living up to the Federal Government's legal responsibility. It would help save lives as we continue working to defeat this virus. Tribes and TECs are working hard to protect public health in their communities, and it is their right to access the CDC data to do so.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to seeing the House pass this legislation, and I will urge my colleagues in the Senate to act with the same urgency.

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues, especially my friend from New Mexico for his leadership on this legislation. I would just say that they have all worked very hard on this. It is extraordinarily important to pass this.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I also urge support of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7948, 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.

#### PURSUING EQUITY IN MENTAL HEALTH ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5469) to address mental health issues for youth, particularly youth of color, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5469

*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 "Pursuing Equity in Mental Health Act".*

#### SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

*The table of contents for this Act is as follows:*

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

#### TITLE I—HEALTH EQUITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Sec. 101. Integrated Health Care Demonstration Program.

Sec. 102. Addressing racial and ethnic minority mental health disparities research gaps.

Sec. 103. Health professions competencies to address racial and ethnic minority mental health disparities.

Sec. 104. Racial and ethnic minority behavioral and mental health outreach and education strategy.

Sec. 105. Additional funds for National Institutes of Health.

Sec. 106. Additional funds for National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities.

#### TITLE II—OTHER PROVISIONS

Sec. 201. Reauthorization of Minority Fellowship Program.

Sec. 202. Study on the Effects of Smartphone and Social Media Use on Adolescents.

#### TITLE I—HEALTH EQUITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

##### SEC. 101. INTEGRATED HEALTH CARE DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

*Part D of title V of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290dd et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:*

##### “SEC. 554. INTERPROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE TEAMS FOR PROVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE IN PRIMARY CARE SETTINGS.

“(a) GRANTS.—The Secretary shall award grants to eligible entities for the purpose of establishing interprofessional health care teams that provide behavioral health care.

“(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an entity shall be a Federally qualified health center (as defined in section 1861(aa) of the Social Security Act), rural health clinic, or behavioral health program, serving a high proportion of individuals from racial and ethnic minority groups (as defined in section 1707(g)).

“(c) SCIENTIFICALLY BASED.—Integrated health care funded through this section shall be scientifically based, taking into consideration the results of the most recent peer-reviewed research available.

“(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated \$20,000,000 for each of the first 5 fiscal years following the date of enactment of the Pursuing Equity in Mental Health Act.”.

##### SEC. 102. ADDRESSING RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITY MENTAL HEALTH DISPARITIES RESEARCH GAPS.

*Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the National Institutes of Health shall enter into an arrangement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (or, if the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine decline to enter into such an arrangement, the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, or another appropriate entity)—*

“(1) to conduct a study with respect to mental health disparities in racial and ethnic minority groups (as defined in section 1707(g) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300u-6(g))); and

“(2) to submit to the Congress a report on the results of such study, including—

“(A) a compilation of information on the dynamics of mental disorders in such racial and ethnic minority groups; and

“(B) a compilation of information on the impact of exposure to community violence, adverse childhood experiences, structural racism, and other psychological traumas on mental disorders in such racial and minority groups.

##### SEC. 103. HEALTH PROFESSIONS COMPETENCIES TO ADDRESS RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITY MENTAL HEALTH DISPARITIES.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall award grants to qualified national organizations for the purposes of—

“(1) developing, and disseminating to health professional educational programs best practices or core competencies addressing mental health disparities among racial and ethnic minority groups for use in the training of students in the professions of social work, psychology, psychiatry, marriage and family therapy, mental health counseling, and substance misuse counseling; and

“(2) certifying community health workers and peer wellness specialists with respect to such best practices and core competencies and integrating and expanding the use of such workers and specialists into health care to address mental health disparities among racial and ethnic minority groups.

“(b) BEST PRACTICES; CORE COMPETENCIES.—Organizations receiving funds under subsection (a) may use the funds to engage in the following activities related to the development and dissemination of best practices or core competencies described in subsection (a)(1):

“(1) Formation of committees or working groups comprised of experts from accredited health professions schools to identify best practices and core competencies relating to mental health disparities among racial and ethnic minority groups.

“(2) Planning of workshops in national fora to allow for public input into the educational needs associated with mental health disparities among racial and ethnic minority groups.

“(3) Dissemination and promotion of the use of best practices or core competencies in undergraduate and graduate health professions training programs nationwide.

“(4) Establishing external stakeholder advisory boards to provide meaningful input into policy and program development and best practices to reduce mental health disparities among racial and ethnic minority groups.

“(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) QUALIFIED NATIONAL ORGANIZATION.—The term “qualified national organization” means a national organization that focuses on the education of students in one or more of the professions of social work, psychology, psychiatry, marriage and family therapy, mental health counseling, and substance misuse counseling.

“(2) RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITY GROUP.—The term “racial and ethnic minority group” has the meaning given to such term in section 1707(g) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300u-6(g)).

##### SEC. 104. RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITY BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH OUTREACH AND EDUCATION STRATEGY.

*Part D of title V of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290dd et seq.), as amended by section 101, is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:*

##### “SEC. 555. BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH OUTREACH AND EDUCATION STRATEGY.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, in consultation with advocacy and behavioral and mental health organizations serving racial and ethnic minority groups, develop and implement an outreach and education strategy to promote behavioral and mental health and reduce stigma associated with mental health conditions and substance abuse among racial and ethnic minority groups. Such strategy shall—

“(1) be designed to—

“(A) meet the diverse cultural and language needs of the various racial and ethnic minority groups; and

“(B) be developmentally and age-appropriate;

“(2) increase awareness of symptoms of mental illnesses common among such groups, taking into account differences within at-risk subgroups;

“(3) provide information on evidence-based, culturally and linguistically appropriate and adapted interventions and treatments;

“(4) ensure full participation of, and engage, both consumers and community members in the development and implementation of materials; and

*“(5) seek to broaden the perspective among both individuals in these groups and stakeholders serving these groups to use a comprehensive public health approach to promoting behavioral health that addresses a holistic view of health by focusing on the intersection between behavioral and physical health.*

*“(b) REPORTS.—Beginning not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to Congress, and make publicly available, a report on the extent to which the strategy developed and implemented under subsection (a) increased behavioral and mental health outcomes associated with mental health conditions and substance abuse among racial and ethnic minority groups.*

*“(c) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘racial and ethnic minority group’ has the meaning given to that term in section 1707(g).*

*“(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025.”.*

**SEC. 105. ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH.**

*(a) IN GENERAL.—In addition to amounts otherwise authorized to be appropriated to the National Institutes of Health, there is authorized to be appropriated to such Institutes \$100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025 to build relations with communities and conduct or support clinical research, including clinical research on racial or ethnic disparities in physical and mental health.*

*(b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘‘clinical research’’ has the meaning given to such term in section 409 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 284d).*

**SEC. 106. ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON MINORITY HEALTH AND HEALTH DISPARITIES.**

*In addition to amounts otherwise authorized to be appropriated to the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, there is authorized to be appropriated to such Institute \$650,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025.*

**TITLE II—OTHER PROVISIONS**

**SEC. 201. REAUTHORIZATION OF MINORITY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.**

*Section 597(c) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 297ll(c)) is amended by striking ‘\$12,669,000 for each of fiscal years 2018 through 2022’ and inserting ‘\$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025’.*

**SEC. 202. STUDY ON THE EFFECTS OF SMARTPHONE AND SOCIAL MEDIA USE ON ADOLESCENTS.**

*(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall conduct or support research on—*

*(1) smartphone and social media use by adolescents; and*

*(2) the effects of such use on—*

*(A) emotional, behavioral, and physical health and development; and*

*(B) disparities in minority and underserved populations.*

*(b) REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Congress, and make publicly available, a report on the findings of research described in this section.*

**SEC. 203. TECHNICAL CORRECTION.**

*Title V of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290aa et seq.) is amended—*

*(1) by redesignating the second section 550 (42 U.S.C. 290ee-10) (relating to Sobriety Treatment And Recovery Teams) as section 553; and*

*(2) by moving such section, as so redesignated, so as to appear after section 552 (42 U.S.C. 290ee-7).*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. PALLONE. Madam 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 H.R. 5469.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5469, the Pursuing Equity in Mental Health Act, and it is sponsored by Representative WATSON COLEMAN. It helps address suicide and mental illness in youth for minority and underserved communities.

We have long known that people of color experience inequities in healthcare in the United States. While we have made progress to close these gaps in recent years, including with the passage of the Affordable Care Act, people of color in America continue to experience inequities in care and worse health outcomes compared to White Americans.

These long-term trends are rooted in several social determinants that are often driven by structural discrimination and institutionalized racism, which has created systemic health inequity.

The tragic results of these long-term trends are that people of color are more likely to suffer from underlying health conditions and have a much harder time getting access to care, and when they do, they are far more likely to experience bias, discrimination, and poor health outcomes.

The Congressional Black Caucus’ Emergency Task Force on Black Youth Suicide and Mental Health reiterated these points in a report last year that raised concerns about the increasing rates of suicide and mental health trends among Black children. The need to address these increased suicide rates has been recognized by public health experts, including the National Institute of Mental Health Director, Dr. Joshua Gordon. He recently wrote about mental health inequities, saying these gaps ‘lead to worse mental health outcomes in underserved and minority communities.’

In testimony before our committee, the American Psychological Association president, Dr. Arthur Evans, also underscored the need to diversify our mental health workforce if we are to improve care for communities of color.

The bill before us today, H.R. 5469, is aimed specifically at addressing equity in mental health. The bill would invest resources into better understanding racial and ethnic minority mental health disparities, improve outreach and support for racial and ethnic minorities, and expand provider support for students of color entering the mental health workforce.

I am hopeful, Madam Speaker, that this bill will help reduce the inequities in mental health. Before I conclude, I want to thank my colleague from New Jersey, Representative BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN, and her staff for leading this important bill. I also thank Ranking Member WALDEN and his staff for working with us in a bipartisan manner to move this bill forward.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5469. This is the Pursuing Equity in Mental Health Act, and it is sponsored by Representative WATSON COLEMAN. It helps address suicide and mental illness in youth for minority and underserved communities.

Despite improvements in health equity, disparities in mental health care persist. The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality has reported that racial and ethnic minority groups in the United States are less likely to have access to mental health services and less likely to use community mental health services, but more likely to use emergency departments and more likely to receive lower quality care.

Poor mental health care access and quality ultimately contribute to poorer outcomes, including suicide among these populations. These issues are especially acute in minority youth populations.

H.R. 5469 would help address these disparities. It authorizes grants targeted at high-poverty communities for culturally and linguistically appropriate mental health services. It supports mental health disparities research, requires the studying of the impact of smartphones and social media on adolescents, and authorizes the Minority Fellowship Program to support more students of color entering the mental health workforce.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank the majority for taking the time to work with us to get this bill in a really good place. It is an important initiative, and I am pleased to see it getting a vote on the House floor today, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join both the chairman of the committee and myself in supporting this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I also urge support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as a cosponsor and senior member of the Judiciary and Homeland Security Committees, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5469, the ‘‘Pursuing Equity in Mental Health Act of 2019,’’ which addresses mental health issues for youth, particularly youth of color.

According to Mental Health America, Black and African American teenagers are more likely to attempt suicide than White teenagers, and suicidal thoughts, plans, and attempts have been rising in recent years.

Furthermore, in the United States, over seven million people who identify as Black or African American reported having a mental illness in the past year.

This legislation will combat the issue of suicide and mental health in youth from all communities by focusing on a few key areas: support in schools, scientific research, and increase funding in existing programs.

Specifically, the bill provides \$250 million to schools across the country, so they can have more culturally and linguistically appropriate mental health services.

The bill stipulates that priority will be given to schools with higher levels of poverty, to reducing the ratio of counselors to students and to helping more students of color.

These grants will also provide training for teachers and other school staff, so they can better identify the signs of trauma, mental health disorders, and risk of suicide in all students.

Additionally, H.R. 5469 provides \$20 million to establish interprofessional health care teams that can provide behavioral health care.

Madam Speaker, I am particularly supportive of this bill's efforts to develop cultural competency educational curricula so that students who are training to be social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists, and therapists will be able to properly treat youth of color.

This is imperative as we look to improve support for mental health for future generations.

Furthermore, the bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to establish a Commission on the Effects of Smartphone and Social Media Usage on Adolescents as well as prohibits federal funds from being used for conversion therapy and prohibits SAMHSA grants from going to states that continue to allow such practices.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank Congresswoman BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN for her leadership on this key piece of legislation.

I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to come together and pass this important legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5469, 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.

#### MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR STUDENTS ACT OF 2020

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1109) to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend projects relating to children and to provide access to school-based comprehensive mental health programs, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1109

*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 “Mental Health Services for Students Act of 2020”.*

#### SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ACT.

(a) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—The second part G (relating to services provided through religious organizations) of title V of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290kk et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating such part as part J; and  
(2) by redesignating sections 581 through 584 as sections 596 through 596C, respectively.

(b) SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH AND CHILDREN.—Section 581 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290hh) (relating to children and violence) is amended to read as follows:

#### “SEC. 581. SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH; CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Education, shall, through grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements awarded to eligible entities described in subsection (c), provide comprehensive school-based mental health services and supports to assist children in local communities and schools (including schools funded by the Bureau of Indian Education) dealing with traumatic experiences, grief, bereavement, risk of suicide, and violence. Such services and supports shall be—

“(1) developmentally, linguistically, and culturally appropriate;  
(2) trauma-informed; and  
(3) incorporate positive behavioral interventions and supports.

“(b) ACTIVITIES.—Grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements awarded under subsection (a), shall, as appropriate, be used for—

“(1) implementation of school and community-based mental health programs that—

“(A) build awareness of individual trauma and the intergenerational, continuum of impacts of trauma on populations;

“(B) train appropriate staff to identify, and screen for, signs of trauma exposure, mental health disorders, or risk of suicide; and

“(C) incorporate positive behavioral interventions, family engagement, student treatment, and multigenerational supports to foster the health and development of children, prevent mental health disorders, and ameliorate the impact of trauma;

“(2) technical assistance to local communities with respect to the development of programs described in paragraph (1);

“(3) facilitating community partnerships among families, students, law enforcement agencies, education agencies, mental health and substance use disorder service systems, family-based mental health service systems, child welfare agencies, health care providers (including primary care physicians, mental health professionals, and other professionals who specialize in children’s mental health such as child and adolescent psychiatrists), institutions of higher education, faith-based programs, trauma networks, and other community-based systems to address child and adolescent trauma, mental health issues, and violence; and

“(4) establishing mechanisms for children and adolescents to report incidents of violence or plans by other children, adolescents, or adults to commit violence.

#### “(c) REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible for a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement under subsection (a), an entity shall be a partnership that includes—

“(A) a State educational agency, as defined in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, in coordination with one or more local educational agencies, as defined in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, or a consortium of any entities described in subparagraph (B), (C), (D), or (E) of section 8101(30) of such Act; and

“(B) at least 1 community-based mental health provider, including a public or private

mental health entity, health care entity, family-based mental health entity, trauma network, or other community-based entity, as determined by the Secretary (and which may include additional entities such as a human services agency, law enforcement or juvenile justice entity, child welfare agency, agency, an institution of higher education, or another entity, as determined by the Secretary).

“(2) COMPLIANCE WITH HIPAA.—Any patient records developed by covered entities through activities under the grant shall meet the regulations promulgated under section 264(c) of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.

“(3) COMPLIANCE WITH FERPA.—Section 444 of the General Education Provisions Act (commonly known as the ‘Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974’) shall apply to any entity that is a member of the partnership in the same manner that such section applies to an educational agency or institution (as that term is defined in such section).

“(d) GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION.—The Secretary shall ensure that grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements under subsection (a) will be distributed equitably among the regions of the country and among urban and rural areas.

“(e) DURATION OF AWARDS.—With respect to a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement under subsection (a), the period during which payments under such an award will be made to the recipient shall be 5 years, with options for renewal.

“(f) EVALUATION AND MEASURES OF OUTCOMES.—

“(1) DEVELOPMENT OF PROCESS.—The Assistant Secretary shall develop a fiscally appropriate process for evaluating activities carried out under this section. Such process shall include—

“(A) the development of guidelines for the submission of program data by grant, contract, or cooperative agreement recipients;

“(B) the development of measures of outcomes (in accordance with paragraph (2)) to be applied by such recipients in evaluating programs carried out under this section; and

“(C) the submission of annual reports by such recipients concerning the effectiveness of programs carried out under this section.

“(2) MEASURES OF OUTCOMES.—The Assistant Secretary shall develop measures of outcomes to be applied by recipients of assistance under this section to evaluate the effectiveness of programs carried out under this section, including outcomes related to the student, family, and local educational systems supported by this Act.

“(3) SUBMISSION OF ANNUAL DATA.—An eligible entity described in subsection (c) that receives a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement under this section shall annually submit to the Assistant Secretary a report that includes data to evaluate the success of the program carried out by the entity based on whether such program is achieving the purposes of the program. Such reports shall utilize the measures of outcomes under paragraph (2) in a reasonable manner to demonstrate the progress of the program in achieving such purposes.

“(4) EVALUATION BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—Based on the data submitted under paragraph (3), the Assistant Secretary shall annually submit to Congress a report concerning the results and effectiveness of the programs carried out with assistance received under this section.

“(5) LIMITATION.—An eligible entity shall use not more than 20 percent of amounts received under a grant under this section to carry out evaluation activities under this subsection.

“(g) INFORMATION AND EDUCATION.—The Secretary shall disseminate best practices based on the findings of the knowledge development and application under this section.

“(h) AMOUNT OF GRANTS AND AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

“(1) AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—A grant under this section shall be in an amount that is not more

than \$2,000,000 for each of the first 5 fiscal years following the date of enactment of the Mental Health Services for Students Act of 2019. The Secretary shall determine the amount of each such grant based on the population of children up to age 21 of the area to be served under the grant.

(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, \$130,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2024.”

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Part G of title V of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290hh et seq.), as amended by subsection (b), is further amended by striking the part designation and heading and inserting the following:

**PART G—SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH.**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam 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 H.R. 1109.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1109, the Mental Health Services for Students Act of 2020.

Research shows that half of all lifetime mental illness begins by the age of 14. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about three in four children between the ages of 3 and 17 suffer from depression and anxiety, and nearly half have behavioral problems. In fact, recent data from Mental Health America show that youth between the ages of 11 and 17 are now at higher risk of moderate to severe anxiety and depression.

For many students, schools are a critical place to get mental health support. Now, with added public health concerns, economic pressures, online learning, and the social isolation that comes with these things, experts worry about the added repercussions we will be seeing on the well-being of students across the country.

The data and the effect of the pandemic make clear that we must do more to invest in preventative mental health services and training in schools to give our kids and teens a brighter future.

The American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on School Health recognized the increasing mental health needs of children and adolescents when it said that “school-based mental health services offer the potential for prevention efforts as well as intervention strategies.” H.R. 1109 does just that.

This bill would support comprehensive mental health programs at schools

across the Nation by encouraging partnerships between State and local educational agencies and mental health providers. Funding would be made available through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to support prevention screening, treatment, and development of evidence-based programs for social, emotional, and mental and behavioral issues among students. This bill will also help us better understand the student, family, and educational outcomes of services provided to students.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank the lead sponsors of this bill, Representatives GRACE NAPOLITANO and JOHN KATKO, for their leadership and their work. I also thank, of course, Ranking Member WALDEN and the members of our committee for their bipartisan support for this bill.

Madam Speaker, it is critical that we support preventative mental health services and training in schools for our kids and teens, particularly at a time when mental health risks are exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support today of H.R. 1109.

This is the Mental Health Services for Students Act, and it is sponsored by Representatives NAPOLITANO and KATKO. This bill authorizes the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s Project AWARE grants.

Madam Speaker, these grants support State educational agencies, in partnership with State mental health agencies, in increasing awareness of mental health issues among school-aged youth, providing training for school personnel to detect and respond to mental health issues, and connecting students with behavioral health issues and their families to needed services.

By supporting partnerships between the State and local systems to promote the healthy development of students, these grants increase access to mental health services for school-aged youth, ultimately reducing youth violence, substance use disorder, and suicide.

I am glad we are addressing mental health services for children. Their schooling and whole worlds have changed so much over this year. It is important that they can easily access mental health services.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

I don’t believe we have any other speakers, Madam Speaker, so I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1545

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I urge support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of my bill, H.R. 1109,

the Mental Health Services for Students Act. I am honored to have authored this bill for over a decade. Although it should not have taken this long, today is a historic day in recognizing the need for school based mental health resources.

A mental health crisis is currently unfolding as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Fear and anxiety about the coronavirus can be overwhelming and cause strong emotions for our constituents, especially children. The National Institute of Mental Health reports that one in five youth already experience some type of mental health disorder. Yet, prior to this public health emergency, only 10 percent of children and adolescents ages 3 to 17 years old received any treatment or counseling from a mental health professional.

H.R. 1109 acknowledges this problem by providing \$130 million in competitive grants per year for 5 years for 100 school-based mental health programs nationwide. It expands the scope of the Project Advancing Wellness and Resilience Education (AWARE) program by providing on-site licensed mental health professionals in schools across the country.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, the Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, testified in May before the Senate HELP Committee on the prospect of reopening school buildings and said, “We don’t know everything about this virus, and we really better be very careful, particularly when it comes to children”. While schools work to navigate this pandemic, it is critical that we provide them with the resources to create a mental health plan to reach their students during this stressful time.

H.R. 1109 is based on the successful Youth Suicide Prevention Program that I helped establish with Pacific Clinics in Los Angeles County in 2001. Regular classes will eventually resume, and according to the CDC, children may feel upset or have other strong emotions after an emergency. How a child reacts can vary depending on their age, previous experiences, and how that child typically copes with stress. We need to ensure the long-term availability of mental health services to ensure a bright future for our students, which my bill would help accomplish.

I would like to thank the many advocates in and outside of Congress who have played an integral role in this legislation. H.R. 1109 has 135 bipartisan co-sponsors and has the support of over 50 mental health organizations, as well as local governments and teacher unions.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support H.R. 1109, the Mental Health Services for Students Act, which will help address this ongoing children’s mental health crisis. It is now time to act on this bill, which has had broad support for decades.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1109, 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.

IMPROVING MENTAL HEALTH ACCESS FROM THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT ACT OF 2020

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2519) to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Center for Mental Health Services of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, to award grants to implement innovative approaches to securing prompt access to appropriate follow-on care for individuals who experience an acute mental health episode and present for care in an emergency department, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2519

*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 “Improving Mental Health Access from the Emergency Department Act of 2020”.*

**SEC. 2. SECURING APPROPRIATE FOLLOW-ON CARE FOR ACUTE MENTAL HEALTH ILLNESS AFTER AN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT ENCOUNTER.**

*The Public Health Service Act is amended by inserting after section 520J of such Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb-31) the following new section:*

**“SEC. 520J-1. SECURING APPROPRIATE FOLLOW-ON CARE FOR ACUTE MENTAL HEALTH ILLNESS AFTER AN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT ENCOUNTER.**

*“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may award grants on a competitive basis to qualifying health providers to implement innovative approaches to securing prompt access to appropriate follow-on care for individuals who experience an acute mental health episode and present for care in an emergency department.*

*“(b) ELIGIBLE GRANT RECIPIENTS.—In this section, the term ‘qualifying health provider’ means a health care facility licensed under applicable law that—*

*“(1) has an emergency department;*

*“(2) is staffed by medical personnel (such as emergency physicians, psychiatrists, psychiatric registered nurses, mental health technicians, clinical social workers, psychologists, and therapists) capable of providing treatment focused on stabilizing acute mental health conditions and assisting patients to access resources to continue treatment in the least restrictive appropriate setting; and*

*“(3) has arrangements in place with other providers of care that can provide a full range of medically appropriate, evidence-based services for the treatment of acute mental health episodes.*

*“(c) USE OF FUNDS.—A qualifying health provider receiving funds under this section shall use such funds to create, support, or expand programs or projects intended to assist individuals who are treated at the provider’s emergency department for acute mental health episodes and to expeditiously transition such individuals to an appropriate facility or setting for follow-on care. Such use of funds may support the following:*

*“(1) Expediting placement in appropriate facilities through activities such as expanded coordination with regional service providers, assessment, peer navigators, bed availability tracking and management, transfer protocol development, networking infrastructure development, and transportation services.*

*“(2) Increasing the supply of inpatient psychiatric beds and alternative care settings such as regional emergency psychiatric facilities.*

*“(3) Use of alternative approaches to providing psychiatric care in the emergency department setting, including through tele-psychiatric support and other remote psychiatric consultation, implementation of peak period crisis clinics, or creation of psychiatric emergency service units.*

*“(4) Use of approaches that include proactive followup such as telephone check-ins, telemedicine, or other technology-based outreach to individuals during the period of transition.*

*“(5) Such other activities as are determined by the Secretary to be appropriate, consistent with subsection (a).*

*“(d) APPLICATION.—A qualifying health provider desiring a grant under this section shall prepare and submit an application to the Secretary at such time and in such manner as the Secretary may require. At a minimum, the application shall include the following:*

*“(1) A description of identified need for acute mental health services in the provider’s service area.*

*“(2) A description of the existing efforts of the provider to meet the need for acute mental health services in the service area, and identified gaps in the provision of such services.*

*“(3) A description of the proposed use of funds to meet the need and gaps identified pursuant to paragraph (2).*

*“(4) A description of how the provider will coordinate efforts with Federal, State, local, and private entities within the service area.*

*“(5) A description of program objectives, how the objectives are proposed to be met, and how the provider will evaluate outcomes relative to objectives.*

*“(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025.”.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. PALLONE. Madam 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 H.R. 2519.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 2519, the Improving Mental Health Access from the Emergency Department Act of 2020.

I thank Representative RAUL RUIZ, a member of our committee, and his staff for their work on this important legislation. As an emergency room physician himself, Dr. RUIZ knows firsthand the needs of both the medical professional and the patients in the ER.

One of these increasing needs is support for mental health services. Research has shown that one in every eight emergency department visits in the U.S. is related to a mental health issue. Since 2009, mental health emergency room visits have substantially increased, most of which were driven by adolescents and young adults.

This is especially concerning, given recent data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that found that, in 2019, more than one in seven Americans experienced some level of anxiety and nearly one in five reported depression.

These studies were conducted before COVID-19, and we know that this pandemic is likely to have both long- and short-term implications for mental health, and this anticipated increase in need is reason to act now. H.R. 2519 would help to provide increased access to care for people who report to the emergency department for acute mental health episodes.

Under the bill, the Secretary of Health and Human Services is authorized to award grants to support innovative approaches for providing follow-on care for individuals treated in the emergency department for acute mental health issues. This includes increasing the number of inpatient psychiatric beds and alternative care settings, supporting a patient’s transition to appropriate mental health services, or the use of telepsychiatric support or other remote psychiatric consultation methods.

Madam Speaker, emergency departments can sometimes feel like a stressful place, especially for people in crisis; however, they are often the last remaining safety net in many communities. We know that follow-up care for people with mental illness is linked to fewer repeat emergency room visits and improved mental and physical health. Let’s do our part to support the emergency room staff and patients in need.

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

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

I rise in support of H.R. 2519. This is the Improving Mental Health Access from the Emergency Department Act of 2020 sponsored by our colleague from California, Dr. RUIZ.

The bill authorizes Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration award grants to emergency departments for the purpose of supporting follow-up services to patients who present in the emergency department experiencing a mental health crisis.

Now, according to SAMHSA’s National Guidelines for Behavioral Health Crisis Care, there is a disconnect in the provision of follow-up services regarding what comes next for a patient experiencing a mental health crisis in an emergency department. If a patient comes in with appendicitis, the emergency physician can call a surgeon. If the patient has a rash, the emergency department has a roster of dermatologists and clinics, and, in many cases, the physician can even make an appointment for that patient.

Sadly, tragically, these same partnerships don't always exist if the patient has mental health issues. By authorizing grants to support programs that help those treated at the emergency department expeditiously transition to follow-up care, this bill would remove those barriers to care for those who experience an acute mental health crisis. And we think it will reduce the stigma, and, ultimately, it will save lives.

I ask my colleagues to join us in supporting this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I don't believe we have any other speakers on this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I urge support of the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2519, 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.

#### EFFECTIVE SUICIDE SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT IN THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT ACT OF 2019

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4861) to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a program to improve the identification, assessment, and treatment of patients in the emergency department who are at risk of suicide, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4861

*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 “Effective Suicide Screening and Assessment in the Emergency Department Act of 2020”.

##### SEC. 2. PROGRAM TO IMPROVE THE CARE PROVIDED TO PATIENTS IN THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT WHO ARE AT RISK OF SUICIDE.

Part P of title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

##### “SEC. 399V-7. PROGRAM TO IMPROVE THE CARE PROVIDED TO PATIENTS IN THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT WHO ARE AT RISK OF SUICIDE.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a program (in this section referred to as the ‘Program’) to improve the identification, assessment, and treatment of patients in emergency departments who are at risk for suicide, including—

“(1) developing policies and procedures for identifying and assessing individuals who are at risk of suicide; and

“(2) enhancing the coordination of care for such individuals after discharge.

##### “(b) GRANT ESTABLISHMENT AND PARTICIPATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the Program, the Secretary shall award grants on a competitive basis to not more than 40 eligible health care sites described in paragraph (2).

“(2) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for a grant under this section, a health care site shall—

“(A) submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may specify;

“(B) be a hospital (as defined in section 1861(e) of the Social Security Act);

“(C) have an emergency department; and

“(D) deploy onsite health care or social service professionals to help connect and integrate patients who are at risk of suicide with treatment and mental health support services.

“(3) PREFERENCE.—In awarding grants under this section, the Secretary may give preference to eligible health care sites described in paragraph (2) that meet at least one of the following criteria:

“(A) The eligible health care site is a critical access hospital (as defined in section 1861(mm)(1) of the Social Security Act).

“(B) The eligible health care site is a sole community hospital (as defined in section 1886(d)(5)(D)(iii) of the Social Security Act).

“(C) The eligible health care site is operated by the Indian Health Service, by an Indian tribe or tribal organization (as such terms are defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act), or by an urban Indian organization (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act).

“(D) The eligible health care site is located in a geographic area with a suicide rate that is higher than the national rate, as determined by the Secretary based on the most recent data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

“(c) PERIOD OF GRANT.—A grant awarded to an eligible health care site under this section shall be for a period of at least 2 years.

##### “(d) GRANT USES.—

“(1) REQUIRED USES.—A grant awarded under this section to an eligible health care site shall be used for the following purposes:

“(A) To train emergency department health care professionals to identify, assess, and treat patients who are at risk of suicide.

“(B) To establish and implement policies and procedures for emergency departments to improve the identification, assessment and treatment of individuals who are at risk of suicide.

“(C) To establish and implement policies and procedures with respect to care coordination, integrated care models, or referral to evidence-based treatment to be used upon the discharge from the emergency department of patients who are at risk of suicide.

“(2) ADDITIONAL PERMISSIBLE USES.—In addition to the required uses listed in paragraph (1), a grant awarded under this section to an eligible health care site may be used for any of the following purposes:

“(A) To hire emergency department psychiatrists, psychologists, nurse practitioners, counselors, therapists, or other licensed health care and behavioral health professionals specializing in the treatment of individuals at risk of suicide.

“(B) To develop and implement best practices for the follow-up care and long-term treatment of individuals who are at risk of suicide.

“(C) To increase the availability of and access to evidence-based treatment for individuals who are at risk of suicide, including through telehealth services and strategies to reduce the boarding of these patients in emergency departments.

“(D) To offer consultation with and referral to other supportive services that provide evidence-based treatment and recovery for individuals who are at risk of suicide.

##### “(e) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) REPORTS BY GRANTEES.—Each eligible health care site receiving a grant under this section shall submit to the Secretary an annual report for each year for which the grant is received on the progress of the program funded through the grant. Each such report shall include information on—

“(A) the number of individuals screened in the site's emergency department for being at risk of suicide;

“(B) the number of individuals identified in the site's emergency department as being—

“(i) survivors of an attempted suicide; or

“(ii) are at risk of suicide;

“(C) the number of individuals who are identified in the site's emergency department as being at risk of suicide by a health care or behavioral health professional hired pursuant to subsection (d)(2)(A);

“(D) the number of individuals referred by the site's emergency department to other treatment facilities, the types of such other facilities, and the number of such individuals admitted to such other facilities pursuant to such referrals;

“(E) the effectiveness of programs and activities funded through the grant in preventing suicides and suicide attempts; and

“(F) any other relevant additional data regarding the programs and activities funded through the grant.

“(2) REPORT BY SECRETARY.—Not later than one year after the end of fiscal year 2025, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that includes—

“(A) findings on the Program;

“(B) overall patient outcomes achieved through the Program;

“(C) an evaluation of the effectiveness of having a trained health care or behavioral health professional onsite to identify, assess, and treat patients who are at risk of suicide; and

“(D) a compilation of policies, procedures, and best practices established, developed, or implemented by grantees under this section.

“(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$20,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2021 through 2025.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

##### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam 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 H.R. 4861.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 4861, the Effective Suicide Screening and Assessment in the Emergency Department Act.

Madam Speaker, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death, now claiming more than 47,000 American lives each

year. Despite national efforts to lower the suicide rate, a number of reports show a steady increase in suicides in recent years. In fact, over the last two decades, the suicide rate in the U.S. increased 35 percent. These are clearly alarming trends.

Like other health crises, the emergency room is often a place where people at risk for suicide go for help. Data shows us that the risk of a suicide attempt or a death is highest within 30 days of discharge from an emergency department or inpatient psychiatric unit.

Further, over a third of individuals without a diagnosis who died by suicide made an emergency room visit within a year of their death. That is why we have to act to equip our emergency rooms with better training and tools to screen and assess patients at risk for suicide.

This bill would create a grant program to help emergency departments develop policies and procedures for identifying and assessing people who are at risk of suicide and enhancing the coordination of care for them after discharge. These improvements would be made possible by better training, sharing of best practices, and hiring of behavioral health professionals in the emergency room who specialize in suicidal ideation.

This bill has support from the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, the American Association of Suicidology, and the American College of Emergency Physicians, groups that know these issues up close.

I thank my colleagues, Representative ELIOT ENGEL, who is here, and also Representative GUS BILIRAKIS. They led this important legislation to the floor.

I also thank Ranking Member WALDEN and all members and staff of our committee for their efforts to move the bill.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 4861. This is the Effective Suicide Screening and Assessment in the Emergency Department Act that was introduced by Representative BILIRAKIS, whom we will hear from in a minute, and our friend Congressman ENGEL.

Before I talk about the legislation, I would say what a joy and privilege it has been to serve on the Energy and Commerce Committee with Mr. ENGEL. He is an incredible individual, cares deeply about his constituents, and works hard on their behalf.

Moreover, Congressman ENGEL has been one of those people who is always kind and thoughtful to all of us on both sides of the aisle and works to put the interests of Americans first, both on the Energy and Commerce Committee and in his incredibly important and

powerful role as chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

Congressman ENGEL has served America and New York well, and while we haven't always agreed on every issue, we have never been disagreeable, and I wish him and his wife Godspeed in whatever is next in his career.

This legislation would authorize a grant program to improve the identification, screening, assessment, and treatment of patients in emergency departments who are at risk for suicide.

Consideration of this bill could not come at a more pressing and important time. As we have said before on these matters, the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting economic downturn have impacted the mental health and well-being of all Americans. In fact, a recently released report by the Well Being Trust and the American Academy of Family Physicians predicts that, because of the pandemic, an additional 150,000 Americans could die of "deaths from despair," meaning deaths from suicide or drug or alcohol misuse.

Emergency departments are key locations to intervene and assist those who may be contemplating taking their own lives. As past research identified, one in every eight emergency department visits in the U.S. was related to a mental health or substance use disorder.

By creating grants for emergency departments to develop policies for screening those at risk of suicide and enhancing their post-discharge care coordination, this bill would improve our frontline healthcare providers' ability to intervene when someone is in crisis, ultimately reducing deaths from despair, especially during this difficult time.

I would urge my colleagues to join the chairman of the committee and myself and our colleagues who put so much time and effort and work into crafting this legislation to support it, pass it, and let's get it into law.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL).

I do want to say I appreciate, again, Mr. WALDEN's comments about the excellent career of Mr. ENGEL, but I am also not ready to say good-bye to either Mr. ENGEL or Mr. WALDEN at this time because we are going to be here for a while the next few months.

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4861, the Effective Suicide Screening and Assessment in the Emergency Department Act.

Before I tell why, I want to thank my good friend Mr. PALLONE from New Jersey. We came to Congress together a long while ago, and we have worked very closely together.

And I want to thank Mr. WALDEN. He said I am thoughtful. He is one of the most thoughtful Members in Congress. He reaches across the aisle, and we have made a lot of great progress, and

the country is so much better having people with that kind of temperament to reach across the aisle. I thank the gentleman for all the kind words. They really mean a lot.

I authored this legislation with my colleague, GUS BILIRAKIS, to help reduce rates of suicide in the United States.

Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the U.S. It claimed more than 47,000 lives in 2017, alone.

□ 1600

According to the National Institute of Mental Health, the suicide rate in the U.S. increased by an alarming 31 percent from 2001 to 2017.

In this time of COVID, where the pandemic has taken an untold physical and emotional toll on Americans' health, officials are reporting surges in mental and behavioral health problems.

Studies show that as many as 11 percent of all patients visiting a hospital emergency department are at risk for suicide, but only a fraction of these at-risk patients are ever identified.

Our bill aims to improve the identification, assessment, and treatment of patients in emergency departments who are at high risk of suicide.

It provides \$100 million over a 5-year period to support emergency department programs to prevent suicides specifically by:

Training emergency department clinicians to identify patients with an elevated risk of suicide;

Developing programs to coordinate care and follow-up of those with an elevated risk of suicide;

Supporting the recruitment and retainment of behavioral health professionals who specialize in treating individuals with suicidal tendencies; and

Incentivizing the development of new approaches, such as telehealth, to help those at high risk of suicide.

Our legislation has been endorsed by over 40 mental health advocacy groups, including: the Emergency Nurses Association, the American Nurses Association, the American Psychological Association, the American Psychiatric Association, The Kennedy Forum, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, and Mental Health America.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), a real leader in the area of healthcare and especially mental health services improvement.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman yielding.

I rise today in support of H.R. 4861, the Effective Suicide Screening and Assessment in the Emergency Department Act.

Our Nation remains in the midst of a suicide crisis, Mr. Speaker. Over the past several decades, the suicide rate has risen sharply, increasing by 31 percent since 2001—this is unacceptable—

making suicide the 10th leading cause of death and claiming an estimated 47,000 lives annually.

A 2016 study found that 11 percent of all emergency department patients exhibited suicidal ideation. However, only 3 percent of those patients were diagnosed by current screening tools. Furthermore, about 70 percent of patients who leave the emergency department after a suicide attempt never attend their first outpatient follow-up appointment.

At the same time, emergency departments, which are often the place within our healthcare system that provides care for people who are at risk for suicide, have inconsistent protocols for screening and treating high-risk patients.

For this reason, I introduced with my friend and colleague, a true statesman, Congressman ENGEL, the Effective Suicide Screening and Assessment in the Emergency Department Act.

The bill creates a voluntary HHS program to assist emergency departments in developing protocols for identifying, assessing, and treating individuals at risk for suicide, with preference given to either critical access hospitals or hospitals located in a geographic area with a suicide risk that is higher than the national rate.

Grants last for 2 years, and grantees must submit a report annually on their efforts to improve the identification, assessment, and discharge policies for individuals who are at risk for suicide.

This proactive approach is very vital, because emergency departments are often, again, the first and, sadly, too often, the only point of contact within the healthcare system for those most at risk for suicide, like individuals living with severe mental health conditions or substance use disorders.

With the added physical, mental, emotional, and economic stress this pandemic has inflicted on American lives, there is growing data and a consensus of concern from public health experts and stakeholders that these stressors could lead to even more lives lost to suicide.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass the Effective Suicide Screening and Assessment in the Emergency Department Act to further equip our health providers to recognize and assist these patients in crisis.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers on our side of the aisle, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4861, 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.

## SUICIDE TRAINING AND AWARENESS NATIONALLY DELIVERED FOR UNIVERSAL PREVENTION ACT OF 2020

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7293) to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide best practices on student suicide awareness and prevention training and condition State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and tribal educational agencies receiving funds under section 520A of such Act to establish and implement a school-based student suicide awareness and prevention training policy, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7293

*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 “Suicide Training and Awareness Nationally Delivered for Universal Prevention Act of 2020” or the “STANDUP Act of 2020”.*

### SEC. 2. STUDENT SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION TRAINING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title V of the Public Health Service Act is amended by inserting after section 520A of such Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb-32) the following:

#### “SEC. 520B. STUDENT SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION TRAINING POLICIES.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—As a condition on receipt of funds under section 520A, each State educational agency, local educational agency, and Tribal educational agency that receives such funds, directly or through a State or Indian Tribe, for activities to be performed within secondary schools, including the Project AWARE State Education Agency Grant Program, shall—

“(1) establish and implement a school-based student suicide awareness and prevention training policy;

“(2) consult with stakeholders (including principals, teachers, parents, local Tribal officials, and other school leaders) in the development of the policy under subsection (a)(1); and

“(3) collect and report information in accordance with subsection (c).

“(b) SCHOOL-BASED STUDENT SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION TRAINING POLICY.—A school-based student suicide awareness and prevention training policy implemented pursuant to subsection (a)—

“(1) shall be evidence-based;

“(2) shall be culturally and linguistically appropriate;

“(3) shall provide evidence-based training to students in grades 6 through 12, in coordination with school-based mental health service providers as defined in section 4102(6) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, if applicable, regarding—

“(A) suicide education and awareness, including warning signs of self-harm or suicidal ideation;

“(B) methods that students can use to seek help for themselves and others; and

“(C) student resources for suicide awareness and prevention;

“(4) shall provide for retraining of such students every school year;

“(5) may last for such period as the State educational agency, local educational agency, or Tribal educational agency involved determines to be appropriate;

“(6) may be implemented through any delivery method, including in-person trainings, digital trainings, or train-the-trainer models; and

“(7) may include discussion of comorbidities or risk factors for suicidal ideation or self-harm, including substance misuse, sexual or physical abuse, mental illness, or other evidence-based comorbidities and risk factors.

“(c) COLLECTION OF INFORMATION AND REPORTING.—Each State educational agency, local educational agency, and Tribal educational agency that receives funds under section 520A shall, with respect to each school served by the agency, collect and report to the Secretary the following information:

“(1) The number of student trainings conducted.

“(2) The number of students trained, disaggregated by age and grade level.

“(3) The number of help-seeking reports made by students after implementation of such policy.

“(d) EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAM LISTING.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall coordinate with the Secretary of Education to make publicly available the policies established by State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and Tribal educational agencies pursuant to this section and the training that is available to students and teams pursuant to such policies, including identification of whether such training is available to trainees at no cost.

“(e) IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE.—A State educational agency, local educational agency, or Tribal educational agency shall establish and begin implementation of the policies required by subsection (a)(1) not later than the beginning of the third fiscal year following the date of enactment of this section for which the agency receives funds under section 520A.

“(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section and section 520B-1:

“(1) The term ‘evidence-based’ has the meaning given to such term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

“(2) The term ‘local educational agency’ has the meaning given to such term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

“(3) The term ‘State educational agency’ has the meaning given to such term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

“(4) The term ‘Tribal educational agency’ has the meaning given to the term ‘tribal educational agency’ in section 6132 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

#### “SEC. 520B-1. BEST PRACTICES FOR STUDENT SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION TRAINING.

“The Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of Education and the Bureau of Indian Education, shall—

“(1) publish best practices for school-based student suicide awareness and prevention training, pursuant to section 520B, that are based on—

“(A) evidence-based practices; and

“(B) input from relevant Federal agencies, national organizations, Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations, and related stakeholders;

“(2) publish guidance, based on the best practices under paragraph (1), to provide State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and Tribal educational agencies with information on student suicide awareness and prevention best practices;

“(3) disseminate such best practices to State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and Tribal educational agencies; and

“(4) provide technical assistance to State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and Tribal educational agencies.”.

#### “SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this Act shall only apply with respect to applications for assistance

under section 520A of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb-32) that are submitted after the date of enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. 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 H.R. 7293.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 7293, the Suicide Training and Awareness Nationally Delivered for Universal Prevention Act of 2020, or the STANDUP Act.

As we have heard, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the U.S. However, it is the second leading cause of death for young Americans age 10 to 14, which has tripled since 2007.

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic is already exacerbating these trends. Sandy Hook Promise's 24/7 crisis center, which allows people to identify and help at-risk students, has seen a more than 10 percent increase in suicide tips thus far.

During our hearing on this bill, Arriana Gross, a high school student from Covington, Georgia, testified that: "In our school, a year doesn't go by without a student dying by suicide. I've even known of elementary kids who died by suicide. I am concerned that youth suicide has become so common that my school community and our Nation is stuck in a pattern of mourning and accepting these deaths as something that is normal, instead of seeing them as preventable and tragic."

Again, Mr. Speaker, those are the words of Arriana Gross, a high school student.

Like Arriana, I am concerned.

Despite data that suicide is on the rise, we can act now to help equip students and the communities around them to identify risk factors so they can play an active role in preventing suicide or self-harm.

Now, this bill, H.R. 7293, would encourage schools to expand evidence-based suicide prevention training to students and make public best practices for such training as a condition of receiving funds under the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Project AWARE grant program.

The STANDUP Act would also support technical assistance resources for schools and encourage the collection and reporting of data to track implementation of these policies and practices.

Research, Mr. Speaker, shows that training students on suicide prevention makes an impact on student suicide rates and improves the students' willingness to seek help or to help a peer.

Much of this training is already taking place across thousands of schools nationwide, but the STANDUP Act will help ensure that this good work is expanded to more schools across the country.

So for these reasons, Mr. Speaker, I stand up in support of the STANDUP Act. This is good, bipartisan legislation. I thank the lead sponsors, Representatives SCOTT PETERS, GUS BILIRAKIS, TED DEUTCH, BRIAN FITZPATRICK, and their staffs for their work on this critical issue.

Mr. Speaker, I also thank Mr. WALDEN and the committee staff for working with us on this legislation.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7293, the Suicide Training and Awareness Nationally Delivered for Universal Prevention, or STANDUP, Act of 2020. It was introduced by our Energy and Commerce Committee colleagues, Representative PETERS, who I know we are going to hear from soon, and Representative BILIRAKIS, who we are also going to hear from.

This legislation addresses a key measure in promoting suicide awareness and prevention training among students and young Americans.

Sadly, for the last decade, suicide has been the second leading cause of death for Americans ages 10 to 24 and the 10th leading cause of overall deaths in the United States.

Tragically, this epidemic has only worsened during the COVID-19 epidemic.

Suicide is preventable, and initiatives that empower students with knowledge of the warning signs and resources for prevention are critical in addressing these trends.

We believe, through this legislation, Project AWARE grantees would be empowered to establish school-based suicide awareness and prevention training programs, which will improve student awareness of mental health issues while connecting at-risk individuals to needed health services.

So as we approach the end of September, our nationally recognized Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, it is critical that we continue addressing our Nation's challenges in preventing youth suicide and promoting the mental health and wellness of all.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. PETERS).

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and the chairman for his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, last year, I visited Bernardo Heights Middle School in Rancho Bernardo to meet with students of the school's SAVE Promise Club and the Mental Health Awareness Club.

The kids told me about their efforts to make their peers feel more accepted by creating a culture of kindness and by using their voices to end the stigma surrounding mental health. They explained their work with programs intended to promote inclusivity and to prevent violence by teaching children and adults to identify, intervene, and help those at risk of harming themselves or others.

According to the National Institute of Mental Health, suicide is the second leading cause of death by those 10 to 24 years old, with cases of suicide among Black and other minority youth rapidly rising.

The good news is that adolescent suicide and violence can be prevented if others heed the warning signs.

Seventy percent of those who die by suicide tell someone their plans or demonstrate warning signs ahead of time. Eighty percent of school shooters tell someone their plans ahead of time.

That is why I teamed up with my friend from Florida, Mr. GUS BILIRAKIS, to introduce the bipartisan STANDUP Act.

The Act requires States, schools, and Tribes to implement evidence-based policies to prevent suicides in order to receive Project AWARE grants, which boost youth mental health awareness among schools and communities.

These policies are key to preventing school violence by encouraging early prevention, teaching warning signs, and providing schools with crucial tools to help stop violence before it happens.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Sandy Hook Promise, who helped champion this bill, and for hosting my visit at Bernardo Heights Middle School. Along with them, over 50 student and mental health-focused organizations support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all the Bernardo Heights Bobcats, who care so well for each other's mental health. We want to bring that same spirit, their same spirit, to every school in the country.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass the STANDUP Act to protect our students and enhance school safety.

Go Bobcats.

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Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS).

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the ranking member and the chairman for all of their good work and, of course, Congressman PETERS. This is a great committee, and we get things done, that is for sure.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7293, the Suicide Training and

Awareness Nationally Delivered for Universal Prevention Act, or the STAND-UP Act.

There is no higher priority than keeping our children safe. I think everyone agrees with that. Since 2010, suicide has been the second-leading cause of death for young Americans ages 10–24, unfortunately.

From 2007 to 2015, the number of children and teens visiting emergency rooms for suicide-related injuries doubled. In 2017, 517 Americans aged 10–14, and 6,252 aged 15–24, committed suicide. Sadly, some communities in my district are among those with the highest suicide rates in Florida.

Research has shown that most of these young Americans tell someone that they are contemplating suicide or school violence, and 68 percent of averted violence was stopped because of a student reporting concerns about a threat, plot, or other concerning behavior involving a peer.

The STAND-UP Act encourages States, Tribes, and schools to create policies for student suicide prevention training using SAMHSA-provided best practices, training, and technical assistance.

By providing high-quality screening and prevention training to school staff and peers, threats can be identified before they materialize, and those who are at risk have an opportunity to get the mental health treatment they need and deserve.

I have seen firsthand the power of this particular program through, again, nonprofits, like Sandy Hook Promise. They have been very instrumental in getting this bill done, with their SAVE Promise Club.

My kids have gone to Palm Harbor University. I still have one there, and that is in my district. Mr. Speaker, when properly equipped, students can be empowered to prevent violence in their schools, and I have witnessed the great work that they do in that particular school.

I appreciate the bipartisan work of my colleague, again, Congressman PETERS, and I urge my colleagues to join us in passing this critical piece of legislation to reverse the troubling trend of youth suicide and violence.

We have to get this through the Senate as well and to the President's desk, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers on my side of the aisle on this legislation. I urge its passage, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I also urge passage of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7293, 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.

### BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION GUIDELINES ACT OF 2020

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3539) to amend the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop best practices for the establishment and use of behavioral intervention teams at schools, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3539

*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 "Behavioral Intervention Guidelines Act of 2020".*

#### SEC. 2. BEST PRACTICES FOR BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION TEAMS.

*The Public Health Service Act is amended by inserting after section 520G of such Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb–38) the following new section:*

#### SEC. 520H. BEST PRACTICES FOR BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION TEAMS.

*"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting through the Assistant Secretary, shall develop and periodically update—*

*"(1) best practices to assist elementary schools, secondary schools, and institutions of higher education in establishing and using behavioral intervention teams; and*

*"(2) a list of evidence-based threat assessment training providers to assist personnel in elementary schools, secondary schools, and institutions of higher education in implementing such best practices, including with respect to training behavioral intervention teams.*

*"(b) ELEMENTS.—The best practices under subsection (a)(1) shall include guidance on the following:*

*"(1) How behavioral intervention teams can operate effectively from an evidence-based, objective perspective while protecting the constitutional and civil rights of individuals, including any individual of concern.*

*"(2) The use of behavioral intervention teams to identify individuals of concern, implement interventions, and manage risk through the framework of the school's or institution's rules or code of conduct, as applicable.*

*"(3) How behavioral intervention teams can, when assessing an individual of concern—*

*"(A) seek training on evidence-based, threat-assessment rubrics;*

*"(B) ensure that such teams—*

*"(i) have adequately trained, diverse stakeholders with varied expertise; and*

*"(ii) use cross validation by a wide-range of individual perspectives on the team; and*

*"(C) use violence risk assessment.*

*"(4) How behavioral intervention teams can avoid—*

*"(A) attempting to predict future behavior by the concept of pre-crime;*

*"(B) inappropriately using a mental health assessment;*

*"(C) inappropriately limiting or restricting law enforcement's jurisdiction over criminal matters;*

*"(D) attempting to substitute the behavioral intervention process in place of a criminal process, or impede a criminal process, when an individual of concern's behavior has potential criminal implications;*

*"(E) endangering an individual's privacy by failing to ensure that all applicable Federal and State privacy laws are fully complied with; or*

*"(F) creating school-to-prison pipelines.*

*"(c) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out subsection (a)(1), the Secretary shall consult with—*

*"(1) the Secretary of Education;*

*"(2) the Director of the National Threat Assessment Center of the Department of Homeland Security;*

*"(3) the Attorney General of the United States; and*

*"(4) as appropriate, relevant stakeholders including—*

*"(A) teachers and other educators, principals, school administrators, school board members, school psychologists, mental health professionals, and parents of elementary school and secondary school students;*

*"(B) local law enforcement agencies and campus law enforcement administrators;*

*"(C) mental health mobile crisis providers;*

*"(D) child and adolescent psychiatrists; and*

*"(E) other education and mental health professionals.*

*"(d) PUBLICATION.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall publish the best practices under subsection (a)(1) and the list under subsection (a)(2) on a publicly accessible website of the Department of Health and Human Services.*

*"(e) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall provide technical assistance to institutions of higher education, elementary schools, and secondary schools to assist such institutions and schools in implementing the best practices under subsection (a).*

*"(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:*

*"(1) The term 'behavioral intervention team' means a team of qualified individuals who—*

*"(A) are responsible for identifying and assessing individuals of concern; and*

*"(B) develop and facilitate implementation of evidence-based interventions to mitigate the threat of harm to self or others posed by individuals of concern and address the mental and behavioral health needs of individuals of concern to reduce such threat.*

*"(2) The terms 'elementary school', 'parent', and 'secondary school' have the meanings given to such terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).*

*"(3) The term 'individual of concern' means an individual whose behavior indicates a potential threat to self or others.*

*"(4) The term 'institution of higher education' has the meaning given to such term in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002).*

*"(5) The term 'mental health assessment' means an evaluation, primarily focused on diagnosis, determining the need for involuntary commitment, medication management, and ongoing treatment recommendations.*

*"(6) The term 'pre-crime' means law-enforcement efforts and strategies to deter crime by predicting when and where criminal activity will occur.*

*"(7) The term 'violence risk assessment' refers to a broad determination of the potential risk of violence based on evidence-based literature."*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. 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 H.R. 3539.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 3539, the Behavioral Intervention Guidelines Act of 2020. The champions of this legislation, Representatives DREW FERGUSON, MICHAEL BURGESS, JOE KENNEDY, and JIMMY PANETTA, worked together to help provide improved behavioral health prevention tools to schools and colleges across the country, and I applaud them for their bipartisan efforts.

Behavioral intervention teams are multidisciplinary teams that support students' mental health and emotional well-being by detecting patterns, trends, and disturbances in behavior, and by conducting outreach to students who are unable to manage distress in healthy and constructive ways.

These teams are already active in some educational settings, such as the University of California, Los Angeles; Texas A&M University; and Virginia Tech.

H.R. 3539 requires the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to develop best practices for schools that have or want to have behavioral intervention teams. These best practices would cover the proper use of these teams and how to intervene and avoid inappropriate use of mental health assessments and law enforcement.

These best practices would then be required to be posted publicly on the Department of Health and Human Services website, and HHS would help to provide technical assistance to entities implementing these best practices.

As we have heard, Mr. Speaker, three in four children aged 3–17 with depression also have anxiety. Anxiety and depression are two top mental health concerns among college students as well. Unfortunately, recent data found that over 80 percent of young people with mental health needs did not receive the care they needed.

Young people in crisis should be able to access the care they need or be able to find support from peers who can direct them toward appropriate services, and this bill helps bridge that gap.

Again, I want to thank the Democrats and Republicans on my committee, including Ranking Member WALDEN, for working together to put this legislation in shape, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3539, the Behavioral Intervention Guidelines Act, introduced by Representatives FERGUSON, BURGESS, KENNEDY, and PANETTA.

This important bill authorizes the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to develop best practices for establishing and using behavioral intervention teams in elementary schools, secondary schools, and institutions of higher education.

Behavioral intervention teams are multidisciplinary teams that support students' mental health and wellness by identifying students experiencing stress, anxiety, or other behavioral disturbances, and conducting intervention and outreach to these students to help manage risk. These teams are already active in some educational institutions such as Texas Tech University and the University of California, Los Angeles.

By acting in a proactive manner to assist students and to connect them with needed resources, behavioral intervention teams help schools create a safe environment for their students and improve mental health outcomes in young people.

I urge support of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. FERGUSON), the deputy whip of the House on the Republican side of the aisle, one of the authors of this important legislation.

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the chairman and the ranking member for this opportunity, and I rise to support H.R. 3539.

Every American wants to live in a safe community, and children deserve to be able to go to safe schools. But all too often, that safety has been ruined by violence to self or others.

The Behavioral Intervention Guidelines, or BIG, Act combats this mental health epidemic head-on by providing local communities and school systems with the tools they need to help identify those most in need.

All across the country, schools like Columbus State University in my home State of Georgia and Texas Tech in Lubbock, Texas, have implemented behavioral intervention programs following the 2008 tragedy at Virginia Tech.

Dr. Chip Reese at Columbus State University and other university leaders, like Dr. Billy Phillips at Texas Tech, report that, as a result of these programs, they have seen universities' culture change and are helping to get at-risk students back on the right track.

This important legislation would foster this approach by providing Federal guidance in the form of best practices. Once established, these best practices will be disseminated on the HHS website, and HHS would provide technical assistance for elementary, secondary, and higher education institutions that are looking to create their own behavioral health intervention teams.

Now more than ever, our students should have the proper resources and a supportive community around them to benefit their mental health. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation.

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

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

I thank my colleague for his work on this important legislation.

I want to turn now and use the remainder of the time to recognize the fact that we all work hard on our legislation, but it doesn't get all the way here and all the way through without terrific staff. We are blessed on the Energy and Commerce Committee by having really terrific staff, from top to bottom.

But today, I especially want to recognize and thank Mike Bloomquist, my staff director at the Energy and Commerce Committee. He has served as staff director of the Energy and Commerce Committee Republicans both during the 115th Congress and the 116th Congress.

He previously served as committee deputy staff director, general counsel, deputy general counsel, and then as general counsel to the 2011 Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction. He has spent time in private law practice, at the Committee on Science, and in the Office of the Solicitor at the U.S. Department of the Interior.

He has been an invaluable leader of the Energy and Commerce Committee staff. He is a trusted counselor. He is a sought-after mentor and a go-to resource for staff and Members alike, both on and off the committee.

He will be leaving us at the end of this month to pursue private-sector endeavors. But I just want to say, he has been a real friend to me, a real counselor to me, and an incredibly solid leader for our team. He has helped us shepherd major legislation through the House, which has undoubtedly improved the lives of Americans, through his time as a public servant.

I think we all wish him the very best in his new endeavor and are thankful to his wife, Christie, and their three daughters for lending us their dad so often on nights and weekends and for phone calls, text messages, and more phone calls from me, day and night.

He has just been terrific to work with. We wish him Godspeed in his next endeavor.

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

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

I don't have any additional speakers, but I do want also to praise Mike Bloomquist.

He is now the Republican staff director, but he has had several tours with the committee. He worked on some major legislation in the committee. I think of 21st Century Cures, robocalls, and, even today, getting the cyber bills passed, which was not an easy task, as you know, Mike.

I know that our Ranking Member WALDEN mentioned your family. I don't know how your family puts up with any of the things we do because I know the many hours that you have to spend. So, again, thank your family for sharing you.

I wish you well in your future endeavors as well.

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

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

I would just conclude my remarks by, again, speaking in favor of the underlying legislation, but also thanking Mike and his team for doing such a great job throughout this Congress and the preceding one to help all of us come together and solve the Nation's problems to the best of our ability. They really are a talented team, and we have been fortunate to have Mike at the helm.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge support for the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3539, 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.

□ 1630

#### CREATING HOPE REAUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4439) to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to make permanent the authority of the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue priority review vouchers to encourage treatments for rare pediatric diseases, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4439

*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 "Creating Hope Reauthorization Act".

#### SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO ISSUE PRIORITY REVIEW VOUCHERS TO ENCOURAGE TREATMENTS FOR RARE PEDIATRIC DISEASES.

Section 529(b)(5) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 360ff(b)(5)) is amended—

(1) by striking "December 11, 2020" each place it appears and inserting "September 30, 2024"; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking "December 11, 2022" and inserting "September 30, 2026".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. 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 H.R. 4439.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4439 would extend the pediatric rare disease priority review voucher program at the Food and Drug Administration. This priority review voucher, or PRV, was originally created in 2012 with the intent to create an incentive for drug manufacturers to develop therapies for rare pediatric diseases that affect neonates, infants, children, and adolescents.

The program requires FDA to award a PRV to the sponsor of an application that receives approval as a drug or biologic to treat a rare pediatric disease. Since the program's creation, 22 of these PRVs have been awarded, with five awards in 2019.

Now, I have long been a supporter of increased research and development of treatments for rare diseases, and I am proud that our committee was able to come to consensus on a reasonable extension of this program. Nevertheless, some observers of this program have shown our committee evidence that the PRV program has not provided the incentive value intended by Congress when it was first enacted.

This program was supposed to incentivize new development of pediatric products that would not otherwise have occurred. However, the Government Accountability Office reviewed the program and concluded that the agency could not find definitive evidence that the program is incentivizing pediatric drug development. Additionally, FDA has said that PRVs drain agency resources away from the agency's public health mission and have a negative impact on the morale of agency staff.

For these reasons, I could not support a permanent reauthorization of the program. But I recognize that many pharmaceutical developers have argued that the PRV provides an incentive for drug development, with one going so far as to say that the PRV was a pivotal consideration for making investments. I worked with Representatives BUTTERFIELD, the bill's sponsor, and Ranking Member WALDEN, as well, to support a reauthorization of the program for 4 years.

Mr. Speaker, the Energy and Commerce Committee will continue to provide oversight to examine the effectiveness of this program and its effect on FDA resources. The committee will also carefully scrutinize it with hopes that it serves its intended purpose and leads to new treatments and cures for rare pediatric diseases.

With this hope, Mr. Speaker, I ask Members to support this bipartisan bill. I urge the Senate to swiftly take action on H.R. 4439, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4439, the Creating Hope Reau-

thorization Act, introduced by our colleagues, Representative BUTTERFIELD and Representative McCaul. This bill extends the pediatric priority review voucher program for an additional 4 years.

This program, which has had bipartisan support since it was first created in 2012 with the passage of the Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act, aims to incentivize the development of therapies to treat rare pediatric diseases.

The pediatric PRV program has already proven successful in encouraging innovation. In fact, 22 therapies have been approved for the treatment of 18 rare pediatric diseases since its inception. However, we still have a long way to go. Nearly 95 percent of all rare diseases do not have an FDA-approved treatment, leaving many patients with no options.

This long-term reauthorization of the program will provide certainty to those currently developing or considering investment in innovative therapies to treat rare pediatric diseases.

Bipartisan bills that encourage biomedical innovation like the one we are considering today mean continued hope for children and their families that, one day, there will be a treatment and that there will be a cure.

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

Mr. PALLONE. I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS).

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4439, the Creating Hope Reauthorization Act.

Tragically, pediatric cancer remains the number one disease that leads to the death of American children. While survival rates have improved for some types of pediatric cancers, thousands of children are lost to cancer each year, and many more encounter life-threatening complications relating to harsh chemotherapies.

Children have significantly fewer treatment options than adults. Mr. Speaker, and oftentimes must rely on treatment regimens developed for adults because pediatric-specific treatments simply do not exist. Unfortunately, as the popular healthcare adage goes, children are not little adults.

Despite their significant need, pharmaceutical companies have had trouble developing treatments for pediatric cancer and rare diseases because of the small population and high cost of bringing these specific treatments to market.

FDA's priority review voucher program has proven to be a boon to incentivizing the development of therapies to treat rare pediatric diseases. While progress has been made in the development of pediatric therapies—in fact, 22 therapies have been approved

for the treatment of 18 rare pediatric diseases since 2012, which is really great—there is still more work to be done however. Nearly 95 percent of all rare diseases do not have an FDA-approved treatment, leaving many patients without options.

As co-chair of the Rare Disease Caucus, I sincerely appreciate the good work from Ranking Member McCaul, of course, the ranking member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the chairman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce for bringing this bill forward, and also Congressman BUTTERFIELD.

So, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join us in passing the Creating Hope Reauthorization Act, which will extend this vital innovation life-line for rare pediatric treatments and cures at FDA.

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

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCaul), who is a serious leader on this issue and has been for a long time.

Mr. McCaul. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the ranking member, Mr. WALDEN, from Oregon for his steadfast support on this issue. I want to thank the chairman for getting to this point where we are back on the floor, and the Energy and Commerce Committee, in general, for its support of this bill 4 years ago and, now, a 4-year reauthorization.

As the founder and co-chair of the Childhood Cancer Caucus, I have met with countless cancer patients and advocates who have asked me for one thing: hope. They want meaningful hope, something realistic and something tangible, better cures, safer treatment, and more research dollars.

So, alongside my colleagues, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. KELLY, and Ms. SPEIER, we have used the Childhood Cancer Caucus to produce that hope. This caucus has yielded tangible results for the hundreds of thousands of patients, advocates, and parents who were just hoping for better results.

When we first started this caucus over a decade ago, there were only two new drugs developed to specifically treat pediatric cancer in the prior 20 years. I would talk to these children and their parents, and they would tell me that the cancer just had no treatment, or if there was a treatment, it was of a drug developed in the 1960s or older.

Many of these drugs were meant to be used by adults, and their intent was to kill the cancer before it killed the person. That is why Mr. BUTTERFIELD and I worked together to pass the original Creating Hope Act in 2011, to try to create a market to get more pediatric cancer and rare disease drugs approved in this country.

Specifically, our bill created a voucher award within the FDA where companies that developed rare pediatric disease drugs have priority on future products that could save kids' lives.

I am happy to report that this program has been very successful. Since 2014 when the first voucher was issued, 22 new drugs for rare diseases in kids have been approved by the FDA, including two drugs for childhood cancers, with more expected on the way.

I have seen, firsthand, the wonders of this program.

In September of 2013, a constituent of mine named Rex Ryan was diagnosed with stage 4 neuroblastoma at just 18 months old. After exhausting all options, Rex was blessed to have received a novel new drug that was developed and approved in part because of the incentive of the Creating Hope Act. Rex is now cancer free and a healthy third grader saved by the drug developed because of this program.

It is for Rex and all the other children who have been saved because of this program and will be saved because of this program that I stand here today in support of the bill.

I think, most remarkably, of a dear friend of mine, Dr. Allison from MD Anderson Cancer Center, who had a childhood cancer clinical trial going and was able to use the voucher program to obtain FDA approval for a treatment now called immunotherapy. Immunotherapy is a breakthrough in cancer treatment not just for children but for all adults. He got the Nobel Prize in medicine for it.

While this bill before us today reauthorizes the program for another 4 years, I would hope to see, when we come back again, that this program will be made permanent. So I look forward to working with my colleagues in the Congress to achieve that goal.

I appreciate the support from the advocates and members of my team, especially my outgoing legislative director, THOMAS RICE, who spent countless hours meeting with the advocates, the brains behind the operation, and Nancy Goodman, who gave us all these great ideas to develop four major pieces of legislation. I can't thank THOMAS enough for all his great work.

Together, we can and will defeat childhood cancer. It is vital that we keep this program alive so that we keep hope alive for the hundreds of thousands of children and their families who are waiting for the big break of a treatment.

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague from Texas for his great leadership on this issue. I encourage our colleagues to vote for this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I also urge support for the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4439, the "Creating Hope Reauthorization Act," which amends the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to make permanent the authority of the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue priority review vouchers to encourage treatments for rare pediatric diseases.

Under Section 529 to the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act), FDA will

award priority review vouchers to sponsors of rare pediatric disease product applications that meet certain criteria.

By definition, rare diseases do not affect much of the population, so there is little financial gain for pharmaceutical companies.

The U.S. government has created the Orphan Drug Act and the rare pediatric disease priority review voucher programs to add financial incentives for development of medicines, which is making the development of drugs for rare diseases more common.

However, many of the drugs for rare diseases are approved for adults.

Physicians sometimes have no choice but to prescribe offlabel use of such drugs for children.

Drugs for rare diseases, whether approved for pediatric patients or being used off label, often come in formats that are inappropriate for children.

Most young children have trouble swallowing tablets or capsules, and many children are sensitive to bitter-tasting drugs.

Sometimes, however, such formats are all that is available, which can lead to difficulty in effectively treating young patients.

This is why H.R. 4439, the "Creating Hope Reauthorization Act" is needed.

Under this program reinstated by this bill, a sponsor who receives an approval for a drug or biologic for a "rare pediatric disease" may qualify for a voucher that can be redeemed to receive a priority review of a subsequent marketing application for a different product.

Without the passage of this bill, according to the current statutory sunset provisions for the Rare Pediatric Disease Priority Review Voucher Program, after September 30, 2020, which means the FDA may only award a voucher for an approved rare pediatric disease product application if the sponsor has rare pediatric disease designation for the drug, and that designation was granted by September 30, 2020.

Further, without this bill after September 30, 2022, FDA may not award any rare pediatric disease priority review vouchers.

Enactment of this bill will mean that requests for rare pediatric disease designation submitted within two weeks of a request for fast track designation or orphan drug designation are entitled to a 60-day review.

Requests for rare pediatric disease designation not submitted with a request for fast track designation or orphan drug designation are reviewed in a timely manner, however, the 60-day response time does not apply.

It is important for us to act today, because Friday, July 31, 2020, is the last business day that is not less than 60 days prior to September 30, 2020.

The Offices of Orphan Products Development and Pediatric Therapeutics will continue to review all rare pediatric disease designation requests, but they cannot commit to providing a response to requests received after July 31, 2020.

Pediatric rare diseases have received increased attention in recent years due to greater public awareness, significantly improved understanding and treatment.

Rare diseases can be difficult to diagnose in children, and many physicians do not have the proper training and knowledge to diagnose such diseases.

According to a 2014 Medscape Multispecialty article, the average patient with a rare disease sees 7.3 physicians before diagnosis,

and 70 percent of physicians believe additional training in rare diseases would be helpful.

A rare disease can spread and worsen during the lengthy time before diagnosis and the start of the proper treatment.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4439, the Creating Hope Reauthorization Act. I'm proud to have advanced this bipartisan bill through my Health Subcommittee and I'm pleased to support it on the Floor today.

The Creating Hope Reauthorization Act sponsored by Representative G.K. BUTTERFIELD helps children access pediatric cancer drugs.

Pediatric cancer is the number one disease killer of American children, but pharmaceutical companies often avoid developing pediatric cancer drugs because of the small market and the high risks associated with studying and testing drugs for children.

The Creating Hope Reauthorization Act provides incentives for the research and development of pediatric cancer drugs by providing the developers with the valuable Priority Review Vouchers which allow the recipient to speed up the FDA review of any one of its new drug products.

Since its passage the GAO studied the pediatric priority review vouchers and found that pharmaceutical developers said Priority Review Vouchers were a factor in drug development decisions.

Dr. Crystal Mackall of the Stanford Center for Cancer Cell Therapy said that, "The voucher program has been remarkably impactful for childhood cancers. Before the program, I used to go with my hat in hand to beg investors to consider a potential drug. Now people take a second look and are interested in developing drugs. We're just getting started on this new way of thinking about children's drugs. The voucher program required a culture change around how to think of the pediatric drug business model, which in the drug development world could take a while."

As Dr. Mackall said, this program seeks to shift decision-making early in the lengthy drug development cycle. A lengthy reauthorization of 4 years as offered in the AINS will be beneficial for this decision-making and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4439, 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 amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to extend the authority of the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue priority review vouchers to encourage treatments for rare pediatric diseases."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1645

## GRID SECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT

Mr. BERA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5760) to provide for a comprehensive interdisciplinary research, development, and demonstration initiative to strengthen the capacity of the energy sector to prepare for and withstand cyber and physical attacks, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5760

*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 "Grid Security Research and Development Act".*

### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

*Congress finds the following:*

*(1) The Nation, and every critical infrastructure sector, depends on reliable electricity.*

*(2) Intelligent electronic devices, advanced analytics, and information systems used across the energy sector are essential to maintaining reliable operation of the electric grid.*

*(3) The cybersecurity threat landscape is constantly changing and attacker capabilities are advancing rapidly, requiring ongoing modifications, advancements, and investments in technologies and procedures to maintain security.*

*(4) It is in the national interest for Federal agencies to invest in cybersecurity research that informs and facilitates private sector investment and use of advanced cybersecurity tools and procedures to protect information systems.*

*(5) The number of devices and systems connecting to the electric grid is increasing, and integrating cybersecurity protections into information systems when they are built is more effective than modifying products after installation to meet cybersecurity goals.*

*(6) An understanding of human factors can be leveraged to understand the behavior of cyber threat actors, develop strategies to counter threat actors, improve cybersecurity training programs, optimize the design of human-machine interfaces and cybersecurity tools, and increase the capacity of the energy sector workforce to prevent unauthorized access to critical systems.*

### SEC. 3. AMENDMENT TO ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY ACT OF 2007.

*Title XIII of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17381 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:*

### SEC. 1310. ENERGY SECTOR SECURITY RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

*"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in coordination with appropriate Federal agencies, the Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council, the Electric Reliability Organization, State, tribal, local, and territorial governments, the private sector, and other relevant stakeholders, shall carry out a research, development, and demonstration program to protect the electric grid and energy systems, including assets connected to the distribution grid, from cyber and physical attacks by increasing the cyber and physical security capabilities of the energy sector and accelerating the development of relevant technologies and tools.*

*"(b) DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY.—As part of the initiative described in subsection (a), the Secretary shall award research, development, and demonstration grants to—*

*"(1) identify cybersecurity risks to information systems within, and impacting, the electricity sector, energy systems, and energy infrastructure;*

*"(2) develop methods and tools to rapidly detect cyber intrusions and cyber incidents, including through the use of data and big data analytics techniques, such as intrusion detection, and security information and event management systems, to validate and verify system behavior;*

*"(3) assess emerging cybersecurity capabilities that could be applied to energy systems and develop technologies that integrate cybersecurity features and procedures into the design and development of existing and emerging grid technologies, including renewable energy, storage, and demand-side management technologies;*

*"(4) identify existing vulnerabilities in intelligent electronic devices, advanced analytics systems, and information systems;*

*"(5) work with relevant entities to develop technologies or concepts that build or retrofit cybersecurity features and procedures into—*

*"(A) information and energy management system devices, components, software, firmware, and hardware, including distributed control and management systems, and building management systems;*

*"(B) data storage systems, data management systems, and data analysis processes;*

*"(C) automated- and manually-controlled devices and equipment for monitoring and stabilizing the electric grid;*

*"(D) technologies used to synchronize time and develop guidance for operational contingency plans when time synchronization technologies, are compromised;*

*"(E) power system delivery and end user systems and devices that connect to the grid, including—*

*"(i) meters, phasor measurement units, and other sensors;*

*"(ii) distribution automation technologies, smart inverters, and other grid control technologies;*

*"(iii) distributed generation, energy storage, and other distributed energy technologies;*

*"(iv) demand response technologies;*

*"(v) home and building energy management and control systems;*

*"(vi) electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles and electric vehicle charging systems; and*

*"(vii) other relevant devices, software, firmware, and hardware; and*

*"(F) the supply chain of electric grid management system components;*

*"(6) develop technologies that improve the physical security of information systems, including remote assets;*

*"(7) integrate human factors research into the design and development of advanced tools and processes for dynamic monitoring, detection, protection, mitigation, response, and cyber situational awareness;*

*"(8) evaluate and understand the potential consequences of practices used to maintain the cybersecurity of information systems and intelligent electronic devices;*

*"(9) develop or expand the capabilities of existing cybersecurity test beds to simulate impacts of cyber attacks and combined cyber-physical attacks on information systems and electronic devices, including by increasing access to existing and emerging test beds for cooperative utilities, utilities owned by a political subdivision of a State, such as municipally-owned electric utilities, and other relevant stakeholders; and*

*"(10) develop technologies that reduce the cost of implementing effective cybersecurity technologies and tools, including updates to these technologies and tools, in the energy sector.*

*"(c) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.—The National Science Foundation, in coordination with other Federal agencies as appropriate, shall through its cybersecurity research and development programs—*

*"(1) support basic research to advance knowledge, applications, technologies, and tools to strengthen the cybersecurity of information systems, including electric grid and energy systems, including interdisciplinary research in—*

“(A) evolutionary systems, theories, mathematics, and models;

“(B) economic and financial theories, mathematics, and models; and

“(C) big data analytical methods, mathematics, computer coding, and algorithms; and

“(2) support cybersecurity education and training focused on information systems for the electric grid and energy workforce, including through the Advanced Technological Education program, the Cybercorps program, graduate research fellowships, and other appropriate programs.

“(d) DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DIRECTORATE.—The Science and Technology Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security shall coordinate with the Department of Energy, the private sector, and other relevant stakeholders, to research existing cybersecurity technologies and tools used in the defense industry in order to—

“(1) identify technologies and tools that may meet civilian energy sector cybersecurity needs;

“(2) develop a research strategy that incorporates human factors research findings to guide the modification of defense industry cybersecurity tools for use in the civilian sector;

“(3) develop a strategy to accelerate efforts to bring modified defense industry cybersecurity tools to the civilian market; and

“(4) carry out other activities the Secretary of Homeland Security considers appropriate to meet the goals of this subsection.

**SEC. 1311. GRID RESILIENCE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE.**

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the enactment of the Grid Security Research and Development Act, the Secretary shall establish a research, development, and demonstration program to enhance resilience and strengthen emergency response and management pertaining to the energy sector.

“(b) GRANTS.—The Secretary shall award grants to eligible entities under subsection (c) on a competitive basis to conduct research and development with the purpose of improving the resilience and reliability of electric grid by—

“(1) developing methods to improve community and governmental preparation for and emergency response to large-area, long-duration electricity interruptions, including through the use of energy efficiency, storage, and distributed generation technologies;

“(2) developing tools to help utilities and communities ensure the continuous delivery of electricity to critical facilities;

“(3) developing tools to improve coordination between utilities and relevant Federal agencies to enable communication, information-sharing, and situational awareness in the event of a physical or cyber-attack on the electric grid;

“(4) developing technologies and capabilities to withstand and address the current and projected impact of the changing climate on energy sector infrastructure, including extreme weather events and other natural disasters;

“(5) developing technologies capable of early detection of malfunctioning electrical equipment on the transmission and distribution grid, including detection of spark ignition causing wildfires and risks of vegetation contact;

“(6) assessing upgrades and additions needed to energy sector infrastructure due to projected changes in the energy generation mix and energy demand; and

“(7) upgrading tools used to estimate the costs of outages longer than 24 hours.

“(8) developing tools and technologies to assist with the planning, safe execution of, and safe and timely restoration of power after emergency power shut offs, such as those conducted to reduce risks of wildfires started by grid infrastructure.

“(c) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—The entities eligible to receive grants under this section include—

“(1) an institution of higher education;

“(2) a nonprofit organization;

“(3) a National Laboratory;

“(4) a unit of State, local, or tribal government;

“(5) an electric utility or electric cooperative;

“(6) a retail service provider of electricity;

“(7) a private commercial entity;

“(8) a partnership or consortium of 2 or more entities described in subparagraphs (1) through (7), and

“(9) any other entities the Secretary deems appropriate.

“(d) RELEVANT ACTIVITIES.—Grants awarded under subsection (b) shall include funding for research and development activities related to the purpose described in subsection (b), such as—

“(1) development of technologies to use distributed energy resources, such as solar photovoltaics, energy storage systems, electric vehicles, and microgrids, to improve grid and critical end-user resilience;

“(2) analysis of non-technical barriers to greater integration and use of technologies on the distribution grid;

“(3) analysis of past large-area, long-duration electricity interruptions to identify common elements and best practices for electricity restoration, mitigation, and prevention of future disruptions;

“(4) development of advanced monitoring, analytics, operation, and controls of electric grid systems to improve electric grid resilience;

“(5) analysis of technologies, methods, and concepts that can improve community resilience and survivability of frequent or long-duration power outages;

“(6) development of methodologies to maintain cybersecurity during restoration of energy sector infrastructure and operation;

“(7) development of advanced power flow control systems and components to improve electric grid resilience; and

“(8) any other relevant activities determined by the Secretary.

“(e) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide technical assistance to eligible entities for the commercial application of technologies to improve the resilience of the electric grid and commercial application of technologies to help entities develop plans for preventing and recovering from various power outage scenarios at the local, regional, and State level.

“(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—The commercial application technical assistance program established in paragraph (1) shall include assistance to eligible entities for—

“(A) the commercial application of technologies developed from the grant program established in subsection (b), including cooperative utilities and utilities owned by a political subdivision of a State, such as municipally-owned electric utilities;

“(B) the development of methods to strengthen or otherwise mitigate adverse impacts on electric grid infrastructure against natural hazards;

“(C) the use of Department data and modeling tools for various purposes;

“(D) a resource assessment and analysis of future demand and distribution requirements, including development of advanced grid architectures and risk analysis; and

“(E) the development of tools and technologies to coordinate data across relevant entities to promote resilience and wildfire prevention in the planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of transmission infrastructure;

“(F) analysis to predict the likelihood of extreme weather events to inform the planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of transmission infrastructure in consultation with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and

“(G) the commercial application of relevant technologies, such as distributed energy resources, microgrids, or other energy technologies, to establish backup power for users or facilities affected by emergency power shutoffs.

“(3) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—The entities eligible to receive technical assistance for commercial application of technologies under this section include—

“(A) representatives of all sectors of the electric power industry, including electric utilities, trade organizations, and transmission and distribution system organizations, owners, and operators;

“(B) State and local governments and regulatory authorities, including public utility commissions;

“(C) tribal and Alaska Native governmental entities;

“(D) partnerships among entities under subparagraphs (A) through (C);

“(E) regional partnerships; and

“(F) any other entities the Secretary deems appropriate.

“(4) AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this section shall authorize the Secretary to require any entity to adopt any model, tool, technology, plan, analysis, or assessment.

**SEC. 1312. BEST PRACTICES AND GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS FOR ENERGY SECTOR CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH.**

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in coordination with appropriate Federal agencies, the Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council, standards development organizations, State, tribal, local, and territorial governments, the private sector, public utility commissions, and other relevant stakeholders, shall coordinate the development of guidance documents for research, development, and demonstration activities to improve the cybersecurity capabilities of the energy sector through participating agencies. As part of these activities, the Secretary shall—

“(I) facilitate stakeholder involvement to update—

“(A) the Roadmap to Achieve Energy Delivery Systems Cybersecurity;

“(B) the Cybersecurity Procurement Language for Energy Delivery Systems, including developing guidance for—

“(i) contracting with third parties to conduct vulnerability testing for information systems used across the energy production, delivery, storage, and end use systems;

“(ii) contracting with third parties that utilize transient devices to access information systems; and

“(iii) managing supply chain risks; and

“(C) the Electricity Subsector Cybersecurity Capability Maturity Model, including the development of metrics to measure changes in cybersecurity readiness; and

“(2) develop voluntary guidance to improve digital forensic analysis capabilities, including—

“(A) developing standardized terminology and monitoring processes; and

“(B) utilizing human factors research to develop more effective procedures for logging incident events; and

“(3) work with the National Science Foundation, Department of Homeland Security, and stakeholders to develop a mechanism to anonymize, aggregate, and share the testing results from cybersecurity test beds to facilitate technology improvements by public and private sector researchers.

“(b) BEST PRACTICES.—The Secretary, in collaboration with the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology and other appropriate Federal agencies, shall convene relevant stakeholders and facilitate the development of—

“(I) consensus-based best practices to improve cybersecurity for—

“(A) emerging energy technologies;

“(B) distributed generation and storage technologies, and other distributed energy resources;

“(C) electric vehicles and electric vehicle charging stations; and

“(D) other technologies and devices that connect to the electric grid;

“(2) recommended cybersecurity designs and technical requirements that can be used by the private sector to design and build interoperable cybersecurity features into technologies that connect to the electric grid, including networked devices and components on distribution systems; and

“(3) technical analysis that can be used by the private sector in developing best practices for test beds and test bed methodologies that will enable reproducible testing of cybersecurity protections for information systems, electronic devices, and other relevant components, software, and hardware across test beds.

“(c) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—None of the activities authorized in this section shall be construed to authorize regulatory actions. Additionally, the voluntary standards developed under this section shall not duplicate or conflict with mandatory reliability standards.

**“SEC. 1313. VULNERABILITY TESTING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO IMPROVE CYBERSECURITY.**

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

“(1) coordinate with energy sector asset owners and operators, leveraging the research facilities and expertise of the National Laboratories, to assist entities in developing testing capabilities by—

“(A) utilizing a range of methods to identify vulnerabilities in physical and cyber systems;

“(B) developing cybersecurity risk assessment tools and providing analyses and recommendations to participating stakeholders; and

“(C) working with stakeholders to develop methods to share anonymized and aggregated test results to assist relevant stakeholders in the energy sector, researchers, and the private sector to advance cybersecurity efforts, technologies, and tools;

“(2) collaborate with relevant stakeholders, including public utility commissions, to—

“(A) identify information, research, staff training, and analytical tools needed to evaluate cybersecurity issues and challenges in the energy sector; and

“(B) facilitate the sharing of information and the development of tools identified under subparagraph (A);

“(3) collaborate with tribal governments to identify information, research, and analysis tools needed by tribal governments to increase the cybersecurity of energy assets within their jurisdiction.

**“SEC. 1314. EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE TRAINING RESEARCH AND STANDARDS.**

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall support the development of a cybersecurity workforce through a program that—

“(1) facilitates collaboration between undergraduate and graduate students, researchers at the National Laboratories, and the private sector;

“(2) prioritizes science and technology in areas relevant to the mission of the Department of Energy through the design and application of cybersecurity technologies;

“(3) develops, or facilitates private sector development of, voluntary cybersecurity training and retraining standards, lessons, and recommendations for the energy sector that minimize duplication of cybersecurity compliance training programs; and

“(4) maintains a public database of cybersecurity education, training, and certification programs.

“(b) GRID RESILIENCE TECHNOLOGY TRAINING.—The Secretary shall support the development of the grid workforce through a training program that prioritizes activities that enhance the resilience of the electric grid and energy sector infrastructure, including training on the use of tools, technologies, and methods developed under the grant program established in section 1311(b).

“(c) COLLABORATION.—In carrying out the program authorized in subsection (a) and (b), the Secretary shall leverage programs and ac-

tivities carried out across the Department of Energy, other relevant Federal agencies, institutions of higher education, and other appropriate entities best suited to provide national leadership on cybersecurity and grid resilience-related issues.

**“SEC. 1315. INTERAGENCY COORDINATION AND STRATEGIC PLAN FOR ENERGY SECTOR CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH.**

“(a) DUTIES.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Energy Sector Government Coordinating Council, shall—

“(1) review the most recent versions of the Roadmap to Achieve Energy Delivery Systems Cybersecurity and the Multi-Year Program Plan for Energy Sector Cybersecurity to identify crosscutting energy sector cybersecurity research needs and opportunities for collaboration among Federal agencies and other relevant stakeholders;

“(2) identify interdisciplinary research, technology, and tools that can be applied to cybersecurity challenges in the energy sector;

“(3) identify technology transfer opportunities to accelerate the development and commercial application of novel cybersecurity technologies, systems, and processes in the energy sector; and

“(4) develop a coordinated Interagency Strategic Plan for research to advance cybersecurity capabilities used in the energy sector that builds on the Roadmap to Achieve Energy Delivery Systems Cybersecurity and the Multi-Year Program Plan for Energy Sector Cybersecurity.

“(b) INTERAGENCY STRATEGIC PLAN.—

“(1) SUBMITTAL.—The Interagency Strategic Plan developed under subsection (a)(4) shall be submitted to Congress and made public within 12 months after the date of enactment of the Grid Security Research and Development Act.

“(2) CONTENTS.—The Interagency Strategic Plan shall include—

“(A) an analysis of how existing cybersecurity research efforts across the Federal Government are advancing the goals of the Roadmap to Achieve Energy Delivery Systems Cybersecurity and the Multi-Year Program Plan for Energy Sector Cybersecurity;

“(B) recommendations for research areas that may advance the cybersecurity of the energy sector;

“(C) an overview of existing and proposed public and private sector research efforts that address the topics outlined in paragraph (3); and

“(D) an overview of needed support for workforce training in cybersecurity for the energy sector.

“(3) CONSIDERATIONS.—In developing the Interagency Strategic Plan, the Secretary, in coordination with the Energy Sector Government Coordinating Council, shall consider—

“(A) opportunities for human factors research to improve the design and effectiveness of cybersecurity devices, technologies, tools, processes, and training programs;

“(B) contributions of other disciplines to the development of innovative cybersecurity procedures, devices, components, technologies, and tools;

“(C) opportunities for technology transfer programs to facilitate private sector development of cybersecurity procedures, devices, components, technologies, and tools for the energy sector;

“(D) broader applications of the work done by relevant Federal agencies to advance the cybersecurity of information systems and data analytics systems for the energy sector; and

“(E) activities called for in the Federal cybersecurity research and development strategic plan required by section 201(a)(1) of the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2014 (15 U.S.C. 7431(a)(1)).

“(c) PARTICIPATION.—For the purposes of carrying out this section, the Energy Sector Government Coordinating Council shall include representatives from Federal agencies with exper-

tise in the energy sector, information systems, data analytics, cyber and physical systems, engineering, human factors research, human-machine interfaces, high performance computing, big data and data analytics, or other disciplines considered appropriate by the Council Chair.

**“SEC. 1316. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

“(a) BALANCING RISKS, INCREASING SECURITY, AND IMPROVING MODERNIZATION.—

“(1) STUDY.—The Secretary, in collaboration with the National Institute of Standards and Technology, other Federal agencies, and energy sector stakeholders, in order to provide recommendations for additional research, development, demonstration, and commercial application activities, shall—

“(A) analyze physical and cyber attacks on energy sector infrastructure and information systems and identify cost-effective opportunities to improve physical and cyber security; and

“(B) examine the risks associated with increasing penetration of digital technologies in grid networks, particularly on the distribution grid.

“(2) CONTENT.—The study shall—

“(A) analyze processes, operational procedures, and other factors common among cyber attacks;

“(B) identify areas where human behavior plays a critical role in maintaining or compromising the security of a system;

“(C) recommend—

“(i) changes to the design of devices, human-machine interfaces, technologies, tools, processes, or procedures to optimize security that do not require a change in human behavior; and

“(ii) training techniques to increase the capacity of employees to actively identify, prevent, or neutralize the impact of cyber attacks;

“(D) evaluate existing engineering and technical design criteria and guidelines that incorporate human factors research findings, and recommend criteria and guidelines for cybersecurity tools that can be used to develop display systems for cybersecurity monitoring, such as alarms, user-friendly displays, and layouts;

“(E) evaluate the cybersecurity risks and benefits of various design and architecture options for energy sector systems, networked grid systems and components, and automation systems, including consideration of—

“(i) designs that include both digital and analog control devices and technologies;

“(ii) different communication technologies used to transfer information and data between control system devices, technologies, and system operators;

“(iii) automated and human-in-the-loop devices and technologies;

“(iv) programmable versus nonprogrammable devices and technologies;

“(v) increased redundancy using dissimilar cybersecurity technologies; and

“(vi) grid architectures that use autonomous functions to limit control vulnerabilities; and

“(F) recommend methods or metrics to document changes in risks associated with system designs and architectures.

“(3) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study, the Secretary shall consult with energy sector stakeholders, academic researchers, the private sector, and other relevant stakeholders.

“(4) REPORT.—Not later than 24 months after the date of enactment of the Grid Security Research and Development Act, the Secretary shall submit the study to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate.

**“SEC. 1317. DEFINITIONS.**

“In this title:

“(1) BIG DATA.—The term ‘big data’ means datasets that require advanced analytical methods for their transformation into useful information.

“(2) CYBERSECURITY.—The term ‘cybersecurity’ means protecting an information system or

information that is stored on, processed by, or transiting an information system from a cybersecurity threat or security vulnerability.

“(3) CYBERSECURITY THREAT.—The term ‘cybersecurity threat’ has the meaning given the term in section 102 of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1501).

“(4) ELECTRICITY SUBSECTOR COORDINATING COUNCIL.—The term ‘Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council’ means the self-organized, self-governed council consisting of senior industry representatives to serve as the principal liaison between the Federal Government and the electric power sector and to carry out the role of the Sector Coordinating Council as established in the National Infrastructure Protection Plan for the electricity subsector.

“(5) ENERGY SECTOR GOVERNMENT COORDINATING COUNCIL.—The term ‘Energy Sector Government Coordinating Council’ means the council consisting of representatives from relevant Federal Government agencies to provide effective coordination of energy sector efforts to ensure a secure, reliable, and resilient energy infrastructure and to carry out the role of the Government Coordinating Council as established in the National Infrastructure Protection Plan for the energy sector.

“(6) HUMAN FACTORS RESEARCH.—The term ‘human factors research’ means research on human performance in social and physical environments, and on the integration and interaction of humans with physical systems and computer hardware and software.

“(7) HUMAN-MACHINE INTERFACES.—The term ‘human-machine interfaces’ means technologies that present information to an operator or user about the state of a process or system, or accept human instructions to implement an action, including visualization displays such as a graphical user interface.

“(8) INFORMATION SYSTEM.—The term ‘information system’—

“(A) has the meaning given the term in section 102 of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1501); and

“(B) includes operational technology, information technology, and communications.

“(9) NATIONAL LABORATORY.—The term ‘national laboratory’ has the meaning given the term in section 2 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15801).

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

“(11) TRANSIENT DEVICES.—The term ‘transient devices’ means removable media, including floppy disks, compact disks, USB flash drives, external hard drives, mobile devices, and other devices that utilize wireless connections.

#### SEC. 1318. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this Act—

- “(1) \$150,000,000 for fiscal year 2021;
- “(2) \$157,500,000 for fiscal year 2022;
- “(3) \$165,375,000 for fiscal year 2023;
- “(4) \$173,645,000 for fiscal year 2024; and
- “(5) \$182,325,000 for fiscal year 2025.”.

#### SEC. 4. CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE RESEARCH AND CONSTRUCTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a program of research, development, and demonstration of technologies and tools to help ensure the resilience and security of critical integrated grid infrastructures.

(b) CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEFINED.—The term “critical infrastructure” means infrastructure that the Secretary determines to be vital to socioeconomic activities such that, if destroyed or damaged, such destruction or damage could cause substantial disruption to such socioeconomic activities.

(c) COORDINATION.—In carrying out the program under subsection (a), the Secretary shall leverage expertise and resources of and facilitate collaboration and coordination between—

(1) relevant programs and activities across the Department;

(2) the Department of Defense; and

(3) the Department of Homeland Security.

(d) CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE TEST FACILITY.—In carrying out the program under subsection (a), the Secretary shall establish and operate a Critical Infrastructure Test Facility (referred to in this section as the “Test Facility”) that allows for scalable physical and cyber performance testing to be conducted on industry-scale critical infrastructure systems. This facility shall include a focus on—

(1) cybersecurity test beds; and

(2) electric grid test beds.

(e) SELECTION.—The Secretary shall select the Test Facility under this section on a competitive, merit-reviewed basis. The Secretary shall consider applications from National Laboratories, institutions of higher education, multi-institutional collaborations, and other appropriate entities.

(f) DURATION.—The Test Facility established under this section shall receive support for a period of not more than 5 years, subject to the availability of appropriations.

(g) RENEWAL.—Upon the expiration of any period of support of the Test Facility, the Secretary may renew support for the Test Facility, on a merit-reviewed basis, for a period of not more than 5 years.

(h) TERMINATION.—Consistent with the existing authorities of the Department, the Secretary may terminate the Test Facility for cause during the performance period.

#### SEC. 5. CONFORMING AMENDMENT.

Section 1(b) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 is amended in the table of contents by adding after the matter relating to section 1309 the following:

“Sec. 1310. Energy sector security research, development, and demonstration program.

“Sec. 1311. Grid resilience and emergency response.

“Sec. 1312. Best practices and guidance documents for energy sector cybersecurity research.

“Sec. 1313. Vulnerability testing and technical assistance to improve cybersecurity.

“Sec. 1314. Education and workforce training research and standards.

“Sec. 1315. Interagency coordination and strategic plan for energy sector cybersecurity research.

“Sec. 1316. Report to Congress.

“Sec. 1317. Definitions.

“Sec. 1318. Authorization of appropriations.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. BEREA) and the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BEREA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 5760, the bill now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 5760, the Grid Security Research and Development Act.

I first want to thank the chairwoman of the Committee on Science, Space,

and Technology, Ms. JOHNSON, and the ranking member, Mr. LUCAS, for their help in passing the Grid Security R&D bill out of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and bringing it to the floor.

I also thank my colleague, Congressman RANDY WEBER from Texas, for joining on as a bipartisan cosponsor.

Mr. Speaker, the Grid Security R&D Act supports sustained investment across Federal agencies in research and technology to keep pace with the rapidly evolving threats to our electrical grid. The bill focuses on protecting our grid from two major threats: Cyber and physical.

Access to reliable power is core to our economy, and the impact of physical threats to our electric grid have never been clearer than now.

This summer, in my home State of California, the scenario of high winds, combined with lightning strikes and dry ground, have created some of the most dangerous wildfires in our State’s history. In addition to burning millions of acres and causing loss of life, these wildfires put a significant part of our region on notice for potential emergency power shutoffs to reduce the risk of new outbreaks and further wildfire damage.

However, these shutoffs are not as simple as turning off and on a light switch. It takes time to de-energize transmission systems in advance of a severe weather event and to reenergize the system after the threat has passed.

While safety and preventing wildfires is a high priority, these shutoffs can leave hundreds of thousands of people without power for a few days. Dangerous wildfires, intense periods of drought, and other severe weather events have become increasingly more common in recent years because of climate change and will continue to threaten our grid.

Furthermore, the inability to protect our grid from these severe weather events becomes more magnified during significant emergencies like the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our hospitals and emergency rooms are working around the clock to save lives. They need access to reliable power and the assurance to know that the power will not go out during an important surgery or stop a ventilator from running.

In addition, food banks and restaurants rely on refrigeration to continue supplying food to those in need and our small businesses cannot reopen if they can’t keep the lights on.

Ensuring access to electricity is critical in times like this. That is why I am proud to lead this bill, which would help strengthen the resiliency of our electric grid against physical threats. Our bill would also provide funding to develop technologies that would toughen our grid against wildfires and other natural disasters by improving early detection of deteriorating electrical transmission and distribution systems.

This aging equipment can tend to spark and come in contact with vegetation during high-wind events and natural disasters causing wildfires.

This bill will also spur the development and implementation of microgrid and battery storage technologies, provide backup power options so that in the event of an emergency power shut-off, a more targeted shutoff will impact less households.

The threat of climate change in our electric grid is real. We have an opportunity to continue the modernization of our power system infrastructure, and this bill is a step in the right direction.

Mr. Speaker, the other focus of our bill is improving cybersecurity across our electric grid. As the grid and other forms of critical infrastructure become more digitized, the risk that cyberattacks would shut down critical systems has increased, and in some cases these attacks can even cause physical damage to the grid. The types of cyberattacks also continue to become more sophisticated.

Last year, cyber hackers remotely attacked electric grid networks for the first time, affecting several Western States, including California, Utah, and Wyoming. Given how critical reliable access to power is to our daily lives, these attacks highlight the need for investment to address this evolving threat.

H.R. 5760 would authorize a comprehensive, coordinated research effort across Federal agencies to advance cybersecurity capabilities for the energy sector.

Research areas would include: improving rapid detection of cyber intrusions, integrating cybersecurity features into the energy infrastructure, and focusing in on cyber solutions through our defense sector that can be modified and transferred to the civilian power sector.

Lastly, our bill invests in strengthening our cybersecurity workforce. As our electric grid continues to modernize with renewable energy and energy storage technologies, a high-skilled workforce will be needed who understand the evolving threats.

I look forward to working with the Senate to get this bill passed into law so we can continue to improve the resiliency of our electric grid.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,  
Washington, DC, September 2, 2020.

Hon. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON,  
Chairwoman, Committee on Science, Space and  
Technology, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRWOMAN JOHNSON: I write to you regarding H.R. 5760, the "Grid Security Research and Development Act."

H.R. 5760 contains provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Homeland Security. I recognize and appreciate your desire to see this legislation implemented and accordingly, I will not seek a

sequential referral of the bill. However, agreeing to waive consideration of this bill should not be construed as the Committee on Homeland Security waiving, altering, or otherwise affecting its jurisdiction over subject matters contained in the bill which fall within its Rule X jurisdiction.

I would also ask that a copy of this letter and your response be included in the legislative report on H.R. 5760 and in the Congressional Record during any future floor consideration of this bill.

I look forward to working with you on this and other important legislation in the future.

Sincerely,

BENNIE G. THOMPSON,  
Chairman.

—  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND  
TECHNOLOGY,  
Washington, DC, September 2, 2020.

Chairman BENNIE G. THOMPSON,  
Committee on Homeland Security,  
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: I am writing to you concerning H.R. 5760, the "Grid Security Research and Development Act," which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security on February 5, 2020.

I appreciate your willingness to work cooperatively on this bill. I recognize that the bill contains provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Homeland Security. I appreciate that your Committee will waive further consideration of H.R. 5760 and that this action is not a waiver of future jurisdictional claims by the Committee on Homeland Security over this subject matter.

I will make sure to include our exchange of letters in the legislative report for H.R. 5760 and in the Congressional Record. Thank you for your cooperation on this legislation.

Sincerely,

EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON,  
Chairwoman, Committee on Science,  
Space, and Technology.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield my self such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, last week when the House considered the massive Clean Economy Jobs and Innovation Act, I expressed my disappointment with the partisan policies in the bill, with the rushed and irresponsible process of writing it, and, most of all, with the sheer number of missed bipartisan legislative opportunities it represents.

This week, I am glad to see that my friends across the aisle have taken heed of those words.

The Committee on Science, Space, and Technology has one of the best track records in Congress for passing productive, bipartisan legislation, and I am pleased to see us upholding that tradition once again.

H.R. 5760, the Grid Security Research and Development Act is a truly bipartisan Committee on Science, Space, and Technology product. It is sponsored by vice-chairman AMI BERA and Energy subcommittee Ranking Member RANDY WEBER. It has gone through regular order, and is the result of thoughtful consideration, careful analysis, and substantial debate. I support its passage today.

Currently, the U.S. energy sector and its aging electrical grid faces many

critical challenges, like higher demand, vulnerability to cyberattacks, and increased integration of new energy sources. It is our job in Congress to set the priorities to meet these challenges and to focus our limited Federal funds where we can see the best return on investment.

To deliver effective solutions, we must take the long-term and big-picture approach. We must support early-stage research that will spur innovation over a broad range of energy applications and provide for R&D to mobilize and defend our critical energy infrastructure.

The bipartisan Grid Security Research and Development Act will strengthen our Nation's electric grid against rapidly changing technological challenges. It authorizes the Department of Energy's vital cybersecurity and emergency response R&D activities and directs DOE to work with relevant Federal agencies to develop cybersecurity best practices.

Through the committee markup process, we were able to improve this legislation by adding key research infrastructure provisions from my legislation, H.R. 5685, the Securing American Leadership in Science and Technology Act.

This provision requires the Secretary to carry out a program of research, development, and a demonstration of technologies and tools to help ensure the resilience and security of critical integrated grid infrastructures.

It also requires the Secretary to establish and operate a critical infrastructure test facility that allows for both physical and cyber performance testing to be conducted on large-scale infrastructure systems. This test facility will amplify and accelerate the high-priority research and development activities authorized in the original text and maximize the return on investment of taxpayers' dollars.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my good friends across the aisle for working with us to come to agreement on this provision and on this bill. I am glad to see we can come together to focus on our shared interest in improving U.S. national security and energy resilience for the next generation.

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

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

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WEBER), the ranking member of the Energy Subcommittee.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I also thank Representative BERA for introducing this bill with me. I am proud to rise in support of H.R. 5760.

Mr. Speaker, cyber and physical threats to our electric grid are constantly evolving in technique and increasing in number. This challenge is magnified by its complexity. No two attacks are exactly the same.

Last year in the United States, the energy sector ranked ninth in industries most targeted by cyberattacks. In fact, IBM estimated that cyberattacks against vital energy sector technologies, like industrial control and operational systems, increased by more than 2,000 percent—2,000 percent.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that we must be prepared to address this threat as we continue to build on the success of our clean energy future and long-term international competitiveness. Every single aspect of our daily lives in each economic sector in our Nation is dependent on the uninterrupted flow of power. I like to say that the things that make America great are the things that America makes.

How do we do that? With an uninterrupted, affordable flow of power.

Therefore, we must focus heavily on early-stage research into new technologies that will improve the resilience, the reliability, and the emergency response capabilities of our electric grid.

H.R. 5760 does that by authorizing a multi-agency research and development program to bolster the cyber and physical security capabilities of the energy sector.

It authorizes key Federal agencies, like the Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation, to support early-stage research, development, and demonstration activities that will advance critical cybersecurity technologies and enhance the security of energy sector information systems.

Mr. Speaker, I am also pleased to say, as the ranking member did, that this bill is truly bipartisan. We worked closely together to develop good legislation, and we included a key Committee on Science, Space, and Technology Republican priority; that is, a critical infrastructure research program and test facility.

This provision, originally offered by my good friend, Ranking Member LUCAS' bill, H.R. 5685, the Securing American Leadership in Science and Technology Act, was accepted as an amendment at committee markup.

In coordination with the Department of Defense and the Department of Homeland Security, the DOE-led research program and test facility will allow for U.S. researchers to conduct a variety of high-priority tests on critical infrastructure systems at the industry scale. This facility is a perfect example of the research asset that the Federal government is best suited to provide.

As recent events have shown us, it is not a question of if the U.S. power grid will face a significant physical or cyber threat, it is only a matter of when. In order to improve the cyber and physical security of our Nation's energy sector, we, in Congress, must continue to prioritize R&D to modernize and strengthen the national electricity system.

We can't agree on everything—I get that—especially when wish lists and

partisan messaging exercises rule the day. However, when we identify our shared goals and work together in good faith, we can put together real legislation and find a path forward for the benefit of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, again, I thank Dr. BERA for introducing this legislation, and Members and staff of both sides of the aisle for working in a collaborative manner to reach a consensus on this standalone bill.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation. There is real power in doing so.

Mr. BERA. Mr. Speaker, I, too, also want to recognize the bipartisan nature of this bill. It shows what we can do when we get together. I recognize the hard work of the staff from the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we must invest in the long-term, early-stage research that will strengthen our energy infrastructure against a range of emerging threats.

The Department of Energy is uniquely qualified to lead this endeavor, and the partnerships that exist between its national laboratory systems, universities, and industry has the potential to modernize and transform U.S. energy delivery systems.

H.R. 5760 authorizes the advanced grid security R&D activities that will make the future U.S. electrical grid reliable, resilient, and secure for all Americans.

I, again, thank my friends across the aisle for working with us on this bill. We need to come together and have serious conversations about how to make real progress on next-generation energy issues. I am glad to see us doing that today.

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

□ 1700

Mr. BERA. Mr. Speaker, I, once again, urge support of this commonsense, important legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5760, the Grid Security Research and Development Act. I want to thank Mr. BERA for his leadership in introducing this bipartisan bill and for his commitment to developing legislation that will help strengthen America's electricity grid. I also want to thank my colleagues on the other side of the aisle who have recognized the importance of these investments and have joined me in supporting this important legislation.

The Grid Security Research and Development Act is updated version of a bill that Mr. BERA and I introduced, along with many of my Science Committee colleagues, in the previous two Congresses. This bill provides legislative guidance to the activities carried out by

the recently established Department of Energy Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response by authorizing a cross-agency research and development program to advance electric grid cybersecurity and physical security. In particular, the bill authorizes activities on grid resilience and emergency response efforts, cybersecurity test beds, and education and workforce training for the energy sector.

The passage of this bill is particularly important now, as states all over the U.S. are experiencing unprecedented extreme weather events, ranging from historic hurricanes in Texas to the ongoing wildfires in California and Oregon. In California specifically, utilities are shutting off power to millions of customers when there are high winds in certain areas to prevent the onset of wildfires sparked by trees and other vegetation near critical grid infrastructure. This bill contains provisions to help address these important issues by directing the Department of Energy to conduct research on technologies to assist with the safe planning and execution of emergency power shutdowns, offer technical assistance on related topics, and establish a training program to improve grid resilience, among other provisions.

That's why I am proud to rise today in support of H.R. 5760. It would make important investments to improve the security and ensure the safety and resilience of our electric grid infrastructure. I also urge my colleagues to make a wise investment for our nation by joining me in supporting this bipartisan bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. BERA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5760, 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.

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REAFFIRMING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES' COMMITMENT TO THE ORDERLY AND PEACEFUL TRANSFER OF POWER CALLED FOR IN THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1155) reaffirming the House of Representatives' commitment to the orderly and peaceful transfer of power called for in the Constitution of the United States, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1155

Whereas the United States is founded on the principle that our Government derives its power from the consent of the governed and that the people have the right to change their elected leaders through elections;

Whereas our domestic tranquility, national security, general welfare, and civil liberties depend upon the peaceful and orderly transfer of power; and

Whereas any disruption occasioned by the transfer of the executive power could

produce results detrimental to the safety and well-being of the United States and its people: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) reaffirms its commitment to the orderly and peaceful transfer of power called for in the Constitution of the United States; and

(2) intends that there should be no disruptions by the President or any person in power to overturn the will of the people of the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. SWALWELL) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEUBE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SWALWELL of California. 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 gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my resolution, H. Res. 1155, reaffirming the commitment of the House of Representatives to the peaceful transfer of power. This is identical to the resolution which passed the Senate last week by unanimous consent.

The peaceful transition of power is not only a bedrock principle of America's founding; it is a living ideal that we must exercise and pass down to our children.

In the United States of America, the Federal Government has always had a peaceful transition of power, and it is a collective responsibility of this body to ensure that continues. I doubt anyone here needs to be reminded of that.

Everyone in America knows this is what makes us American. Everyone, that is, except President Trump. Last week, he was asked a simple question: Will you commit to making sure there is a peaceful transfer of power after the election? His answer: Well, we are going to have to see what happens.

No, we are not going to have to see what happens.

Then he was asked again: Do you commit to making sure there is a peaceful transfer of power?

Here was his answer, in part: Get rid of the ballots, and you will have a very—we will have a very peaceful—there won't be a transfer, frankly. There will be a continuation.

During his remarks, he also made bogus and unsupported claims of election fraud. Just in case people were not listening, he said the same thing the next day.

President Trump, like any President, wields enormous power, with Federal law enforcement and the military at

his disposal. It is beyond unsettling to hear him suggest that the only result he will accept is the one where he wins.

That sentiment is one of dictators and despots. Sadly, the world is replete with examples of dictators and despots and their refusal to leave office and the chaos it causes.

In late 2016, Gambia's President threatened to refuse to leave office, even though he had lost the election. Thousands fled the country fearing violence. Only when other countries' troops massed at the border was he forced to leave office in early 2017.

Congo's President refused to leave office in 2016, even though his term had expired. He cracked down on dissent and killed people when they protested the election results. That election finally took place two years late.

Last year in Bolivia, the President declared himself the winner before the vote counting was even finished. After days of civil unrest and protest, the President was forced to resign.

Belarus remains in crisis even now as the longtime President holds onto power through an obviously rigged election. Mass protests have gone on with many injured, gassed, or killed.

In America, however, it is not one person, but we, the people; we, the people, who rule. As this resolution says, the people have the right to change their elected leaders through elections. Fortunately, there is no shortage of leadership in America's past to show us the way.

I was born in November of 1980, right after Jimmy Carter lost to Ronald Reagan. I was born the son of two Republican parents who were excited for the peaceful transfer of power to take place. One of my earliest memories of American politics, though, was when I was 11 years old and President George H. W. Bush lost to President Clinton. My parents were not as excited about the peaceful transfer of power.

But I remember, as a boy, watching the results come in and seeing the statements from outgoing President George H. W. Bush and commentators and anchors saying, "This is what makes our country so special" and my own family moving on and accepting the results.

In a poignant recognition of this, listen to part of what former President George Herbert Walker Bush wrote to President Bill Clinton, the man who had defeated him, in a note that he left for him in the Oval Office dated January 20, 1993. And it is just here to my left.

"You will be our President when you read this note. I wish you well. I wish your family well. Your success now is our country's success. I am rooting hard for you."

After the 1824 election was decided here, in this House, with Henry Clay throwing his support to John Quincy Adams, thus defeating Andrew Jackson who had won the popular vote, Jackson was understandably outraged and denounced the result as a corrupt bar-

gain. That type of language sounds familiar. But he accepted the outcome and returned to Tennessee.

On the evening of the day he lost the Presidency, Jackson encountered the new President-Elect at the White House. Jackson was gracious, and the city was filled with reports of his grace. "You have, by your dignity and forbearance under all of these outrages, won the people to your love," a friend told Jackson, who would run again in 1828 and win.

Historian Jon Meacham recently wrote in March of this year about President Lincoln in 1864, the country mired in a Civil War, running against George McClellan on the Democratic side. Lincoln had written privately he was ready to accept defeat, the election did not look like it was going to go his way, and even in a Civil War, there would be a peaceful transfer of power.

This resolution states clearly to every American, not on our watch. Not on our watch are we going to let American greatness vanish and an authoritative state rise.

The reason we are the beacon to the world is that here, with our elections, the people decide, not our leaders. We let the people decide.

We shouldn't only be horrified by the President's remarks about possibly not having a peaceful transfer of power; we should also be concerned by who he looks up to. Unfortunately, America is ruled by someone who admires dictators. He said as much recently to Bob Woodward in a recording stating: "The tougher and meaner they are, the better I get along with them," referring to dictators like Putin, Erdogan, and Kim.

And what do dictators do?

They don't let the people decide, and they certainly don't honor any peaceful transition of power.

Why is it a problem for Americans to have a leader who admires Putin and often sides with Putin over America? Because we know that Vladimir Putin would love nothing better than to destroy our democracy.

In fact, our intelligence community assessed that in 2016, Vladimir Putin had a preference for our President and interfered to help him and that he is doing the same today. Putin wants America to be weak, second to Russia, just another country with no moral standing in the world.

But what makes us strong is our rule of law, our democracy, a country governed by the consent of the people. When that happens, we all do better, and Russia hates that. Why? Because Russians and other oppressed people then will want to look more like America.

Just think about it. The idea now that Russia could bring down America without even firing a shot because we have one person who is threatening to upset the fabric of our democracy. We cannot let that happen. Too many have sacrificed too much to make sure it doesn't happen.

Days after the election, we will each go back to our districts and honor those who have served our country in honor of Veterans Day. We will be reminded of so many heroes who have died and shed blood, just for the principle of a peaceful transition of power. We have lost so many for this concept.

Now, I know there are some in this country who think that these heroes who fought for this country are suckers and losers for giving up their lives, but I don't think that. I don't believe my Republican colleagues think that. I know colleagues on both sides hold these folks up to be heroes. I know each of us wants to go to our hometowns right after election day to those Veterans Day parades, look at our hometown heroes, look them in the eyes and tell them when our democracy was threatened, we stood up and we spoke out.

The way we honor their sacrifice is to fight for this. And when someone suggests that a peaceful transfer of power may not happen, we have to push back in every way we can.

So I want to thank all of my colleagues, both Democrats and Republicans, who over the past few days have reaffirmed the understanding of how in America we handle transitions of power and reject the threats from our current leader that it may not happen.

By voting for this resolution, you can go on record as supporting these principles. By its text, it "reaffirms the House's commitment to the orderly and peaceful transfer of power called for in the Constitution of the United States; and intends that there should be no disruption by the President or any person in power to overturn the will of the people of the United States."

Even in this era of bitterly divided partisanship, these are basic, philosophical tenets, bedrocks and living principles that should receive unanimous support here in the House.

I urge all Members to support my resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

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

Mr. Speaker, today, we are here to waste time on an unnecessary resolution to commit to a peaceful transfer of power.

To be clear, President Trump and House Republicans are committed to ensuring Americans receive a free and fair election. Republicans are also committed to peaceful transitions of power.

Democrats have been the ones to contest Presidential elections. They contested the 2000 election, they contested the 2004 election, and Democrats still refuse to believe that President Trump won the 2016 election fair and square. So ahead of November 3, 2020, the Democrats are using floor time for par-

tisan smear tactics to undermine the President.

The administration has been clear. On September 24, 2020, Press Secretary Kayleigh McEnany stated: "The President will accept the results of a free and fair election. He will accept the will of the American people."

The real question today is: Will the Democrats accept the results of the election?

They are already questioning the legitimacy of this election. Hillary Clinton, the Democrats' nominee in 2016, has advised: "Joe Biden should not concede under any circumstances."

A senior House Democrat stated that President Trump is not going to win fairly.

□ 1715

Democrat Presidential nominee Joe Biden has said that his "single greatest concern" is that the President is "going to try and steal this election."

This resolution is just another attempt by the Democrats to instill fear within the American people, just one more hoax for them to perpetrate upon the American people.

Not only have Democrats prematurely questioned the results of the election; they have proactively sought to erode basic election security safeguards as States move toward all mail-in voting, universal mail-in ballots. This is the concern that President Trump has been warning about.

In several States, Democrats are trying to eliminate absentee ballot witness and notary requirements, expanding ballot harvesting, and extending deadlines for States to receive mail-in ballots for up to a week after the election. If successful, Democrats will inevitably open the door to election crimes and administration errors.

So while making baseless accusations about President Trump stealing the election, Democrats are also undermining the integrity of the electoral process by pushing for less accountability. On top of that, we are here today to consider a resolution to chastise the President for raising policy concerns about the process. This is ridiculous, and it needs to stop.

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

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. NEGUSE).

Mr. NEGUSE. Mr. Speaker, I stand in strong support of this resolution.

There has been quite a bit of discussion regarding partisanship from some of my friends on the other side of the aisle. I would offer the following quote, which was uttered 39 years ago: "To a few of us here today, this is a solemn and most momentous occasion, and yet, in the history of our Nation, it is a commonplace occurrence. The orderly transfer of authority, as called for in the Constitution, routinely takes place as it has almost for two centuries, and few of us stop to think how unique we really are. In the eyes of

many in the world, this every-4-year ceremony that we accept as normal is nothing less than a miracle."

Those words were uttered in 1981 by President Ronald Reagan, and his words couldn't have been more prescient.

It is a shame that we are here today, a shame that the current President has refused to affirm perhaps that most basic tenet of American democracy, the peaceful transfer of power after an election.

I don't believe that this should be partisan. We may be on different sides of the aisle; we have different solutions to some of the most pressing challenges that our country faces; but we all should, we all must, believe in this grand American experiment.

The peaceful transition of power is a hallmark of our Republic. For over 200 years, as President Reagan noted, every President has honored the orderly and peaceful transfer of power to his successor.

So, in my view, the House of Representatives must speak loudly here. We must meet the unrelenting insistence on undermining our democracy with the full force of the United States Congress by joining together today, on a bipartisan basis, to reaffirm our commitment to the peaceful transition of power, as our colleagues in the United States Senate did just last week.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative SWALWELL for leading on this issue, and I would urge every one of my colleagues in this Chamber, Republican, Democrat, and independent, to support this important resolution.

Mr. STEUBE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT).

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I agree with my colleagues across the aisle. This should not be a partisan matter. We shouldn't have to be here today. But unfortunately, the Democrats decided to make this partisan.

I begged to be allowed to make an amendment because this is one slap at a man who has already made clear, yes, he wants to stop fraudulent voting and make sure that hadn't occurred, but he is going to abide by the will of the people. Yet, they refused to allow any amendments.

It says, it is resolved that the House of Representatives "intends that there should be no disruptions by the President or any person in power to overturn. . . ." They would not accept a friendly amendment, so it could be completely bipartisan, to say, "or any candidate or anyone acting on a candidate's behalf," which would have included the President. Oh, no, we have to have a slap at the President.

As my friend Mr. STEUBE pointed out, it is not Republicans who have divided this country in refusing to accept results of the elections. No, you go back to 1860. November 6, 1860, Republican Abraham Lincoln is elected President by a big margin, and then States start seceding. They are not going to accept the results.

Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated. Back then, it was March 4, 1861. States were already seceding. We are not accepting the results. And they were, every one a Democrat, saying that we are not going to accept that Republican's election to President.

Then, what do we hear from Hillary Clinton? She has been quoted as saying that "Joe Biden should not concede under any circumstances, because I think this is going to drag out."

Go back 100 years, after the Democrats refused to accept the results of the election of 1860. In 1960, John F. Kennedy was elected, and I have confirmed again today with someone who worked closely with Nixon that he had information submitted to him that established that there was much wrongdoing in Chicago, Illinois, fraudulent voting schemes.

Despite what any others may think about Richard Nixon, he made the decision that the country could not stand that kind of divisiveness, so he refused to pursue the fraud of which he was told there was plenty of evidence in Chicago, Illinois. That is the way the Republicans have been.

Then, we hear more sanctimonious talk about George W. Bush, and then who contested the election? Well, Al Gore. He calls and concedes, and then he later calls and backs it up. Thank goodness he wasn't President when we needed a decisive leader.

But if you go through the chronology of Gore's defeat by President Bush—and a recount ultimately showed that he did lose. Gore did lose; Bush did win. But he was still contesting. He divided this Nation, refused to accept the results of the election, brought up some of the most ridiculous things from the butterfly ballot that kids in the fifth grade had no problem with. Oh, but it is unfair because they can't really understand it in that part of Florida. What an insult to those people in Florida.

If you look now at what the Democratic Party is saying about this election in response to President Trump saying, I just want to make sure that it is not fraudulent voting; it is fair voting. And as long as everything is legal and fair, you betcha, he will have a smooth transition of power. He would agree to that.

But if you look, as reported on August 2 of this year, buried near the end of Ben Smith's column is a report that "Democrats have participated in a 'war game' in which they considered several possible outcomes of the election. In one scenario, John Podesta, the former chair of Hillary Clinton's Presidential campaign and a leading figure in party circles, played former Vice President Joe Biden and refused to concede the election."

Then later it was posted—much more recently, I guess, that is September 6: "Democrats promise more violence if Joe Biden doesn't defeat Trump by a landslide in the 2020 election. Rosa Brooks, a leftist who writes for The

Washington Post, penned a piece that stated her research showed that the only scenario in November that would stop the violence is if Biden wins in a landslide. That kind of attempt to manipulate the voters by intimidation will just make Americans vote for Trump."

It was posted September 6 in the American Thinker. "Democrats openly say that if Trump is reelected, they are going to redouble their 4 years of madness, with special emphasis on the last 3 months of open violence. Indeed, they are already planning to destabilize the election and to contest if Trump wins, in hopes of a violent coup."

And as if there is not a God in Heaven, today of all days, when this that should have been bipartisan is brought to the floor to slam Donald Trump, we have newly released information out today that has been declassified. This report, on September 7, 2016: "U.S. intelligence officials forwarded an investigative referral to FBI Director James Comey and Deputy Assistant Director of Counterintelligence Peter Strzok regarding 'U.S. Presidential candidate Hillary Clinton's approval of a plan concerning U.S. Presidential candidate Donald Trump and Russian hackers hampering U.S. elections as a means of distracting the public from her use of a private mail server.'"

Then further, it came out today: "A former senior intelligence official told saraacarter.com that it would make sense that Clinton's plans would be usurped by the Russia's GRU, its military intelligence, as well as Russia's FSB, its equivalent of the CIA, when former British spy Christopher Steele began peddling the Russians for information."

"The real people colluding and conspiring with Russia were the Democrats, Hillary Clinton, and Fusion GPS," stated the source. "It is the weaponization of the agencies and those like Clinton who built their private Idaho in the U.S. bureaucracy. They gave the keys to the kingdom to Russia to wreak chaos in our Nation for the past 4 years."

Moreover, the information that came out today reveals that former CIA Director John Brennan allegedly knew of Clinton's plans and briefed President Obama on those plans in July 2016. It was the same month the FBI opened up the Crossfire Hurricane investigation against President Trump and his campaign—or candidate Trump and his campaign officials.

So, what a day, the day that more evidence comes out that it was Hillary Clinton's campaign, the DNC, and they were refusing to go along with the legal and fair election. Then, afterward, that whole conspiracy, the dossier was used to try to prevent a President from staying in office after sworn in, and we are supposed to vote now to come after President Trump and demand he be legal and lawful in leaving office.

He just wants fairness in the vote, and he will follow the will of the peo-

ple. It is a real shame that my friends across the aisle wouldn't allow an amendment, so we could say to both sides: Follow the will of the people; have a proper transition of power.

But, no, they wouldn't go there.

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, here we are, back to Secretary Clinton. It is clear that she has at least two homes, one in New York and one inside the heads of my colleagues. But this is actually about President Trump.

While I appreciate my colleagues speaking for what President Trump may do after the election, citing what his press secretary has said, and my colleague from Texas said that he believes that the President will peacefully accept the transfer of power, the President has never said that.

In fact, he was asked: "Will you commit to making sure there is a peaceful transfer of power after the election?" And he said: "Well, we are going to have to see what happens."

He is not saying we are going to have to go to the courts, that we are going to contest this. He is suggesting that we may have something other than a peaceful transfer of power, which, of course, would be a violent transfer of power, a violent holding of power.

Then, he was asked again: "Will you commit to making sure that there is a peaceful transfer of power?" And he said: "Get rid of the ballots and we will have a very peaceful—there won't be a transfer, frankly. There will be a continuation."

Again, not himself saying there will be a peaceful transfer of power. So, we really can't rely on anyone else, other than what the President has said.

□ 1730

So we really can't rely on anyone else other than what the President has said. And I don't disagree with my colleagues that if there are issues in the election that both parties have a right to contest those issues, to go to the courts through the legal channels, but that is not what this is about.

This resolution talks about a peaceful transfer of power. In fact, they were complaining that it is not a bipartisan resolution. Actually, it is identical to the bipartisan, unanimously passed resolution in the Senate.

To my colleague from Florida who is controlling time on the other side, I understand he doesn't like that this resolution is on the floor, and I would yield to my colleague respecting his service as a veteran, in our country, he is voting for this resolution. I would be shocked if I heard that my colleague is not going to vote for something that passed unanimously in the Senate.

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

Mr. STEUBE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GAETZ).

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, while I know the comments of the majority's

time manager were directed to my colleague from Florida, it will likely not surprise him that I will regularly vote against things that pass unanimously in the United States Senate. I don't hold that as a standard.

We are here on a resolution regarding the peaceful transition of power. We barely had a peaceful transition of power in 2016. My colleague, the gentleman from California, was on television almost every night telling the American people that President Trump was an agent of the Russian Government. How fake it all turned out to be.

I rise in opposition to this resolution even though I completely support the peaceful transfer of power. This resolution is a way for Democrats to attack the President and disguise the fact that they will refuse to accept the election results unless they win.

Professional loser Hillary Clinton has told Joe Biden that he should not concede "under any circumstances."

The Transition Integrity Project has said that the aftermath of the November election will be a "street fight, not a legal battle." The same report suggests that Biden could even try to convince States to secede from the Union before accepting a Trump victory.

Are these the actions of a party willing to accept defeat? They weren't willing to accept defeat in the 2016 election. They had to go blame the Russians. I guess I am still waiting for the 13 Russians who were indicted to show up.

No, this resolution is projecting and gaslighting.

The media has begun gaslighting the public, too, saying that it may look like Trump won on election night, but that as ballots are counted, States will flip. How will this great switch be accomplished? Through the Democrats' usual methods: lawfare, fraud, and violence.

Look at what we have already seen: Mike Bloomberg is trying to quite literally buy votes from felons in Florida; in Pennsylvania, absentee ballots for President Trump were found in a dumpster; and in Minnesota, Democrat operatives were caught on camera discussing forcible illegal ballot harvesting.

Democrats ignore all this. They are not on the floor to condemn any of it. As a matter of fact, they have ignored it the same way they ignored the riots and arson and violence in America's cities, the same way they ignore the antifa goon squads and the gangs of fascists in brown shirts who threaten to harm anyone who does not want America to become their communist woketopia.

Democrats ignore criminality when it helps them and because they not-so-secretly believe that anyone who is punched or maimed or assaulted by antifa might deserve it, especially if they are a member of our brave law enforcement.

Democrats ignore these heinous acts of violence when the victims are Re-

publican or when they are pro-life or when they are Trump supporters. Those lives don't matter to Democrats. But they are more than happy to burn America to the ground when they think it will help them.

This resolution is part of the Democrats' plan to lay the groundwork for a color revolution, the ousting of an elected leader and calling it democracy. But that is not democracy. It is nothing less than the destruction of our cherished Nation.

I unequivocally support the peaceful transfer of power but will vote "no" on this resolution, and I encourage my colleagues to do the same. I will pray that America survives the Democrats' mad and destructive lust for power.

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how many more speakers the minority floor manager has remaining.

Mr. STEUBE. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, let's be clear: The real threat to our democracy are the attempts to undermine the election process.

Universal mail-in voting is not the same as absentee ballots like we do in Florida. When a voter requests an absentee ballot, she knows to expect it. Universal mail-in voting is when States mass mail ballots to voters, whether or not a voter has moved, has died, or is otherwise no longer eligible to vote or is even a citizen of our country. Universal mail-in voting increases the risk of election crime or administrative error because States are providing prepaid return envelopes for election ballots.

The U.S. Postal Service does not typically postmark premarked mail, and although it has a policy to postmark election-related mail, its policy is not foolproof, as we have seen in some primary elections over the summer.

All of these last-minute changes will harm the integrity of the election process and risk chaos in the general election. We are already seeing the disastrous results of the Democrats' last-minute process changes.

Last week, the Justice Department found that several military ballots were discarded in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. Seven of the nine ballots were cast for President Trump—not surprising.

This month, the Georgia Secretary of State revealed that at least 1,000 Georgians voted twice in the June 2020 primary, once via mail-in balloting and once in person.

In New York, Governor Cuomo's last-minute shift to all-mail voting cost thousands of ballots in Chairwoman MALONEY's primary to be discarded for lacking postmarks. Election officials took 6 weeks to certify the results of the primary.

In a New Jersey municipal election, a last-minute shift to all-mail voting resulted in the Postal Service still delivering ballots to election officials weeks after the election.

If these problems occurred in local primary elections, the risk to a national general election is even greater. The President is right to highlight these problems, and I fail to understand why Democrats won't.

The best and surest guarantee of electoral integrity is for Americans to vote in person where safe and possible, with absentee ballots available for those who legitimately cannot make it to the polls or have voter ID safeguards in places like we have in Florida.

This resolution is nothing but political messaging and creating a narrative without any facts to base it, just like the Russia collusion hoax.

There is no question that every single American, including President Trump, wants a peaceful transfer of power after a free and fair election, but this rhetoric and fear-mongering by our friends across the aisle must end. The liberal mainstream media and Democrats should stop this nonsense and let the American people speak.

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

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California has 5 minutes remaining.

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

This resolution simply calls for a commitment to the peaceful transfer of power. I know my colleagues on the other side have their own suspicions about what the motive is behind this and want to project onto it something that is not in the language, but this was passed by 100 Senators last week. Every Republican and Democratic Senator voted for this because it reaffirms America's commitment to having a peaceful transfer of power.

What my colleague on the other side just brought up are process issues in the election, but that does not relate or compare to the suggestion that there would be violent opposition to the outcome.

Both sides have a right to use the courts and then accept the outcome. One of my colleagues referenced the 2000 election, litigated all the way to the top of the Supreme Court, and the loser accepted the outcome.

This resolution is calling on us, and it is sad that we have to do this, to reaffirm that principle. It asks the question: Are we Gambia, where an outcome was not accepted and people died, or are we a country that, even in the thick of the Civil War, had a President who was willing to accept the outcome?

Are we Congo where the outcome was not accepted and people died, or are we the country that fought the great war,

the Second World War, the Greatest Generation, who would build a new economy and afford new opportunities?

Are we Bolivia, where the outcome was not accepted and there was violence in the streets, or are we the country that sent someone to the Moon, saw contested election after contested election, but losers left office graciously, just as President H.W. Bush did in the letter I read earlier.

Who do we want to look like? We are imperfect, but the ideas that we are founded upon are perfect, that we are governed by consent, not by leaders or violence, consent of the people. That is what this resolution says.

Thirty-five days to go to the election. I know it is going to be tense in this Chamber, it is going to be tense in this country, but unity in our country during our darkest times has always been an antidote against anything that would seek to divide us or take us away from who we want to be, who we can be, and who we should be—a more perfect Union.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. SWALWELL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1155.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. SWALWELL of California. 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM CONSTITUENT SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE, THE HONORABLE JOHN H. RUTHERFORD, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Amanda Torbush, Constituent Services Representative, the Honorable JOHN H. RUTHERFORD, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, September 25, 2020.

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

DEAR MADAME SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that the United States Navy has served me, Amanda Torbush, with a subpoena to testify before a Special Court-Martial of the United States.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

AMANDA TORBUSH,  
Constituent Services Representative.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 42 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1825

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PETERS) at 6 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.

RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring forth the privileged resolution, H. Res. 1148.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 1148

Whereas, on July 22, 2020, H.R. 7573 was brought to the House floor for a vote, with the purpose of eliminating four specific statutes or busts from the United States Capitol along with all others that include individuals who "served as an officer or voluntarily with the Confederate States of America or of the military forces or government of a State while the State was in rebellion against the United States" yet failed to address the most ever-present historical stigma in the United States Capitol; that is the source that so fervently supported, condoned and fought for slavery was left untouched, without whom, the evil of slavery could never have continued as it did, to such extreme that it is necessary to address here in order for the U.S. House of Representatives to avoid degradation of historical fact and blatant hypocrisy for generations to come;

Whereas, the Democratic Party Platform of 1840, 1844, 1848, 1852, and 1856 states "That Congress has no power under the Constitution, to interfere with or control the domestic institutions of the several States, and that such States are the sole and proper judges of everything appertaining to their own affairs, not prohibited by the Constitution; that all efforts of the abolitionists, or others, made to induce Congress to interfere with questions of slavery . . . are calculated to lead to the most alarming and dangerous consequences; and that all such efforts have an inevitable tendency to diminish the happiness of the people and endanger the stability and permanency of the Union, and ought not to be countenanced by any friend of our political institutions.";

Whereas, the Democratic Party Platform of 1856 further declares that "new states" to the Union should be admitted "with or without domestic slavery, as [the state] may elect.";

Whereas, the Democratic Party Platform of 1856 also resolves that "we recognize the right of the people of all the Territories . . . to form a Constitution, with or without domestic slavery.";

Whereas, the Fugitive Slave Law of 1850 penalized officials who did not arrest an alleged runaway slave and made them liable for a fine of \$1,000 (about \$28,000 in present-day value); law-enforcement officials everywhere were required to arrest people suspected of being a runaway slave on as little as a claimant's sworn testimony of ownership; the Democratic Party Platform of 1860

directly, in seeking to uphold the Fugitive Slave Act, states that "the enactments of the State Legislatures to defeat the faithful execution of the Fugitive Slave Law are hostile in character, subversive of the Constitution, and revolutionary in their effect.";

Whereas, the 14th Amendment, giving full citizenship to freed slaves, passed in 1868 with 94 percent Republican support and 0 percent Democrat support in Congress; the 15th Amendment, giving freed slaves the right to vote, passed in 1870 with 100 percent Republican support and 0 percent Democrat support in Congress;

Whereas, Democrats systematically suppressed African-Americans' right to vote, and by specific example in the 1902 Constitution of the State of Virginia, actually disenfranchised about 90 percent of the Black men who still voted at the beginning of the twentieth century and nearly half of the White men, thereby suppressing Republican voters; the number of eligible African-American voters were thereby forcibly reduced from about 147,000 in 1901 to about 10,000 by 1905; that measure was supported almost exclusively by Virginia Democrats;

Whereas, Virginia's 1902 Constitution was engineered by Carter Glass, future Democratic Party U.S. Representative, Senator, and even Secretary of the Treasury under Democrat President Woodrow Wilson, who proclaimed the goal of the constitutional convention as follows: This Democrat exclaimed, "Discrimination! Why, that is precisely what we propose. That, exactly, is what this Convention was elected for—to discriminate to the very extremity of permissible action under the limits of the federal Constitution, with a view to the elimination of every Negro voter who can be gotten rid of legally.";

Whereas, in 1912, Democratic President Woodrow Wilson's administration began a racial segregation policy for U.S. government employees and, by 1914, the Wilson administration's Civil Service instituted the requirement that a photograph be submitted with each employment application;

Whereas, the 1924 Democratic National Convention convened in New York City at Madison Square Garden; the convention is commonly known as the "Klan-Bake" due to the overwhelming influence of the Ku Klux Klan in the Democratic Party;

Whereas, Democrat President Franklin Delano Roosevelt continued Woodrow Wilson's policy of segregating White House staff and maintained separate dining rooms for White and Black staffers. He also continued the White House Correspondents Association's ban on credentialing Black journalists for White House duties until outside pressure from Black publications finally forced a change in policy in 1944, the last year of his presidency. According to the American Journal of Public Health, prior to his presidency, Roosevelt not only banned Blacks from receiving treatment at his polio facility in Warm Springs, Georgia, Black staff were forced to live in the basement of the facility or in a segregated dormitory while White staff lived in the hotel or in surrounding cottages;

Whereas, Democrat Congressman Howard Smith, former chairman of the House Rules Committee introduced the "Declaration of Constitutional Principles" in a speech on the House floor where he attacked the Supreme Court's 1954 decision on *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka (KS)* which determined that segregated public schools were unconstitutional. Smith's declaration urged people to utilize all "lawful means" to avoid the "chaos and confusion" which would occur if they desegregated schools. History.House.Gov states that "Under Smith, the Rules Committee became a graveyard for

numerous civil rights initiatives in the 1950s.”

Whereas, in 1964, the Democratic Party led a 75-calendar-day filibuster against the 1964 Civil Rights Act;

Whereas, leading the Democrats in their opposition to civil rights for African-Americans was a fellow member of the Democratic Party, Senator Robert Byrd from West Virginia—a known recruiter for the Ku Klux Klan;

Whereas, Democrats enacted and enforced Jim Crow laws and civil codes that forced segregation and restricted freedoms of Black Americans in the United States; and

Whereas, on June 18, 2020, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi ordered the removal from the Capitol portraits of four previous Speakers of the House who served in the Confederacy saying that the portraits, “set back our nation’s work to confront a combat bigotry;” the men depicted in the portraits were Democrat Robert M.T. Hunter, Democrat Howell Cobb, Democrat James L. Orr and Democrat Charles F. Crisp: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall remove any item that names, symbolizes, or mentions any political organization or party that has ever held a public position that supported slavery or the Confederacy, from any area within the House wing of the Capitol or any House office building, and shall donate any such item or symbol to the Library of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The resolution qualifies.

MOTION TO TABLE

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Clyburn moves that the resolution be laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to table.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. GOHMERT. 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.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 223, nays 176, not voting 31, as follows:

[Roll No. 207]

YEAS—223

Adams	Castro (TX)	DeFazio
Aguilar	Chu, Judy	DeLauro
Allred	Cicilline	DelBene
Amash	Cisneros	Delgado
Axne	Clark (MA)	Demings
Bass	Clarke (NY)	DeSaulnier
Bera	Clay	Deutch
Beyer	Cleaver	Dingell
Bishop (GA)	Clyburn	Doggett
Blumenauer	Connolly	Doyle, Michael
Bonamici	Cooper	F.
Boyle, Brendan F.	Correa	Engel
Brindisi	Costa	Escobar
Brown (MD)	Courtesy	Eshoo
Brownley (CA)	Cox (CA)	Espallat
Butterfield	Craig	Evans
Carbajal	Crist	Finkenauer
Cárdenas	Crow	Fletcher
Carson (IN)	Cuellar	Foster
Cartwright	Cunningham	Frankel
Case	Davids (KS)	Gabbard
Casten (IL)	Davis (CA)	Garamendi
Castor (FL)	Davis, Danny K.	García (IL)
	Dean	Garcia (TX)

Golden	Luján	Rush	Scott, Austin	Thompson (PA)	Watkins
Gomez	Luria	Sánchez	Sensenbrenner	Thornberry	Weber (TX)
Gonzalez (TX)	Lynch	Sarbanes	Shimkus	Tiffany	Webster (FL)
Gottheimer	Malinski	Scanlon	Simpson	Timmons	Wenstrup
Green, Al (TX)	Maloney,	Schakowsky	Smith (MO)	Tipton	Westerman
Grijalva	Carolyn B.	Schiff	Smith (NE)	Turner	Williams
Haaland	Maloney, Sean	Schneider	Smith (NJ)	Upton	Wilson (SC)
Harder (CA)	Matsui	Schrader	Stauber	Van Drew	Wittman
Hastings	McAdams	Schrier	Stefanik	Wagner	Womack
Hayes	McBath	Scott (VA)	Steil	Walberg	Woodall
Heck	McCollum	Scott, David	Steube	Walden	Yoho
Higgins (NY)	McEachin	Serrano	Stewart	Walker	Young
Himes	McGovern	Sewell (AL)	Stivers	Walorski	Zeldin
Hollingsworth	McNerney	Shalala	Taylor	Waltz	
Horn, Kendra S.	Meeks	Sherman			
Horsford	Meng	Sherrill			
Houlihan	Mfume	Sires			
Hoyer	Moore	Slotkin			
Huffman	Morelle	Smith (WA)			
Jackson Lee	Moulton	Soto			
Jayapal	Mucarsel-Powell	Spanberger			
Jeffries	Murphy (FL)	Speier			
Johnson (GA)	Nadler	Stanton			
Johnson (TX)	Napolitano	Stevens			
Kaptur	Neal	Suozzi			
Keating	Neguse	Swalwell (CA)			
Kelly (IL)	Norcross	Takano			
Kennedy	O’Halleran	Thompson (CA)			
Khanna	Ocasio-Cortez	Thompson (MS)			
Kildee	Omar	Titus			
Kilmer	Pallone	Tlaib			
Kim	Panetta	Tonko			
Kind	Pappas	Torres (CA)			
Kinzinger	Pascarella	Torres Small			
Kirkpatrick	Payne	(NM)			
Krishnamoorthi	Perlmuter	Trahan			
Kuster (NH)	Peters	Trone			
Langevin	Peterson	Underwood			
Larsen (WA)	Phillips	Vargas			
Larson (CT)	Pingree	Veasey			
Lawrence	Pocan	Vela			
Lawson (FL)	Porter	Velázquez			
Lee (CA)	Pressley	Visclosky			
Lee (NV)	Price (NC)	Wasserman			
Levin (CA)	Quigley	Schultz			
Levin (MI)	Raskin	Waters			
Lieu, Ted	Rice (NY)	Watson Coleman			
Lipinski	Rose (NY)	Welch			
Loebbecke	Rouda	Wexton			
Lofgren	Royal-Allard	Wild			
Lowenthal	Ruiz	Wilson (FL)			
Lowey	Ruppersberger	Yarmuth			

NAYS—176

Allen	Flores	LaHood			
Amodei	Fortenberry	LaMalfa			
Armstrong	Foxx (NC)	Lamborn			
Arrington	Fulcher	Latta			
Babin	Gaetz	Lesko			
Bacon	Gallagher	Long			
Baird	Garcia (CA)	Loudermilk			
Balderson	Gianforte	Lucas			
Banks	Gibbs	Luettkemeyer			
Barr	Gohmert	Marshall			
Bergman	Gonzalez (OH)	Massie			
Biggs	Gooden	Mast			
Bilirakis	Gosar	McCarthy			
Bishop (NC)	Granger	McCaull			
Bishop (UT)	Graves (LA)	McClintock			
Brady	Graves (MO)	McHenry			
Brooks (AL)	Green (TN)	McKinley			
Brooks (IN)	Griffith	Meuser			
Buchanan	Grothman	Miller			
Buck	Guest	Moolenaar			
Buchanon	Guthrie	Mooney (WV)			
Budd	Hagedorn	Murphy (NC)			
Burchett	Harris	Newhouse			
Burgess	Hartzler	Norman			
Byrne	Hern, Kevin	Nunes			
Carter (GA)	Herrera Beutler	Olson			
Carter (TX)	Hice (GA)	Palazzo			
Chabot	Higgins (LA)	Palmer			
Cheney	Hill (AR)	Pence			
Cline	Hudson	Perry			
Cloud	Huizinga	Posey			
Cole	Hurd (TX)	Reed			
Comer	Jacobs	Reschenthaler			
Cook	Johnson (LA)	Rodgers (WA)			
Cookson	Johnson (OH)	Roe, David P.			
Crawford	Johnson (SD)	Rogers (AL)			
Crenshaw	Joyce (OH)	Rose, John W.			
Curtis	Joyce (PA)	Rouzer			
Davidson (OH)	Katko	Royer			
Davis, Rodney	Keller	Rutherford			
Emmer	Kelly (MS)	Scalise			
Estes	Kelly (PA)	Schweikert			
Ferguson	King (IA)				
Fitzpatrick	King (NY)				
Fleischmann	Kustoff (TN)				

Golden	Luján	Rush	Scott, Austin	Thompson (PA)	Watkins
Gomez	Luria	Sánchez	Sensenbrenner	Thornberry	Weber (TX)
Gonzalez (TX)	Lynch	Sarbanes	Shimkus	Tiffany	Webster (FL)
Gottheimer	Malinski	Scanlon	Simpson	Timmons	Wenstrup
Green, Al (TX)	Maloney,	Schakowsky	Smith (MO)	Tipton	Westerman
Grijalva	Carolyn B.	Schiff	Smith (NE)	Turner	Williams
Haaland	Maloney, Sean	Schneider	Smith (NJ)	Upton	Wilson (SC)
Harder (CA)	Matsui	Schrader	Stauber	Van Drew	Wittman
Hastings	McAdams	Schrier	Stefanik	Wagner	Womack
Hayes	McBath	Scott (VA)	Steil	Walberg	Woodall
Heck	McCollum	Scott, David	Steube	Walden	Yoho
Higgins (NY)	McEachin	Serrano	Stewart	Walker	Young
Himes	McGovern	Sewell (AL)	Stivers	Walorski	Zeldin
Hollingsworth	McNerney	Shalala	Taylor	Waltz	

NOT VOTING—31

Horn, Kendra S.	Meeks	Sherman	Abraham	DesJarlais	Mitchell
Horsford	Meng	Sherrill	Aderholt	Diaz-Balart	Mullin
Houlihan	Mfume	Sires	Slotkin	Barragán	Richmond
Hoyer	Moore	Slotkin	Smith (WA)	Beatty	Dunn
Huffman	Morelle	Spanberger	Soto	Blunt Rochester	Fudge
Jackson Lee	Moulton	Spanberger	Stanton	Bost	Gallo
Jayapal	Mucarsel-Powell	Spanberger	Stevens	Bustos	Graves (GA)
Jeffries	Murphy (FL)	Spanberger	Swalwell (CA)	Calvert	Holding
Johnson (GA)	Nadler	Spanberger	Takano	Cohen	Jordan
Johnson (TX)	Napolitano	Spanberger	Thompson (CA)	Collins (GA)	Lamb
Kaptur	Neal	Spanberger	Thompson (MS)	DeGette	Marchant

□ 1925

Messrs. GROTHMAN, LATTA, BISHOP of North Carolina, and LONG changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Ms. SPANBERGER and Mr. GREEN of Texas changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the motion to table was agreed to.

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

Butterfield	Kind (Beyer)	Payne
(Kildee)	Kirkpatrick	(Wasserman
Chu, Judy	(Stanton)	Schultz)
(Takano)	Langevin	Pingree (Clark
DeSaulnier	(Lynch)	(MA))
(Matsui)	Lawson (FL)	Pocan (Raskin)
Frankel (Clark	(Evans)	Pressley (Garcia
(MA))	(MA))	
Garamendi	Lieu, Ted (Beyer)	(IL))
(Sherman)	Lipinski (Cooper)	Royal-Allard
Grijalva (García	Lofgren (Jeffries)	(Aguilar)
(IL))	Lowenthal	Rush
Hastings	(Beyer)	(Underwood)
(Wasserman	Lowey (Tonko)	Serrano
Schultz)	McEachin	(Jeffries)
Hayes (Courtney)	(Wexton)	Thompson (CA)
Huffman (Kildee)	Meng (Clark	(Kildee)
Jackson Lee	(MA))	Thompson (MS)
(Cuellar)	Moore (Beyer)	(Bishop (GA))
Johnson (TX)	Mucarsel-Powell	Titus (Connolly)
(Jeffries)	(Wasserman	Watson Coleman
Kaptur (Dingell)	Schultz)	(Pallone)
Kennedy (Kuster	Napolitano	Wilson (FL)
(NH))	(Correa)	(Adams)

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 28 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PETERS) at 7 o’clock and 34 minutes p.m.

REAFFIRMING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES' COMMITMENT TO THE ORDERLY AND PEACEFUL TRANSFER OF POWER

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 agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1155) reaffirming the House of Representatives' commitment to the orderly and peaceful transfer of power called for in the Constitution of the United States, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. SWALWELL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 397, nays 5, not voting 29, as follows:

[Roll No. 208]

YEAS—397

Adams	Cline	Gibbs	Kim	Norcross	Smith (MO)	Smith (NE)	Butterfield	Kind (Beyer)	Payne
Aderholt	Cloud	Golden	Kind	Norman	Smith (NE)	Smith (NJ)	Kirkpatrick	(Wasserman	
Aguilar	Clyburn	Gomez	King (NY)	Nunes	Smith (NJ)	Smith (WA)	Chu, Judy	(Stanton)	Schultz
Allen	Cohen	Gonzalez (OH)	Kinzinger	O'Halleran	Smith (WA)	Soto	(Takano)	Langevin	Pingree (Clark
Allred	Cole	Gonzalez (TX)	Kirkpatrick	Ocasio-Cortez	Soto	Spanberger	Cohen (Beyer)	(Lynch)	(MA))
Amash	Comer	Gooden	Krishnamoorthi	Olson	Spanberger	Speier	DeSaulnier	Lawson (FL)	Pocan (Raskin)
Amodei	Conaway	Gosar	Kuster (NH)	Omar	Speier	Stanton	(Matsui)	(Evans)	Pressley (Garcia
Armstrong	Connolly	Gottheimer	Kustoff (TN)	Palazzo	Stanton	Stauber	Frankel (Clark	Lieu, Ted (Beyer)	(IL))
Arrington	Cook	Granger	Latta	Pallone	Stauber	Stefanik	(MA))	Lipinski (Cooper)	Royal-Allard
Axne	Cooper	Graves (LA)	Lawrence	Pelosi	Stefanik	Lieb	Garamendi	DeSaulnier	(Aguilar)
Babin	Correa	Graves (MO)	Lawson (FL)	Pence	Steil	Thornberry	(Sherman)	Lowenthal	Rush
Bacon	Costa	Green (TN)	Lee (CA)	Perlmutter	Pappas	Taylor	Grijalva (Garcia	(Beyer)	(Underwood)
Baird	Courtney	Green, Al (TX)	Lee (NV)	Perry	Thompson (CA)	Thompson (CA)	(IL))	Hastings	Lowe (Tonko)
Balderson	Cox (CA)	Griffith	Lesko	Peters	Thompson (MS)	Thompson (PA)	(Wasserman	McEachin	Serrano
Banks	Craig	Grijalva	Levin (CA)	Peters	Thompson (PA)	Thompson (PA)	Schultz	(Jeffries)	
Barr	Crawford	Grothman	Levin (MI)	Pingree	Thompson (PA)	Thompson (PA)	(Wexton)	Hayes (Courtney)	Thompson (CA)
Bass	Crenshaw	Guest	Lieu, Ted	Pocan	Thornberry	Tonko	Huffman (Kildee)	Meng (Clark	(Kildee)
Bera	Crist	Guthrie	Lipinski	Porter	Tiffany	Torres (CA)	Jackson Lee	(MA))	Thompson (MS)
Bergman	Crow	Haaland	Loebssack	Posey	Timmons	Torres Small	Moore (Beyer)	Moore (Beyer)	(Bishop (GA))
Beyer	Cuellar	Hagedorn	Lofgren	Pressley	Tipton	Torres Small	(Cuellar)	Mucarsel-Powell	Titus (Connolly)
Biggs	Cunningham	Harder (CA)	Long	Price (NC)	Titus	Torres Small	(Jeffries)	Johnson (TX)	Watson Coleman
Bilirakis	Curtis	Harris	Loudermilk	Quigley	Tlaib	Underwood	Schultz	(Jefries)	(Pallone)
Bishop (GA)	Davids (KS)	Hartzler	Lowenthal	Raskin	Tonko	Upton	Kaptur (Dingell)	Napolitano	Wilson (FL)
Bishop (NC)	Davidson (OH)	Hastings	Lowe	Reed	Torres (CA)	Upton	Kennedy (Kuster	(Correa)	(Adams)
Blumenauer	Davis (CA)	Hayes	Luetkemeyer	Rueda	Torres (CA)	Upton	(NH))		
Bonamici	Davis, Danny K.	Heck	McAdams	Reschenthaler	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Bost	Davis, Rodney	Hern, Kevin	McBath	Roth	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Boyle, Brendan F.	Dean	Herrera Beutler	McCarthy	Roybal-Allard	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Brady	DeFazio	Hice (GA)	McCauley	Ruppertsberger	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Brindisi	DeLauro	Higgins (NY)	McClintock	Rush	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Brooks (AL)	DelBene	Hill (AR)	McCollum	Rutherford	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Brooks (IN)	Delgado	Himes	McEachin	Velázquez	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Brown (MD)	Demings	Hollingsworth	McGovern	Visclosky	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Brownley (CA)	DeSaulnier	Horn, Kendra S.	McHenry	Wagner	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Buchanan	Deutch	Horsford	McKinley	Walberg	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Buck	Dingell	Houlihan	McNerney	Walden	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Bucshon	Doggett	Hoyer	McNulty	Watkins	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Budd	Doyle, Michael F.	Hudson	McNulty	Watson Coleman	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Burchett	Emmer	Huffman	McNulty	Watson Coleman	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Burgess	Engel	Huizenga	McNulty	Watson Coleman	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Butterfield	Escobar	Hurd (TX)	McNulty	Watson Coleman	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Byrne	Eshoo	Jackson Lee	Abraham	Wexton	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Calvert	Espaiat	Jacobs	Barragán	Weston	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Carbajal	Estes	Jayapal	Beatty	Westerman	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Cárdenas	Evans	Jeffries	Bishop (UT)	Westerman	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Carson (IN)	Ferguson	Johnson (GA)	Blunt Rochester	Wittman	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Carter (GA)	Finkenauer	Johnson (LA)	Bustos	Womack	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Carter (TX)	Fitzpatrick	Johnson (OH)	Collins (GA)	Yarmuth	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Cartwright	Fleischmann	Johnson (SD)	DeGette	Yarmuth	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Case	Fletcher	Johnson (TX)	DesJarlais	Yarmuth	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Casten (IL)	Fortenberry	Joyce (OH)	Diaz-Balart	Yarmuth	Torres (CA)	Upton			
Castor (FL)	Foster	Joyce (PA)							
Castro (TX)	Foxx (NC)	Kaptur							
Chabot	Frankel	Katko							
Cheney	Fulcher	Keating							
Chu, Judy	Gabbard	Keller							
Cicilline	Gallagher	Kelly (IL)							
Cisneros	Garamendi	Kelly (MS)							
Clark (MA)	Garcia (CA)	Kelly (PA)							
Clarke (NY)	Garcia (IL)	Kennedy							
Clay	Garcia (TX)	Khanha							
Cleaver	Gianforre	Kilmer							

NOT VOTING—29

Messrs. YOUNG and LAMBORN changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Madam Speaker, I regret that I missed the votes today. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 207 and "yea" on rollcall No. 208.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 965, 116TH CONGRESS

Butterfield	Kind (Beyer)	Payne
(Kildee)	Kirkpatrick	(Wasserman
Chu, Judy	(Stanton)	Schultz
(Takano)	Langevin	Pingree (Clark
Cohen (Beyer)	(Lynch)	(MA))
DeSaulnier	Lawson (FL)	Pocan (Raskin)
(Matsui)	(Evans)	Pressley (Garcia
Frankel (Clark	(Wexton)	(IL))
(MA))	Lipinski (Cooper)	Royal-Allard
Garamendi	(Sherman)	(Aguilar)
(Sherman)	Lofgren (Jeffries)	
Grijalva (Garcia	Lowenthal	Rush
(IL))	(Beyer)	(Underwood)
Hastings	Lowe (Tonko)	Serrano
(Wasserman	McEachin	(Jeffries)
Schultz	(Wexton)	Thompson (CA)
(Wexton)	Hayes (Courtney)	Meng (Clark
Huffman (Kildee)	Scott (Vide)	(Kildee)
Jackson Lee	Scott, Austin	Thompson (MS)
Moore (Beyer)	Scott, David	(Bishop (GA))
(Cuellar)	Watson Coleman	Titus (Connolly)
(Jeffries)	Schultz	Watson Coleman
Kaptur (Dingell)	Napolitano	Watson (FL)
Kennedy (Kuster	(Correa)	(Adams)

HONORING POLICE CHIEF SCOTT HENRY

(Mr. KELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, every day our men and women in law enforcement put their lives on the line to protect us, doing so willingly, faithfully, and without praise or need of recognition. Occasionally, however, I have the opportunity and the distinct pleasure to stand before this Congress and recognize these men and women for their outstanding work.

Today I am honored to recognize Mansfield University Director of Police Services and Chief of Police Scott Henry for receiving the 2020 Pennsylvania Veterans of Foreign Wars John Radko Police Officer of the Year and the VFW National Law Enforcement Officer Award. These awards are presented annually to a law enforcement officer who has shown resounding commitment to their profession and community.

Chief Henry has served our community for more than 30 years, and his service has made a lasting impact on our region.

Congratulations to Chief Henry for this wonderful achievement and reminding us all how important our police officers are in our everyday lives.

NOMINATION OF AMY CONEY BARRETT

(Ms. FOXX of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, on Saturday, the American people eagerly awaited President Trump's announcement of his third Supreme Court nomination, and he did not disappoint.

Judge Amy Coney Barrett is the embodiment of a fierce constitutional scholar, and her long list of accomplishments is nothing short of impeccable. She is highly regarded by her former students, clerks, and colleagues as a woman who possesses a piercing legal mind, a generous spirit, and a keen intellect. Her dedication to interpreting the Constitution rightfully by adhering to how it was expressly written and her impressive track record serve as the underpinnings of her nomination.

I look forward to her swift confirmation to the Supreme Court and her continued work serving our great country.

□ 2015

IN MEMORY AND HONOR OF  
JOHNATHON GRAYER

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the life of 25-year-old Johnathon Grayer, whose selfless actions led to saving the lives of multiple school children and a bus driver in the city of Alma, Georgia.

On Wednesday, August 12, Johnathon was driving a box truck that collided with a school bus that was making its normal stops. When it hit the bus, the back was left crumpled like a piece of paper. However, he remarkably jumped out of the truck, rushed onto the bus, and helped pull students out of the school bus to safety. He even lifted some seats off children who were pinned underneath.

Unfortunately, following the incident, Johnathon's body gave out, and he later passed away in the hospital.

With the help of his courage and selflessness, the lives of 10 children and the bus driver were saved. Although Johnathon's life was tragically taken, his legacy of sacrifice will live on for countless years to come. He will always be remembered as a hero who placed others before himself. His family, friends, and all who knew him will be in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, just over 2 years ago, the Carr fire burned through Shasta County, taking the lives of eight people and burning nearly 230,000 acres.

Now, I am here to report, in the same county of Shasta, the Zogg fire has broken out over this weekend, burning uncontained. As of this morning, 146 structures have been destroyed, three people have lost their lives, over 40,000 acres burned and counting.

Cal Fire and Shasta County—with the assistance of many other units across the State—are working hard to extinguish the Zogg fire, but a lack of firefighting personnel and equipment has made this a difficult one to contain. It is not an unfamiliar story.

Firefighters, first responders, and Californians alike are struggling to grapple with the 27 major fires that are burning across our State right now. With no rain in sight, the end of these disasters is not near. There is a dire need for a better way to contain these fires, or better yet, completely prevent them in the first place.

Until we increase the pace and scale of forest management and other tools that we use in the West, these never-ending fires will continue to destroy all of our land.

RECOGNITION OF SERGEANT  
FIRST CLASS RICHARD STAYSKAL

(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. Madam Speaker, this is an amazing story. I hope everybody will follow it.

Madam Speaker, I recognize Wounded Warrior Week, sponsored by the American Legion Post 469, and Sergeant First Class Richard Stayskal, United States Army.

In 2001, Richard joined the United States Marines. In 2004, in the Anbar province of Iraq, Richard was critically wounded by a bullet that passed through his arm and pierced his lung. After surgeries, PTSD, and rehab, he was honorably discharged from the United States Marine Corps.

But he was not done serving his Nation yet.

Richard reenlisted in 2006 with the U.S. Army and became an elite Green Beret. He was both in the Marines and in the Army in his lifetime. Richard was recently diagnosed with terminal lung cancer and is now in the fight of his life.

Richard, you have led a life to be emulated. You make me proud to be an American. I know you will fight this fight, give it hell, and you are going to win. God bless you.

Thank you, Richard. And thank you American Legion Post 469 for honoring this American hero.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH—IN  
HONOR OF AMILCAR CORDOVA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. HAALAND). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOTO) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I honor Amilcar Cordova.

Mr. Amilcar Cordova hails from Carolina, Puerto Rico. After high school, he moved to Pennsylvania,

where he began his career in the health insurance industry. In 1994, he relocated to Orlando, Florida, with his family while he studied business administration at Florida Metropolitan University, and later, business management at the University of Phoenix.

In 2003, he began working in the advertising industry with the largest newspaper in Puerto Rico, *El Nuevo Dia*, which just recently expanded to Central Florida. He later cofounded and served on the board of directors of Amigos Profesionales Business Network, an organization whose purpose was to help connect Hispanic professionals and business owners in Central Florida.

In 2010, he founded Cordova Marketing Solutions, a firm that specialized in the development of small businesses by providing consulting, marketing, and advertising services. During this time, he joined the Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce of Central Florida as its executive director, and in 2013, was elected as their President until the end of his term in 2016. He would resume his role as President in 2019.

Mr. Cordova is proud of his upbringing in Puerto Rico and is very grateful for the opportunities the U.S. has blessed him with. He tries to give back to his community through volunteer work, including riding his bicycle for different charities. One especially close to his heart is the Young Survival Coalition, an organization dedicated to providing essential services for breast cancer survivors under the age of 40.

Mr. Cordova shares his life with his best friend, Ms. Milly Colon. He has two sons, four grandchildren, and is blessed to still have both his parents alive and well.

For that, Mr. Cordova, we honor you.

IN HONOR OF CECILIA FIGUEROA

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, we honor Cecilia Figueroa. Cecilia Figueroa is an Ecuadorian-American journalist and media strategist. She graduated as a journalist in her native city of Guayaquil, Ecuador. She learned about faith, perseverance, and serving others from her parents, Isaac Alvia and Olimpia Ordóñez.

A woman pioneer in the print Hispanic media, her first job was at *El Nuevo Dia* an Orlando newspaper. Passionate about her work, she seeks stories promoting community outreach, education and knowledge about immigration policies that are affecting the Latino community.

Cecilia enjoys highlighting profiles of Hispanic entrepreneurs, organizations, and faith-based communities, among others. She was the producer of the radio show, *Hispanos Al Dia*, and was cohost in various other radio programs. She has provided professional services to EFE News Service, *El Sentinel de Orlando* newspaper, and many others. In 2018, she cofounded *Conexion Hispana USA*, where she was a journalist and social media manager for the platform.

In her free time, she loves to read and empower Hispanic women to reach their dreams. Cecilia enjoys sharing her knowledge in educational workshops and conferences. She was the vice president of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists in Central Florida and a founding member of Mujer Emprende Latina Orlando. She is an active member of the Hispanic American Professional and Business Women's Association of Florida.

Cecilia has been recognized by various organizations for her involvement and contributions to community causes, including Women's Day by the city of Kissimmee, the Puerto Rican Day Parade of Osceola, Nuevo Sendero, Tertulia Cuatro Gatos, Unidos Por Ecuador of Central Florida, Ecuadorian Civic Committee of Central Florida, Voices of Silence, Evangelical Fellowship of Councils of Florida, and more.

For that, Ms. Cecilia Figueroa, we honor you.

IN HONOR OF GABY ORTIGONI

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, we recognize Gaby Ortigoni.

Gaby Ortigoni is the president of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metro Orlando, which is responsible for promoting the economic development of the Hispanic community of over 1 million people.

Some of the signature events and programs they have created to promote development in the community include the Hispanic Business Conference, the Hispanic Economic Growth Summit, the Don Quijote Awards, among others.

Prior to this, she served as the regional vice president for Central Florida at Prospera, a nonprofit organization that provides free, bilingual technical assistance to Hispanic entrepreneurs who are establishing or expanding their businesses. Under her leadership, the region achieved a 23 percent increase in clients who received individual consulting services.

Gaby has also served her community in other roles, including being the manager of community relations at Orlando Utilities Commission, director of Hispanic Crime Prevention Program for FIU's Center for the Administration of Justice, senior community officer for the Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration, and being a legislative assistant in the Florida House of Representatives.

She currently serves as a board member of many local organizations, including the Orlando Economic Partnership, the Heart of Florida United Way, the Association of Latino Professionals for America, and the National Latino Peace Officer Association, among many others.

Her work ethic and commitment to her community has been recognized with numerous awards and recognitions, including Orlando Business Journal's 40 under 40, Women Who Mean Business Awards, Telemundo's Triunfadores, La Prensa's Hispanic Women Who Make a Difference Award,

Orange County Sheriff's Community Service Award, Orlando Police Department's Good Citizenship, and she was named one of the 25 Most Influential Hispanics by HCCMO's Vision Magazine.

For that, Ms. Gaby Ortigoni, we honor you.

IN HONOR OF ILUMINADA APONTE

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I recognize Iluminada Aponte.

Iluminada Aponte was born in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, and has called the United States home for over six decades. Iluminada is a self-taught folk artist whose career has taken her first to Puerto Rico and then Florida.

Iluminada's career first started with folk dance—Baile Folklorico. She performs both Puerto Rican and Dominican folk dance. From Puerto Rican bomba to Dominican bachata, Iluminada has not only been a performer, but also a dance teacher. Her passion for teaching folk dance inspires people of all ages, and she has made it her responsibility to advocate for and help educate various Hispanic groups through dance and cultural exhibitions.

Iluminada's career has been one of strengthening communities through cultural celebrations. She considers herself a cultural ambassador, not only for her native Dominican Republic, but also for the entire Hispanic community. Her early experience as a missionary across Latin America has inspired her to connect people to each other by celebrating cultural diversity.

Iluminada's commitment to promoting culture and the arts is not only seen in the diversity of her works but also in her leadership within the community. Iluminada is the founder of Alianza Dominicana of Central Florida, where she organizes and directs various cultural exhibitions highlighting Dominican and Hispanic culture to various groups within Central Florida. She has been recognized with awards from the Orange County government, the City of Orlando government, the Counsel General of the Dominican Republic in Miami, and more.

For that, Ms. Iluminada Aponte, we honor you.

IN HONOR OF FATHER JOSE RODRIGUEZ

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I recognize Father Jose Rodriguez.

Father Jose Rodriguez is a vicar of the Iglesia Episcopal Jesus de Nazaret in Orange County, Florida.

Originally from Puerto Rico, he arrived with his family to Azalea Park in 1987 and has been part of that community now for over three decades.

He learned from his parents the importance of service and advocating for others. His father was a soldier, and his mother, a shop steward for UNITE HERE Local 737 at Walt Disney World.

He was the first in his family to go to college. He graduated from Rollins College with a BA and the University of Central Florida with an MBA. For

many years, he served as the Episcopal chaplain to the University of Central Florida, where he and his wife served local students and young adults for nearly a decade.

In 2017, he was assigned to Iglesia Episcopal Jesus de Nazaret, just months before Hurricanes Irma and Maria. For both storms, the local church mobilized to meet the people's needs. Their work is far from over.

Welcoming newcomers has been a hallmark of the local Episcopal Church along the Semoran Corridor in Orlando and Kissimmee, including feeding programs, advocacy for those in need as well. Father Jose and the local church empower people to accomplish their goals by working with civic and elected leaders to promote and remove barriers to equal access to opportunity.

As a priest, Father Jose understands the unique role that religious communities can play in the development of the greater community. Preserving and upholding human dignity is at the heart of Father Jose and the local church's work. His desire is to build up a resilient community where families have access to safe communities, a living wage, affordable housing, and healthcare.

For that, Father Jose Rodriguez, we honor you.

□ 2030

IN HONOR OF MARCOS VILAR

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Marcos Vilar.

Marcos Vilar was born in Ponce, Puerto Rico, and moved to the United States mainland at the age of 14. He currently resides in Orlando, Florida.

Marcos holds a bachelor's degree in history from the University of Maryland and a master's degree in education from the University of Illinois. Marcos has worked in Chicago; Washington, D.C.; and several cities in Florida; as well as in Puerto Rico, where he has designed and implemented innovative and successful programs and campaigns in government, labor, and nonprofit settings. He has worked on civic engagement campaigns in Florida since 2011, focusing on the Puerto Rican and Hispanic communities.

Marcos worked as a teacher in Chicago in the 1990s. During his tenure at Roberto Community Academy, he was best known for working with at-risk youth and integrating arts and cultural programming into afterschool programs. He also was adviser for the student body government and a leader of the local reform movement at the school.

In January of 2002, he moved to Washington, D.C., where he held several national leadership posts, including national field director for Que Nada Nos Detenga, executive director for Americas Families United, national political director for the Service Employees International Union, and national field director for Mi Familia Vota Education Fund.

Today, Marcos serves as president and executive director of Alianza for Progress, Alianza Center, United for Progress PAC, and Vilar Strategies, LLC. He is also the founder of two prominent statewide Latino coalitions: Respeta Mi Gente and La Mesa Boricua.

For that, Mr. Marcos Vilar, we honor you.

IN HONOR OF JULIO ZAYAS

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Julio Zayas.

Julio Zayas was born in Salinas, Puerto Rico, in 1948. He moved to New York City in 1968, where he and his wife established their family in the Bronx. He has four wonderful children, seven grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Julio studied at Hostos Community College and attended Cambridge University's New York chapter, where he developed his skills as a radio announcer and in advertisements. He was a member of several civic and cultural organizations in the Bronx, including the Puerto Rican Development Project, Alianza Civica Bayamonesa, the Salinas Club, and the Puerto Rican Veterans Association of Seneca.

Julio became vice president of the Bronx Puerto Rican Parade and was the founder and president of the Puerto Rican Bronx Fair and Puerto Rican Week Festival. He worked as a consultant for the Bronx Coalition for a Better Bronx and the Soundview Community in Action as the outreach coordinator and publisher. A successful small business owner, Julio was also a poll inspector for the Bronx Board of Election.

In 2012, Julio retired to Orlando, Florida. He continued his community involvement as a volunteer with several Puerto Rican activist organizations, including: Frente 436, Iniciativa Accion Puertorriqueña, Coordinadora Ayuda Solidaridad y Apoyo, Vamos por Puerto Rico, and is the founder and president of Comite Preservacion Cultura Puertorriqueña.

Currently, he is the producer of his own radio show, Con Sabor Boricua Proyecto Radial. Julio is looking forward to other projects in the future to empower the Puerto Rican community in central Florida.

For that, Mr. Julio Zayas, we honor you.

IN HONOR OF WANDA RAMOS

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Ms. Wanda Ramos.

Ms. Wanda Ramos was born and raised in Puerto Rico. She moved to Orlando, Florida, in 1999 and became involved in fighting for workers' rights, empowering new voters, and creating awareness about the importance of parental involvement in education.

Wanda has been a board member of various organizations, such as: Jobs with Justice, Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, Community

Legal Services of Mid-Florida, and the Legal Advocacy Center of Central Florida.

While working as a retailer, Wanda organized workers to achieve better working conditions and better pay. She was a founding member of Vamos4PR Florida and Pa'lante Por Mas. Recently, she became a statewide board member of Organize Florida.

As a founding member of Vamos Por Puerto Rico, she helped to spearhead the campaign Se Habla Espanol to petition the Orange County Public Schools to provide language access to non-English-speaking parents and students. She also advocated for the families arriving from Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria to better understand and properly enroll their kids in school.

Wanda was recognized as Citizen of the Year in 2015 for Orange County District 3 after organizing neighbors in their efforts to improve their community. Wanda continues to support our community through radio shows as well as her online program "Wanda Contigo," bringing awareness about community issues.

For that, Ms. Wanda Ramos, we honor you.

IN HONOR OF JOSE RODRIGUEZ

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Jose Rodriguez.

Jose Rodriguez arrived in Palmetto, Florida, at the age of 12 from El Salvador. While attending school, he recalls being pulled out of regular class for 2 hours a day to practice English.

During his first 5 years in the United States, Mr. Rodriguez and his family were migrant farmworkers, living 9 months in Florida and 3 months up north, following the crops with the help of the Summer Migrant Institute held in Tampa at the University of South Florida.

Mr. Rodriguez graduated early from high school, in the top 10 percent of his class. He was the first Hispanic person in Manatee County to be accepted into a 4-year university, where he earned his associate's degree.

Mr. Rodriguez has worked as a general manager and on-air personality for La Que Buena, a regional Mexican radio station in Orlando. As part of his work, he makes sure to give airtime to nonprofit organizations and elected officials that support the immigrant community. While sharing his passion for music with his listeners, Mr. Rodriguez always keeps central Floridians informed on community resources like food drives, housing assistance, COVID-19 testing sites, and much more.

Mr. Rodriguez also serves on the leadership committee of the Farmworkers Association of Florida. He draws his inspiration from his community, his two beautiful daughters, and his late wife.

For that, Mr. Jose Rodriguez, we honor you.

IN HONOR OF DR. ANTONIO CRESPO

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Dr. Antonio Crespo.

Dr. Antonio Crespo is an infectious disease specialist in central Florida with over 18 years of experience in his field. In May of 2014, he led the team that cared for the second case of Middle Eastern respiratory syndrome, MERS, in the United States. Currently, he is part of the team that has prepared and managed the COVID-19 pandemic, helping many in the Orlando community.

He first earned his medical degree from Universidad Central de Venezuela and later moved to the United States to continue his education. He completed his residency at Albert Einstein Medical Center and infectious disease training at Temple University, both in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Since 2002, he has been part of the infectious disease team at Orlando Health, where he now serves as the chief of staff and the medical director of infectious diseases at Dr. P. Phillips Hospital.

He has received several Attending of the Year awards and frequently appears among Orlando's Best Doctors. In 2012, he received the Lifetime Exemplary Physician Colleague Award given by Orlando Health.

Dr. Crespo also takes time to serve as a clinical instructor at the Florida State University College of Medicine and as the new program director of the Infectious Disease Fellowship at Orlando Health. His passion for teaching new generations has inspired many on the path of infectious diseases so that more doctors might continue the fight against these elusive enemies.

For that, Dr. Antonio Crespo, we honor you.

IN HONOR OF PAMELA AND ESTELA JUAREZ

Mr. SOTO. In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Pamela and Estela Juarez.

For nearly 20 years, Cuauhtemoc "Temo" Juarez and his wife, Alejandra Juarez, worked together to build and sustain their American Dream in Polk County, Florida.

Mr. Juarez, a naturalized U.S. citizen, grew up in Osceola County and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps right after graduating from high school. He would later reenlist in the United States Army Reserve.

After his honorable discharge from the Marines, he came home, started his own flooring business, and met and married Mrs. Alejandra Juarez. Together, they worked hard to make their business a success. They built a home, joined a church, volunteered to help the less fortunate, and had two beautiful daughters, Pamela and Estela.

Two years ago, their dreams were shattered when Mrs. Juarez was deported under the current administration's zero-tolerance policy. Despite the roots she set up, despite her husband's brave and honorable service, despite the fact that her husband and two

daughters are U.S. citizens, she was forced to return to Mexico in August of 2018.

Pamela is now 18. She recently graduated from high school with honors, has started online college classes, and plans to become a social worker. She has campaigned to build grassroots support for the families of military veterans who, like hers, have lost a family member to a cruel immigration policy. This November, she will vote for the first time.

Estela, 11 years old, lived with her mom in Mexico but is now back in Florida, where she just started the sixth grade. She is following in the footsteps of civil rights leader John Lewis, whose book "March" inspired her. Estela is now working on a picture book about her struggle to reunite her family.

Both young women have suffered enormously because of the trauma their family has endured. They and their family have been working hard to bring their mother home and will continue to do so until they are united again.

For that, Pamela and Estela Juarez, we honor you.

**IN SUPPORT OF THE DIGITAL TAXONOMY ACT  
AND THE BLOCKCHAIN INNOVATION ACT**

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, today, I am pleased that the House passed, as part of the Consumer Safety Inspection Enhancement Act, two pieces of legislation that we were able to offer in the Energy and Commerce Committee, the Digital Taxonomy Act, H.R. 2154, and the Blockchain Innovation Act, H.R. 8153.

We were very pleased to work in a bipartisan fashion to secure the inclusion of these two bills. Both bills will study and highlight the consumer protection aspects of blockchain technology and digital assets. They are the first blockchain bills to pass the House.

H.R. 8153, the Blockchain Innovation Act, directs the Department of Commerce, in consultation with the Federal Trade Commission, to conduct a study and submit to the Congress a report on the state of blockchain technology in commerce, including its use to reduce fraud and increase security. It is setting up a larger long-term goal that we have to establish a blockchain center of excellence within the Commerce Department.

Blockchain has enormous potential for innovation and economic growth. I believe, as government officials, we need to support that growth and enable its appropriate use for government business and consumers. We will continue to push until we have these policy objectives put into law with proper regulations so we can best position ourselves to be leaders in this space, especially when we see rivals like China and Russia pushing in these technologies.

The Digital Taxonomy Act requires the FCC to submit a report to Congress about recommendations on unfair and deceptive trade practices and other practices related to digital tokens.

□ 2045

Specifically, the report asked the FTC to make legislative recommendations for how to further protect consumers and promotion and innovation in the global digital token sector.

I look forward to continuing to work with our colleagues, both in the Energy and Commerce Committee and throughout the Congress, to help make sure we keep a competitive edge in blockchain for both digital security and for cryptocurrency and to enhance the use of artificial intelligence in the future.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank Chairman PALLONE, Chairwoman SCHAKOWSKY, Representative MCNERNEY, and the committee for allowing me to incorporate these two bills.

We appreciate Representative RODGERS, Representative GUTHRIE, and Representative MATSUI, as well as our original cosponsor, Representative DAVIDSON, for all of their hard work.

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

**TRIBUTE TO JOHN SHIMKUS**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Louisiana?

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, tonight we are going to spend the next hour paying tribute to a special man who has served here in this Congress since 1997, our dear friend, Congressman JOHN SHIMKUS.

JOHN came to Congress back at a time when you saw a lot more collegiality. In fact, Madam Speaker, tonight we have Republicans and Democrats on this floor who are going to be talking about JOHN SHIMKUS, the man; JOHN SHIMKUS, our friend; JOHN SHIMKUS, the legislator, somebody who, when he retires, will have a proud record of achievement showing how he made his mark on this great Nation.

We are joined in this House Chamber tonight by JOHN's lovely wife, Karen, who is here tonight. His son, Josh, is not far from the Chamber. We have many friends, and I know we have a limited amount of time.

First, Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), the dean of the House.

Mr. YOUNG. Madam Speaker, I thank the leader for yielding.

JOHN SHIMKUS has been my friend. He has done well for this House.

He and I played paddleball together. We never lost. We will be challenged on that, but that is true.

I have a saying that many people may not recognize. Why do the good people leave this Congress and the SOBs stay behind? I have been here 48 years, so I have to reconsider that.

But, JOHN, we will miss you. You are a great Congressman; you are a great ally; you are a great American; and I know you have served your district very well. God bless you in the future for things you may do.

Mr. SCALISE. Thank you, DEAN YOUNG. We are going to check that record. I know I am glad I never went up against you, although you have taken a few of us to the woodshed.

Madam Speaker, keeping with the bipartisan tradition, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCNERNEY), our friend on the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. MCNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I thank the whip for the opportunity to say some words here.

Madam Speaker, my first impression of JOHN was pretty scary. It was my first day on the Energy and Commerce Committee, and JOHN was in the top dais, and I was down in front, a little freshman. JOHN looked down on us and said: Your policies in the Democratic Party are going to cost you your seat.

I looked back. "Oh, geez, I hope he is not looking at me." He was, but we got over it.

It is funny, when the climate change issue came up, JOHN had a standard practice. He would bring out this big picture of his coal mine workers, and say: You guys, climate policy is going to cost these people their jobs.

That is a hard argument to fight against. That is a hard argument because you know he is fighting for his people. I know there are other people here who are shaking their heads on that one, but I respected that. He was fighting for the people he cared about and the people he represented.

But there were some things JOHN and I had in common. We both played paddleball, and we were pretty evenly matched, so we got some good games in there. The great thing about that is that you get to know people who you wouldn't otherwise get to know, and that was important. I think that is a tradition that we need to carry on.

We also both went to West Point, so we had that little bit in common, and it was fun to talk about that.

Eventually, we started talking about policy. One day, I asked Henry Waxman: What about JOHN SHIMKUS?

Henry said: He is a nice guy, JERRY.

Then he frowned, and he said: But he sure is conservative.

That is coming from Henry Waxman, so I don't know if that means anything or not.

JOHN and I started talking about nuclear waste and policy. He took me to Yucca Mountain. It is pretty impressive, but it is totally shut down.

Sorry to tell you, JOHN, it ain't going to happen, as much as we would like it to.

I even talked to Dean Heller about it, and Dean Heller said: Oh, JOHN SHIMKUS, people in Nevada think of him as Darth Vader.

Later, it was suggested that the Democrats and the Republicans sit together during the State of the Union, and that is cool. JOHN and I sat together. I have to tell you, it is weird when the President is in the other party, and you are sitting with that party. Everyone stands up and cheers, and you are sitting on your hands.

We got through that. We still play paddleball occasionally.

I think as time went on, we got to be friends, and we talked a lot. I can tell you, JOHN has made an impression on me. He stands up for what he believes in. We need more people like that, that have strong beliefs. They are willing to fight for what they believe in but are also willing to compromise and work with the other side to make progress happen.

That is what we need in this institution. I respect JOHN for that.

We will miss having him here, but we will find somebody else.

Mr. SCALISE. With that warm tribute, Madam Speaker, clearly, we work well together. We have a comity with each other. You have to keep your sanity around here by keeping things lighthearted in the middle of a lot of heated battles sometimes. But in the meantime, when you think about the friendships—and I will share my story about JOHN shortly.

There is a townhouse that JOHN SHIMKUS owns here in Washington, D.C., and it is a four-bedroom townhouse. There are four Members of Congress who live in that townhouse. We each have our own bedrooms and bathrooms, but we come together. It has been, I think, a special part of all of our times up here in Congress to get to know each other so well.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BRADY), the Member of Congress who has lived in the townhouse with JOHN the longest, probably going back to when he purchased it, our dear friend, colleague, and roommate.

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I thank the whip for organizing the Special Order.

Remind me never to have Congressman McNERNEY do my eulogy. The crowd would never believe it.

Madam Speaker, we are here to honor a remarkable man, a classmate, and a friend of mine for 24 years.

We all know, in Washington and across the country, his leadership and energy for the Energy and Commerce Committee and his leadership in the Environment and Climate Change Subcommittee. But you may not know his achievements in the heart.

He is committed to the Baltic States, in developing and enhancing that relationship with the U.S.; his many years

of service on the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, traveling back and forth to Europe to lay out and preserve that important relationship; his role serving on the Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents; and his service on the West Point Board of Governors. He has an amazing legacy for our country.

He has worked with colleagues on both sides of the aisle to achieve things that matter to real people. His 1998 bill signed into law, allowing for biofuel use in Federal, State, and private fleets, has made biodiesel more readily available at fuel pumps across the country.

He is always focused on making sure 911 worked for the American people. In 1999, he designated 911 as the universal emergency number in the U.S. for mobile as well as landline telephones and continues to improve on that for our safety and security.

He led the bill to require Federal testing of children's booster seats, something every parent can take to heart.

Following that, he created a new internet domain, a place where children could go that was safe and secure from predators. It was game-changing.

His 2003 law created a placement for heart defibrillators in schools.

You can see a theme here: helping real people, helping children, helping families. He continued that work throughout his years on the Energy and Commerce Committee.

I can go on and on, but he took on tough issues as well, ones that people never thought could be solved, like the Toxic Substance Control Act, something he worked years for, to build bipartisan support, something that makes our Nation more secure environmentally as well.

We all know, since we have nicknamed him Yucca SHIMKUS for many years, his devotion to trying to find a safe, secure nuclear energy future for America.

He didn't do this by himself. He has an amazing family. His wife, Karen, as STEVE said, is here today. His three sons, David, Josh, and Daniel, who we watched growing up reading in the townhouse, backing their dad.

His heart is never far away from his hometown of Collinsville, Illinois. He is, as you know, a proud graduate of the United States Military Academy. He served over 5 years Active Duty in the Army and then entered the Army Reserves. He retired with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

After 28 years of military service, I can tell you, because I was his roommate, when we finished long days at the Capitol, trying to figure out how we get ready for the next day, John was leaving to go to a Reserve training and continuing education, or the weekends on his training as well. He has a devotion to this country that is unbelievable.

His service has not just been to his country but to his community. He ran and won his first election for the

school township trustees because he wanted to help children in his community. He was elected as Madison County treasurer so he could serve a broader group of constituents.

In 1996, he won his first term in the United States House from Illinois' 20th District. Today, he represents the 33 counties of the 15th District.

I can tell you, it must be an amazing district because we all know where the largest ketchup bottle in America is located: Collinsville, Illinois. We know his district is the horseradish capital of the world, with the International Horseradish Festival, horseradish food, horseradish fun.

I will tell you, he loves his Lord. He loves his family. He has always fretted about how much more he can do to help our church, the Holy Cross Lutheran Church, in which he has worshipped his entire life.

Two points, as we finish, for me.

You would love being his roommate. He is a man of integrity, of character. He is, every morning, the first one up in the morning, sitting at the kitchen table reading the Bible, sending out those Bible phrases for his friends and colleagues in preparing for his day.

He is an amazing teammate, along with classmate and roommate. He and I played in the Congressional Baseball Game now for 23 straight years. He is a baseball player. He has won MVP four or five times. We have lost count. He is the last Member of Congress to hit a home run out of the field, out of the park, on his first to bat in the first year in Congress. He has never hit the ball anywhere close ever since.

He was a catcher, a pitcher, and the captain of our team, which doesn't surprise you. He has been the captain of everything he has been involved with his entire life. With this, I will tell how remarkable, how gutsy, this guy is.

In 2004 or so, he had open-heart surgery in the spring, which, of course, would mean he would miss his favorite baseball game. We had the Congressional Baseball Game, and the doctor told him he could begin to start exercising 3 months after the surgery. Well, the baseball game happened to be exactly 3 months after the surgery.

Another pitcher started the game, was called back to Congress for votes in the Senate, and out of the bullpen came JOHN SHIMKUS, 3 months after heart surgery, not arthroscopic surgery, the kind that cracks you open.

□ 2100

There he was, three up, three down, helping save the game for the Republicans. That is the kind of lawmaker, that is the kind of friend, that is the kind of competitor he is. JOHN is never letting you down.

He has always upheld the highest standards for our country, for Congress, and I will tell you, at a time where each day you are told what is wrong with America, JOHN SHIMKUS is what is right with America. We are so proud of our friend's service, and he will be missed like nobody else.

God bless you, JOHN. Thank you.

Mr. SCALISE. As you can see, Madam Speaker, these are tough jobs, these are tough times, but when you come up to Congress, you don't just come up here to fight for the things you believe in. That is clearly why you run. We all have a deep love for this country. We all have a deep set of beliefs that we come to try to advocate for. But we all know, in a job like this, you can't do it alone. You need to work with other people. You need to find allies, people who want to help join you in that cause to advance the things you believe in. And along that way, Madam Speaker, you truly do make deep friendships.

I remember, I was a new Member in a special election. I came in towards the tail end of a Congress in 2008 with only 6 months left in the term. I didn't really know anybody here. I was trying to find my way, in fact, trying to find a place to live. I was living with one of my college roommates who works up here in D.C. They had a baby on the way, and I was staying in the baby's room, so I knew I had a few weeks left before I had to find another place to live.

So I asked my colleague right over there, I asked Jim McCrery, the Congressman from Louisiana, I said: Jim, I am looking for a place. What do you do to find a place around here?

He said: Well, you know, JOHN SHIMKUS has an opening at his town house.

I said: Who is JOHN SHIMKUS?

I didn't know JOHN. And he literally pointed, and JOHN was right there in the well of the House during a vote series. So all the Members of Congress were joined together, and he points JOHN out.

I walked down, and I introduced myself to JOHN. I said: I heard you have an opening at your town house. I just came here, and I am looking for a place to stay.

He said: Why don't you come by later tonight.

And that, Madam Speaker, started an incredible friendship.

That next day, I called my wife, Jennifer, that night and I said: I think I found a place to live."

That next day I moved in. I didn't really know KEVIN BRADY, and next thing you know, I am rooming with these gentlemen and getting to know people who became dear friends.

And again, in a job like this, you work really hard advocating for the things that you ran on back home. You are fighting for the people in your district. I am honored to represent southeast Louisiana. But you are also working with some incredible people, and you get to meet incredible people along the way. JOHN SHIMKUS is truly, as KEVIN said, one of those true, genuine people, somebody you can entrust the things that you want to share with only a few people.

Close friendships do form up here. You don't hear about that a lot, yet we were able to form such a deep friendship, somebody you can trust.

As KEVIN said, JOHN went to West Point. He is an Army guy, so he was the drill sergeant in the town house. And when JOHN says something, you back your brother's play.

In fact, the second day I was in the town house, JOHN said: Steve, tomorrow you have got to get up at 6 in the morning, and we are going out to play baseball.

I didn't know about the tradition between the Democrats and Republicans. I guess I have JOHN to blame.

JOHN said: You have got to come out for the baseball team.

I hadn't played baseball in over 25 years. I didn't even have a glove, and yet, next thing you know, the next morning I am up playing baseball. And, boy, what a start of, again, an ability to generate even more friendships, to forge friendships with people on both sides of the aisle, some that you work with on a regular basis, some that you are not always working with, but people you get to form a deep friendship with.

And that is really what makes Congress work. It is not the things that you see on the nightly news, the big fights that go on between the parties and sometimes within the parties, but it is the day-to-day grind where people do come together and find common ground to advance the things that they believe in to make this a greater nation. And JOHN SHIMKUS has done that on so many fronts. I got to see it.

Yes, he is the first one up. He is reading his Bible. He is writing down verses. But when it is time to leave, he starts to whistle. And you don't need an alarm clock. When JOHN starts to whistle, that means it is time to go to work.

And, again, he is just a person who wakes up and goes to work for the people of southern Illinois and the United States of America, just like he served our country in the military. For 24 years, he served this great Nation.

We are a better nation because JOHN SHIMKUS has been a Member of this wonderful body, the people's House. This is really where people come together.

I started this morning in Philadelphia. I had some meetings there, and I actually, on my way out, passed by Independence Hall. You never can see that enough. I got to see the Liberty Bell this morning. I got to go see the chamber where George Washington sat as they signed the Declaration of Independence, where they wrote the Constitution of the United States, right next door, the chamber where Congress met for 10 years when they were building this beautiful building, where they actually passed the Bill of Rights.

We are all honored to be a part of this special place where people of all walks of life come together. And you meet people of different backgrounds, you work with people of different backgrounds, and you work to make this a better country. And you just hope, you just pray, as you are praying to God for

strength, for wisdom, for guidance, as we all do, that whenever you leave—we all leave this job; hopefully, you leave on your own terms—if you look back, you can say that you left your mark, you made this a better country.

JOHN SHIMKUS, you left your mark. You get to leave on your own terms. You get to go home with Karen and enjoy your life in southern Illinois. You have earned this opportunity to have a new chapter in your life because you can look back and say, for 24 years, you served here in this great body and made this a better institution and made this a better country because of your service.

Thank you, JOHN, for this opportunity to get to know you so well.

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

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, although I was unable to join in person tonight, I want to lend my voice to the chorus of colleagues assembling to honor JOHN SHIMKUS' service in Congress. I thank JOHN for his friendship, and commitment to public service. I wish him nothing but health and happiness for himself and his family during his upcoming retirement from Congress.

JOHN came to Washington one term before I did. We had offices next to each other on the fifth floor of the Cannon Building. As most members and staff know, most of the elevators in Cannon do not go to the fifth floor, making those offices not the most desirable real estate. But JOHN and I not only stayed there as Freshman members, but we stayed a few terms, enjoying the larger offices and the somewhat quieter halls. JOHN and I, as well as our staff, got along well, especially Cathy Hurwit, my long time Chief of Staff and Craig Roberts, JOHN's then and current Chief.

Though there were issues on which JOHN and I disagreed, we had the opportunity to work closely together on issues affecting our state. The Illinois Delegation had a tradition of monthly bipartisan lunches. The agendas focused on issues specific to Illinois. Often we would agree to support legislation, funding or projects that could help all our constituents and benefit our state. Illinois was one of the few delegations that was able to work so smoothly together, and JOHN was a leader in that effort.

JOHN and I both earned positions on the prestigious Energy and Commerce Committee. I saw up close how passionately JOHN fought for his beliefs and constituents. His tone was always positive, even as he disagreed with other members. I have enjoyed serving with him on the Committee all these years.

JOHN SHIMKUS is well liked on both sides of the aisle. Why? Because JOHN SHIMKUS is a kind man, a smart man, and a gentleman. We have been able to debate without spite, collaborate, and sometimes find common ground. This is how collegiality and compromise work, and I wish we could bottle it and send it around the halls of Congress.

JOHN will be missed here. I hope he enjoys every extra moment he's earned with Karen, David, Joshua, and Daniel.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN SHIMKUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the Chair recognizes the

gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, at this point, I will go over to the other side of the aisle to yield to my friend, the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) to offer his comments.

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

JOHN, it is an honor and pleasure to be here with our colleagues to salute you and thank you for the tremendous service that you have provided not only to people of your congressional district, but the people of this Nation.

It is very obvious that you are much loved and appreciated and respected by your colleagues in this House. It is also humbling to know that you have brought a good name to politics, and you have reminded us by your very actions and your deeply rooted beliefs in the various issues that you tackle that it is not only okay, but it is essential to have differences in this House; and it is to share those differences in a respectable way, which you have always done so as to build the best product.

So I think this evening we salute your integrity and your humility, which oftentimes is what I think drives your personality to be able to achieve and to have this driving force to accomplish on behalf of the people. I appreciate the opportunity to participate this evening, and I will try not to undermine JOHN SHIMKUS' sterling conservative credentials by joining in this discussion this evening.

For 6 years, I have served as the ranking member to Mr. SHIMKUS' subcommittee chair. In the past 2 years, we have switched roles. But during all of that time, we have disagreed on many occasions. In fact, we are disagreeing right now, but that doesn't stop me from coming here this evening to just share my respect with others for you and the tremendous performance you have put forth on behalf of the Republic.

But as I have found, you have been tremendously accessible, very open-minded and fair, always looking for a way for us to achieve and to build that compromise. It has been a great partnership, even if we didn't see eye to eye on everything.

I will always appreciate that we would work together to try to find common ground on issues where we thought we could agree. I am proud of our bipartisan work on brownfields, where we reauthorized and improved that program. Certainly, the drinking water infrastructure efforts that we made is essential for our communities. We made some great improvements to both of those programs, and it would not have been possible without your leadership, JOHN.

And while we have had some different perspectives on TSCA, I believe it is fair to say that Representative SHIMKUS has done some undeniably monumental work on chemical safety for this country.

His district and this Chamber are losing a great Representative, and Yucca Mountain is losing a frequent visitor.

JOHN, I congratulate you on your retirement. I wish you and Karen the very best as you go forward. You have displayed to me tremendous qualities of character when you speak of your family, the love you have for them. It is just apparent in your face when you talk about them. You are so proud of that partnership you have with Karen and of the children, the offspring that you have created.

It is also very evident that you have enjoyed service to this country, not only in this House, but as a member of the New York delegation, I am proud to say that we adopt you as a West Point cadet and that you have shown your strength and your valor and your courage to be a strong element that you have contributed to this country.

I thank you for your integrity. I thank you for your deeply rooted faith that has made a lot of our partnership work. You are guided with that humble spirit to serve your Creator through the gifts you have been endowed.

Thank you for being such a great friend, thank you for being such a great work partner, and thank you for the success that we have achieved together, and I hope there is more to come in the ensuing days and weeks that you will be here.

So, congratulations, my friend. Know that you made your mark and that you have earned many stars after your name.

God bless.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Thank you, Mr. TONKO, for your comments. I felt a little JOHN SHIMKUS-y here. I was getting a little impatient. I thought we were running out of time. So I am going to ask my colleagues to please try to limit your comments to a maximum of 2 minutes.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LAHOOD), my good friend and fellow Illinoian.

Mr. LAHOOD. Thank you, Congressman DAVIS, for yielding.

It is a pleasure to be here tonight with my colleagues to honor JOHN SHIMKUS. I obviously echo the remarks of everyone who spoke before me.

We have heard about JOHN's service, obviously his service at West Point and his service to the Army, 28 years serving us in the military, retiring as a lieutenant colonel. But as the newest member of the Republican delegation, coming in 5 years ago, I just want to comment on what JOHN SHIMKUS has meant to me as a new Member coming in on a special election in September of 2015.

JOHN is the head of our delegation, was there for me, as he has been for so many of us here in the Congress. JOHN's friendship, his mentorship, his example that he has set for us has been invaluable. He really has set the gold standard for being a legislator, and my colleagues have talked about that.

He showed the importance of good constituent service, being a cheer-

leader for your district, and making the Federal Government work for the people that you represent. JOHN has been in Congress for all the right reasons and, as has been articulated by my colleagues, shown how much he cares for his family, his faith, and the constituents he represents in southern Illinois.

JOHN, you are going to leave an indelible mark here in the Congress on the work you did on the House Energy and Commerce Committee and in the people's House here. Illinois and this country owe you a sincere thanks for your selfless service, not only to Congress, but to the Army.

□ 2115

We will miss you in the Illinois delegation, but we know that Karen and your three sons will be happy to have you home.

Madam Speaker, I also want to mention, putting Congressman DAVIS aside, JOHN has hired very good staff in his time in Congress, and I mean that. If you look at the people that have worked for JOHN SHIMKUS that have come through his organization, they are people that have gone on to do great things back in Illinois and here in Washington, D.C., and that is another testament to JOHN SHIMKUS and his team.

Madam Speaker, I have to give a shout out to Craig Roberts, his long-time staffer. He and JOHN have done a remarkable job leading this delegation and doing so much for their district and the people of Illinois.

So, JOHN, I want to congratulate you on a well-earned retirement and thank you for everything you have done for me and our country, and Congress is a better place because of your service.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman LAHOOD for his comments.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST), my colleague, who has known JOHN SHIMKUS since before he was even elected.

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. DAVIS for yielding.

You know, that is true, I have known JOHN SHIMKUS since he was actually a treasurer in Madison County, where he was the one that held the spot after it had been 10 years since a Republican had held the spot, and he took that.

I was a State legislator, and I kept hearing about this guy, JOHN SHIMKUS from Madison County. I actually came to know him as I ran for State representative. And then all of a sudden, they said he is going to run for Congress, and I thought, what a wonderful thing.

You know, each one of us in our districts when we see that and as we are local elected officials, we think, oh, that is going to be good, but we didn't realize how great it would be.

At this time, when we would like to joke with JOHN because we love him, the reality is he has served his district well. He hasn't just served his district

well. He has served the State well, he has served the Nation well, and he has made differences in the world.

I would like to harass him about the fact that he is an Army guy, as a Marine, but the reality is that he served well in the Army as well.

He is a man of integrity. He is a man of faith. He loves his family. And, really, that is what our Nation is about.

He is going to be missed terribly in this body.

We want to joke about the fact that he is quitting. But you know what? He didn't quit. He stood up. He stood up in tough times. He stood up in good times. But the people of this Nation are better because this man has served in Congress.

He is a close friend. You can hear that with the people that are talking here.

He is a father who loves his children. He is a husband that loves his wife. He is a man that loves his God. Who could ask for anything more?

JOHN, thank you.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI), my colleague.

Madam Speaker, if it takes us up, you know, I am going to start actually asking for time.

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI. Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman DAVIS for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank JOHN SHIMKUS and wish him the very best in his retirement.

Now, JOHN, you may not remember this, but 4 years ago when I joined this Congress, I said I would like to come and meet you, so you invited me to your office. You could not pronounce my name. Few people can. I said, Just call me RAJA. My last name allows me to get on a first-name basis with everybody in this place.

From that point forward, we developed a relationship, a friendship, to the point where very recently, I came to him and asked him to cosponsor a piece of legislation, and he just said, "Put me on it," without even asking me what I was asking him to cosponsor.

It was moving to me, because he trusted me, and it was based on a friendship rooted on shared values. Even though we may not be in the same party, we are all Americans, and that is something that I deeply cherish about our relationship.

Now, as a wise man once said, we can find common ground only by moving to a higher ground, only by moving to a higher ground.

Working with JOHN proved to me that we can ascend to higher heights, but only if we try.

JOHN SHIMKUS represents the epitome of a legislator who tries to ascend to higher ground every day.

Madam Speaker, I thank JOHN and his excellent staff, including his long-time chief, Craig Roberts, for their incredible devoted service to their family, to their community, and to their country.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI for his comments tonight.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN), a good friend of Congressman SHIMKUS and all of us.

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman DAVIS for yielding.

To Karen Shimkus and the family, thank you for sharing JOHN with all of us for so many years. Thank you for your warmth and friendship as well.

I am told that JOHN is a big fan of the movie "Tombstone." As the former chairman of the committee, now ranking member of the committee, there are a couple of great quotes out of "Tombstone" that I think sum up for many of us who have the pleasure to serve with him and see his passion for his district, see his passion for his community, see his passion for good policy. One of them would be when Kurt Russell said: "Tell him the law is coming. You tell 'em I'm coming and hell's coming with me."

When you want somebody at your side fighting for a cause, that sums up JOHN SHIMKUS.

Russell also said: "You called down thunder. Well, now you've got it."

As we have tackled these issues and we have watched JOHN stand up for the people that sent him here, we know that he is by their side. And he not only brings the passion, but he brings the intellect and he brings deep principle to every fight.

So, JOHN, we wish you and Karen and the family well.

God speed in your next endeavor, my friend.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. WALDEN for his comments.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MCKINLEY), sticking with the Energy and Commerce Committee that Mr. SHIMKUS has served on since he got to Congress in 1996.

Mr. MCKINLEY. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. DAVIS for yielding.

I rise tonight to honor my friend, JOHN SHIMKUS. Ten years ago, JOHN took me under his wing and was my mentor to get started in this, and I can't tell you how much I have learned from being around JOHN.

Now, in Scotland, "McKinley" means "stubborn" in Gaelic.

I have wondered, what does "Shimkus" mean in Lithuanian? Now, I have got to think, the only thing I can think of, trying to shake this out, is it must mean "persistence," because I have never met a person as persistent as JOHN SHIMKUS. He personifies the trait.

Think about what he has done in his 24 years here in Congress. Just most recently, his relentless focus in leading on the Brownfields legislation, or the fly ash legislation, or his love of TSCA.

So, JOHN, you have made a difference. You have impacted many of us in our careers. You will never know how

many lives you have touched and the hundreds of thousands of jobs that through your legislation you have helped create in America. I think we all owe you a debt of gratitude for that.

So thank you for being a friend, thank you for being a great American.

Thank you, Karen, for sharing him with us.

It has been an honor to work with you, and I wish you the best in the years to come.

God bless you.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. MCKINLEY for his comments tonight.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS), another leader on the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I thank JOHN for his service to the Congress, his service to the country. And JOHN's life has been all about service from West Point, to the U.S. Army, U.S. Army Reserves.

For 15 years, it has been my high privilege to serve with JOHN on the Energy and Commerce Committee. You can tell by the number of members of the Energy and Commerce Committee who are here tonight just the impact he has had on that committee.

I will tell you, JOHN, one of my fondest memories is in March 2011 after Harry Reid had shut down the project that was to be long-term nuclear storage out at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. I still have a piece of rock that the Yucca mucker kicked up and the tailings when we walked into that enormous man-made cavern out there.

But your passion for that issue has not dimmed over the years, and I will just promise you that we will take it up and carry on in the Congresses to come.

I thank you very much for the privilege of having known you.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. BURGESS for his comments.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. BROOKS), another Energy and Commerce member.

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise today to honor my good friend and fellow midwesterner, our colleague, Congressman JOHN SHIMKUS.

I had the absolute honor of serving with him also on the Energy and Commerce Committee.

His 24 years of serving this body has had a tremendous impact on our country, as we have heard, but personally, his role on the steering committee had a critical impact on my own career, from which I am retiring from Congress this year as well.

I thank him for fighting for me, because for the first time ever, two Hoosiers made it to the Energy and Commerce Committee, which was unprecedented, in myself and Dr. BUCSHON.

So the reputation of the E&C, he has led the way in working both sides of the aisle, as we have seen, to create bipartisan legislation that he crafted to help all Americans. He was instrumental in designating 911 as the universal emergency number. I am a former teacher and the mom of a teacher; he ensured that schools have the appropriate lifesaving equipment to keep students safe.

As a proud Lithuanian descendant—and I might say, he is a rock star in Lithuania, and I was there once with he and Karen in Lithuania—his support for our staunch ally has been critical to our two countries' really important relationship.

There are just so many things to mention.

This body is going to miss him and his patriotic passion dearly, but I wish JOHN and Karen really an incredible retirement of love and a lot of music.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I thank Mrs. BROOKS for her comments tonight.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA), another E&C member.

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman so much. I appreciate my friend for yielding.

JOHN, we are going to miss you.

You probably don't remember this, because you talk to a lot of folks, but even before I got here, one of the first persons I talked with was you in your office. I can still remember. One of the things I was talking about was, How do I get on E&C? I hadn't even gotten elected yet. But you were very gracious to talk with me that afternoon, and I will never forget it.

One of the things I know about you is this: you have got your priorities right in life, and it is the way you build things. It is your God, your family, and your country. You always, always show that to the rest of us. It was something you believed in.

Again, we all have such great respect for you.

Also, serving on committee with you and when you were chairing the Environment and Climate Change Subcommittee, one of the things you were passionate about is making sure things got done.

And TSCA, when we were talking about getting things done, no one thought it was going to get done. You got it done.

The other thing you were working on that we have still got to get done is when we talk about Yucca Mountain. I will never forget when you took a group of us out there to Yucca. Again, it is something that you believed in, but it is something that we have to do. So that is your legacy.

For all your years of service now here in the House, but also to your country in the Army, I think it really comes back to something my dad taught me. Dad was in public service for 36 years. He said: "Always remember, there are two types of people that

get into this: those who want to be a politician and those who want to be a public servant." And this is how he defined it: A politician sees how much they can take from the people they represent for their own benefit, while public servants see how much they can give back to the people they represent.

So all I can say is we are going to miss you. You have been a great leader on committee, you have been a great leader in this House.

I wish all the best to you and your family, because I know we talked through the years about how our families are doing, but I can't thank you enough for your service to this country and to this House.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. LATTA for his comments.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE), another E&C member.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much for yielding.

I am here tonight to honor Mr. SHIMKUS. I call him Mr. SHIMKUS because that is how a junior West Point cadet refers to a senior West Point cadet.

One of the most insulting things I get here in Washington, people ask me often: "Were you at West Point with JOHN SHIMKUS?"

I always say: "Do I look like I could have been at West Point when JOHN SHIMKUS was there?"

□ 2130

We are not that far apart, the Class of '80 and the Class '87. But he is passionate about his country.

I serve on the NATO committee with him. I am going to tell one quick story. It is really more about passion for his family.

One year, we were visiting our allies. We were visiting in Holland, and JOHN went on a mission to find some kind of horn. I forgot the name of the horn, but it is a Dutch horn. He went to a village. He went to somebody's home. This thing wasn't easy to find, but he said: I have to find it because my wife wants it. My wife always wants a unique musical instrument from some country that I visit.

It wasn't like, "I have to get this for my wife." He was passionate about getting it. This thing was as big as half of this table, and he had to carry it back.

When he started telling people why he was doing it, you could just see the passion in his face. He goes: My wife—who is here with us tonight—my wife, she teaches music, and when she teaches this kind of music, this history, she gets these instruments out that I collect. She goes through them, and she teaches the history of the country where this music is from.

So it is combined. You could see JOHN's passion for history, his wife's passion for music, and his passion for his family.

Then, finally, he may not remember this, but I was standing with him one

of the preopening nights of the Bible Museum, and I remember being with him when he saw Martin Luther's Bible that is there. He just looked at it. I could see him just speechless because of, the great Lutheran that he is, his love of the Word of God and the love of his God.

It shows a common theme tonight. JOHN is passionate about his country, through West Point and his service to the Army and the NATO committee, and passionate about his family.

It is just unmistakable. It is just there. It is in his face. His face shows everything he is thinking. When he talks about his wife, you can certainly see it.

When I was standing there with him, he was passionate about his God. Duty, honor, country is learned at West Point, but country, family, and God, that is so important.

Thank you, JOHN, for your service. We are going to miss you.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH), another E&C member.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, we have heard a lot of great comments about JOHN. I was not officially a mentee, but when I first got to the Energy and Commerce Committee, he immediately started giving me pointers and guidance. We would talk about issues, and we would talk about how you do things and how sometimes it is frustrating around here, as we all know.

I appreciate very much all the help that you gave me and the guidance that you gave me through the years. I am going to miss you deeply on the committee. I appreciate all of your service.

I could talk about all the things that all the other people have, but I am going to point something out that I realized as I was sitting here.

Every Member of Congress, by nature, is a political junkie, and, unfortunately, the time to celebrate your service overlaps with a Presidential debate. So it will get higher ratings in the reruns than it will get in the prime time, first edition.

But when you stop to think about it, think about all the Members of Congress who stayed here, who wanted to say something positive about you, about your service, your commitment to your family, to your God, and to your country, we are all here missing that big event because we love JOHN SHIMKUS.

So, God bless you. Godspeed on the work that you have to do further.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON) for brief remarks.

Mr. ARRINGTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor my colleague, my friend, and fellow pitcher on the Congressional Baseball Team.

In fact, in 2018, after watching my colleague JOHN SHIMKUS pitch for an

inning, I followed him on to the mound. After watching him for an entire inning, I still, Madam Speaker, cannot throw the ball straight.

But in all seriousness, it is a privilege to serve with a man with such great character and commitment to service.

In fact, JOHN, you are the epitome of a servant leader. I imagine this is how you were when you were a soldier, when you were a teacher, a local leader. That is certainly who you are in this Chamber, and it has made all the difference.

I am reminded of the scripture in Philippians that says: Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility, value others above yourself.

That is who you are, JOHN, and that is the value and the trait that has made this country what it is today. I pray that we will have more leaders follow you in your ilk.

It is an honor to be your friend. I am grateful for your friendship, and I wish you blessings and Godspeed in all your future endeavors.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I can attest, sometimes the gentleman cannot throw the pitch straight. My shin feels that. But I thank the gentleman for his kind words.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER), the newest member of the SHIMKUS slumlord era at his townhouse.

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank my good friend, roommate, and colleague, Congressman JOHN SHIMKUS, for his 24 years of dedicated service in the United States House of Representatives.

JOHN began his life of commitment to our country when he enrolled at the prestigious West Point Academy. Following graduation from West Point, JOHN served 5 years in the Army and then entered the Army Reserves.

Much like his time in the military, JOHN's service in Congress has been defined by his steadfast approach to leadership and integrity.

When I was elected to Congress almost 2 years ago, I was grateful to have JOHN, not only as my guide but also as a roommate and friend. It has been a great privilege to live in the legendary Shimkus townhouse, where there were only two requirements: that I had to pay the rent on time and that I had to make sure the freezer was stocked with Dairy Queen Dilly Bars.

I will always be thankful for the many late-night conversations after a hard day's work, where he and I had the chance to discuss not only policy and legislation but also about our lives and families.

Serving in Congress often means spending a lot of time away from family and loved ones, so I want to thank JOHN's wife, Karen, and his three sons, David, Joshua, and Daniel, for allowing their father, JOHN, to serve for 24 long years. I know they will be happy to

have him closer to home, and our loss is their gain.

Madam Speaker, this entire body will miss JOHN, and I am sure his constituency is thankful for his years of service. I know I am.

That is the conclusion of my official remarks, but I want to talk off the cuff for a couple of minutes.

I just want to thank you for your faithful leadership, your Bible verses that you give to me every day, and the roommates. That means a lot to me.

I want to thank you for mentoring me these past couple of years. I couldn't have had a better mentor.

Congressman SHIMKUS, you are a leader that we all look up to. Thank you.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS), another member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for bringing us all together to honor and celebrate a senior member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, my friend and colleague who has led in so many different ways.

I am privileged to have had the opportunity to serve with the Congressman from Illinois now for 10 years on the House Energy and Commerce Committee. When I think about JOHN, I think about someone who is a true legislator. He is the one who digs in and does the tough job of legislating, knowing the issues, being prepared, and figuring out how to actually solve big problems.

So you think about the fact that he led in modernizing the Toxic Substance Control Act. He has led on lowering fuel costs for hardworking families all across this country. It was JOHN SHIMKUS who led in bringing the 911 emergency system into the 21st century.

Time and time again, it has been Congressman JOHN SHIMKUS who is leading to get big things done in order to improve people's lives and secure our future as Americans.

I want to say, more than anything, we are going to miss you. We are going to miss your leadership. We are going to miss your example as a true legislator.

For the people of Illinois, for my colleagues on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, and for the people's House, know that you have made a difference. I want to say thanks for your leadership.

I want to wish you all the best, and I just want to say thanks to everyone for pulling us together tonight.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA).

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, Mr. SHIMKUS is always one of the guys I enjoyed the most around here. We didn't get to hang out a lot or share any of the same committees, but he is always an upbeat and friendly fellow to get along with around here.

I didn't want tonight to go by without at least saying something to you about how I appreciate you and enjoy you. You take on really difficult issues.

The education you have helped provide me and other Members on the situation down at Yucca Mountain is appreciated, the battle on that, because that is extremely important to get a handle on how we deal with that issue around the country, which hadn't been handled very well. You are a true leader on that, and I thank you for that.

Many, many blessings in your next endeavor. As a friend, I am glad to be here tonight with you.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I can't tell you how privileged I am to be here tonight, to be able to stand at this podium and recognize my fellow colleagues on both sides of the aisle to recognize somebody who I worked for, for 16 years.

I was talking to my wife, Shannon, about what I wanted to say about JOHN tonight because I really couldn't think of anything really nice to say, after 16 years. She reminded me that I wouldn't be here without his mentorship. I wouldn't be able to have this privilege to serve in this institution with you, Madam Speaker, and with everybody who crowded the floor tonight to honor our friend, Mr. SHIMKUS.

She reminded me, you probably—his wife, Karen, who I am not supposed to recognize in the gallery, so I am not. I don't want to be chastised later.

But his wife, Karen, probably doesn't know this, but I am probably their fourth son. This is somebody who taught me to be a good worker, taught me that being on time matters, taught me that helping others is a privilege.

I can't say thank you enough to this man because I would not be serving in this great institution without you and your mentorship, your friendship, and your leadership. It wasn't without some hiccups, let me tell you. I am sure he wanted to fire me a few times, and I think he told me that a few times.

But I prevailed. You know why? Because we had a great team. And a great team is built with the leadership of somebody who gives people opportunities to not just survive in a workplace but to excel.

I can remember that I hadn't thought about running for Congress in a very long time when I got a call in 2012 one day when there was an opportunity to put my name into the mix to run for this office. In typical JOHN SHIMKUS fashion—and his wife Karen could probably attest to this—JOHN called me and said: Hey, have you ever thought about running for Congress?

And I said: Well, I guess maybe because I really enjoy watching you.

He said: Well, if there is ever a time to think about it, now is the time.

Okay. In typical JOHN SHIMKUS fashion, he is like: All right, I have to go. Call Craig—Craig Roberts, his chief of staff, the godfather of my three kids.

What a team. What a team. The entire Shimkus team, including my

chief of staff since I got here who worked with me on the Shimkus campaign, in the Shimkus office, and is now my staff director on the committee that I am blessed to run, the House Administration Committee. What a legacy this guy leaves in this institution.

People will not understand the importance of JOHN SHIMKUS serving as a Member of the House of Representatives until they look back in history and realize some of the things that our colleagues actually talked about tonight.

If you were in an emergency anywhere in this great Nation, and you have a cell phone that is a lot more ubiquitous today than it ever was when this guy came to Congress in the dark ages of 1996, you can dial 911 and know that it is going to get routed to your local emergency services center.

□ 2145

But before JOHN SHIMKUS got to Congress, that didn't happen. The things that we take for granted today were started by people who served in this institution years before us. If we don't

understand their legacy and we don't understand the history that they brought to all of us and to our Nation to make sure that lives are saved, then we will never know their true impact.

I personally know JOHN SHIMKUS' true impact because he impacted my life greatly. He has known me since before I became a parent of now a 23 year old and two 20 year olds. These children look to him as somebody who mentored their dad.

JOHN SHIMKUS. I know I don't have a lot of time left tonight, and I have got probably a couple of months left to harass him a little bit in other speeches. But coming here to the U.S. House of Representatives and being able to get to know my friend's roommates, his friends and now colleagues, it would not have happened without the gentleman. He has made me not just a Member of this privileged institution, he has made me a better person, he has made me a better dad, he has made me a better husband, and he has made this institution in the United States of America a better place for every single citizen in this country.

Godspeed to you, Mr. SHIMKUS, in your retirement. Godspeed to Karen. I love you both.

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

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. ADERHOLT (at the request of Mr. McCARTHY) for today on account of personal reasons.

## 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 11 a.m. for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 9 o'clock and 46 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, September 30, 2020, at 9 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the first and second quarters of 2020, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2020

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	
Travel to Colombia, Peru, El Salvador, Honduras—January 17–24, 2020										
Katy Quinn	1/17	1/18	El Salvador		207.45					207.45
	1/18	1/20	Honduras		548.00					548.00
	1/20	1/22	Peru		711.00					711.00
	1/22	1/24	Colombia		646.82					646.82
Commercial airfare							3,410.93			3,410.93
Mark Morehouse	1/17	1/18	El Salvador		207.45					207.45
	1/18	1/20	Honduras		548.00					548.00
	1/20	1/22	Peru		711.00					711.00
	1/22	1/24	Colombia		646.82					646.82
Commercial airfare							3,410.93			3,410.93
Brian Garrett	1/17	1/18	El Salvador		207.45					207.45
	1/18	1/20	Honduras		548.00					548.00
	1/20	1/22	Peru		711.00					711.00
	1/22	1/24	Colombia		646.82					646.82
Commercial airfare							3,410.93			3,410.93
Chidi Blyden	1/17	1/18	El Salvador		207.45					207.45
	1/18	1/20	Honduras		548.00					548.00
	1/20	1/22	Peru		711.00					711.00
	1/22	1/24	Colombia		646.82					646.82
Commercial airfare							3,410.93			3,410.93
Travel to Germany, Djibouti, Kenya, Ethiopia with STAFFDEL Leggieri—January 19–25, 2020										
Jessica Carroll	1/20	1/22	Djibouti		762.00					762.00
	1/22	1/23	Kenya		299.00					299.00
	1/23	1/24	Ethiopia		533.81					533.81
Commercial airfare							10,623.82			10,623.82
Travel to Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia—January 17–25, 2020										
Hon. Seth Moulton	1/17	1/21	Vietnam		706.00					706.00
	1/21	1/22	Cambodia		236.00					236.00
	1/22	1/24	Thailand		461.47					461.47
Commercial airfare							13,270.35			13,270.35
Hon. Jim Banks	1/19	1/21	Vietnam		320.00					320.00
	1/21	1/22	Cambodia		236.00					236.00
	1/22	1/24	Thailand		461.47					461.47
Commercial airfare							13,406.15			13,406.15
Laura Rauch	1/17	1/21	Vietnam		706.00					706.00
	1/21	1/22	Cambodia		236.00					236.00
	1/22	1/24	Thailand		461.47					461.47
Commercial airfare							13,666.95			13,666.95
Eric Snelgrove	1/19	1/21	Vietnam		320.00					320.00
	1/21	1/22	Cambodia		236.00					236.00
	1/22	1/24	Thailand		461.47					461.47
Commercial airfare							13,532.95			13,532.95
Travel to Indonesia, Singapore—January 18–24, 2020										
Shannon Green	1/19	1/22	Indonesia		1,065.00					1,065.00
	1/22	1/24	Singapore		814.00					814.00
Craig Greene	1/19	1/22	Indonesia		1,065.00					1,065.00
	1/22	1/24	Singapore		814.00					814.00
Jason Schmid	1/19	1/22	Indonesia		1,065.00					1,065.00
	1/22	1/24	Singapore		814.00					814.00
Bess Dopkeen	1/19	1/22	Indonesia		1,065.00					1,065.00
	1/22	1/24	Singapore		814.00					814.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2020—  
Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>
<b>Travel to Germany—February 13–19, 2020 with CODEL Graham</b>											
Hon. William "Mac" Thornberry .....	2/15	2/17	Germany .....	.....	1,717.70	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,717.70
Hon. Michael Turner .....	2/13	2/19	Germany .....	.....	1,717.70	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,717.70
Hon. Elissa Slotkin .....	2/13	2/19	Germany .....	.....	1,717.70	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,717.70
<b>Travel to Germany, Djibouti, Kenya—February 13–20, 2020</b>											
Hon. Seth Moulton .....	2/15	2/16	Germany .....	.....	773.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	773.00
	2/17	2/18	Djibouti .....	.....	402.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	402.00
	2/18	2/20	Kenya .....	.....	638.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	638.00
Commercial airfare .....			.....	.....	.....	14,607.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	14,607.00
Laura Rauch .....	2/15	2/16	Germany .....	.....	773.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	773.00
	2/17	2/18	Djibouti .....	.....	402.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	402.00
	2/18	2/20	Kenya .....	.....	638.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	638.00
Commercial airfare .....			.....	.....	.....	14,607.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	14,607.00
<b>Travel to Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Lebanon—February 13–22, 2020</b>											
Jonathan Lord .....	2/14	2/16	Saudi Arabia .....	.....	856.76	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	856.76
	2/17	2/19	Egypt .....	.....	825.72	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	825.72
	2/19	2/22	Lebanon .....	.....	550.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	550.00
Commercial airfare .....			.....	.....	.....	11,919.51	.....	.....	.....	.....	11,919.51
Mark Morehouse .....	2/14	2/16	Saudi Arabia .....	.....	856.76	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	856.76
	2/17	2/19	Egypt .....	.....	825.72	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	825.72
	2/19	2/22	Lebanon .....	.....	550.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	550.00
Commercial airfare .....			.....	.....	.....	11,919.51	.....	.....	.....	.....	11,919.51
Jessica Carroll .....	2/14	2/16	Saudi Arabia .....	.....	856.76	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	856.76
	2/17	2/19	Egypt .....	.....	825.72	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	825.72
	2/19	2/22	Lebanon .....	.....	550.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	550.00
Commercial airfare .....			.....	.....	.....	11,919.51	.....	.....	.....	.....	11,919.51
<b>Travel to Germany, Ukraine, Kuwait, Iraq, Ghana, Spain, Gibraltar, Mauritania—February 14–22, 2020 with CODEL Inhoff</b>											
Hon. Trent Kelly .....	2/14	2/15	Germany .....	.....	316.69	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	316.69
	2/15	2/17	Kuwait .....	.....	513.26	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	513.26
	2/17	2/18	Uganda .....	.....	255.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	255.00
	2/18	2/19	Ghana .....	.....	327.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	327.00
	2/19	2/19	Mauritania .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	2/19	2/20	Spain .....	.....	231.52	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	231.52
Committee total .....			.....	.....	39,545.78	.....	143,116.47	.....	.....	.....	182,662.25

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. ADAM SMITH, Feb. 29, 2020.

## REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2020

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>

**HOUSE COMMITTEES**  
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. ADAM SMITH, June 30, 2020.

## REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ETHICS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2020

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>

**HOUSE COMMITTEES**  
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH, Sept. 8, 2020.

## REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE MODERNIZATION OF CONGRESS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2020

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>

**HOUSE COMMITTEES**  
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. DEREK KILMER, Sept. 1, 2020.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE MODERNIZATION OF CONGRESS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2020

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>

HOUSE COMMITTEES  
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. DEREK KILMER, Sept. 1, 2020.

### 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, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 4996, the Helping MOMS Act of 2020, as amended, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

### ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 4996

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—												
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2020–2025	2020–2030
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact .....	0	0	888	721	355	−1,104	−1,085	−863	−16	294	−84	860	−894

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding

### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

Mr. PALLONE. Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 8132. A bill to require the Federal Trade Commission and the Secretary of Commerce to conduct studies and submit reports on the impact of artificial intelligence and other technologies on United States businesses conducting interstate commerce, and for other purposes (Rept. 116–539). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE. Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 3539. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop best practices for the establishment and use of behavioral intervention teams at schools, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116–540). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE. Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 1289. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for a moratorium on number reassignment after a disaster declaration, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116–541). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE. Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 7293. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide best practices on student suicide awareness and prevention training and condition State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and tribal educational agencies receiving funds under section 502A of such Act to establish and implement a school-based student suicide awareness and prevention training policy; with an amendment (Rept. 116–542). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE. Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 4861. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a program to improve the identification, assessment, and treatment of patients in the emer-

gency department who are at risk of suicide, and for other purposes (Rept. 116–543). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE. Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 2519. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Center for Mental Health Services of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, to award grants to implement innovative approaches to securing prompt access to appropriate follow-on care for individuals who experience an acute mental health episode and present for care in an emergency department, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116–544). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE. Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 8128. A bill to direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to establish a pilot program to explore the use of artificial intelligence in support of the consumer product safety mission of the Commission; with amendments (Rept. 116–545). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE. Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 7948. 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 for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116–546). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE. Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 5572. A bill to establish a grant program for family community organizations that provide support for individuals struggling with substance use disorder and their families; with an amendment (Rept. 116–547). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE. Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 5373. A bill to reauthorize the United States Anti-Doping Agency, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116–548). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE. Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 4764. A bill to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act

of 2005, and for other purposes (Rept. 116–549). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE. Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 3131. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for research and improvement of cardiovascular health among the South Asian population of the United States, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116–550). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE. Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 4439. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to make permanent the authority of the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue priority review vouchers to encourage treatments for rare pediatric diseases; with amendments (Rept. 116–551). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE. Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 5469. A bill to address mental health issues for youth, particularly youth of color, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116–552). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE. Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 1109. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend projects relating to children and to provide access to school-based comprehensive mental health programs; with an amendment (Rept. 116–553). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE. Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 1754. A bill to improve the integrity and safety of horseracing by requiring a uniform anti-doping and medication control program to be developed and enforced by an independent Horseracing Anti-Doping and Medication Control Authority; with an amendment (Rept. 116–554). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. NADLER. Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 8161. A bill to authorize implementation grants to community-based nonprofits to operate one-stop reentry centers; with an amendment (Rept. 116–555). 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 Mrs. LOWEY (for herself, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. WATERS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. NEAL, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. DEFAZIO):

H.R. 8406. A bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committees on the Budget, 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. RESCHENTHALER (for himself, Mr. McCaul, and Mr. RIGGLEMAN):

H.R. 8407. A bill to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to assess whether the disclosure of information related to investments in certain entities is necessary or appropriate for the purposes of certain reports under the securities laws, to establish the Entities of the People's Republic of China that Threaten United States National Security List, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DEFAZIO (for himself, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana):

H.R. 8408. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to require certain safety standards relating to aircraft, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. ENGEL, and Mr. McCaul):

H.R. 8409. A bill to establish the Department of State Student Internship Program as a paid internship program to provide students with the opportunity to learn about a career in diplomacy and foreign affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BARR (for himself, Mr. RIGGLEMAN, and Mr. STIVERS):

H.R. 8410. A bill to require the appropriate Federal banking agencies to establish a 3-year phase-in period for de novo financial institutions to comply with Federal capital standards, to provide relief for de novo rural community banks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER (for himself and Mr. CASTEN of Illinois):

H.R. 8411. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal fossil fuel subsidies for oil companies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. BROWNLEY of California:

H.R. 8412. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish goals for the timely delivery of medical and appointments, to make publicly available certain information regarding wait times under the community care program of the Department

of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CARTER of Texas (for himself, Mr. WILLIAMS, and Mr. CUELLAR):

H.R. 8413. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to enter into memoranda of understanding with State and local prosecuting authorities concerning the adjudication of criminal offenses committed by minors; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself, Mr. GUTHRIE, and Ms. SPANBERGER):

H.R. 8414. A bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to award grants to eligible entities to carry out or expand youth apprenticeship programs; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. CISNEROS (for himself and Mr. BERGMAN):

H.R. 8415. A bill to provide for the continuation of certain educational assistance benefits during the COVID-19 emergency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 8416. A bill to amend the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 to revise the formula for allocation of community development block grant funds, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CRENSHAW:

H.R. 8417. A bill to facilitate direct primary care arrangements; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. EMMER:

H.R. 8418. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to temporarily increase the educator expense deduction to facilitate the purchase of personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies during the COVID-19 pandemic, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. FLETCHER:

H.R. 8419. A bill to prevent surprise medical bills with respect to COVID-19 testing; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Education and Labor, 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. HAALAND (for herself, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. HECK, Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Mr. MULLIN, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. COLE, Mr. GALLEGUO, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. LUJÁN):

H.R. 8420. A bill to establish the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policy in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, 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. HARDER of California:

H.R. 8421. A bill to authorize transitional sheltering assistance for individuals who live in areas with unhealthy air quality caused by wildfires, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma (for herself, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Ms. DEAN, Mr. KEATING, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, Mr. COX of California, Mr. VAN DREW, Ms. MOORE, Mrs. AXNE, and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois):

H.R. 8422. A bill to provide additional appropriations for TRIO programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Ms. JAYAPAL (for herself and Ms. STEFANIK):

H.R. 8423. A bill to reimburse meals and supplements provided to individuals who have not attained the age of 25 under certain meal programs authorized under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. KHANNA (for himself, Mr. BEYER, and Mr. KENNEDY):

H.R. 8424. A bill to establish a process by which the appointment of Supreme Court Justices can occur at regular time intervals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KIND (for himself, Mr. SENSEN-BRENNER, Ms. MOORE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. STEIL, and Mr. TIFFANY):

H.R. 8425. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 430 South Knowles Avenue in New Richmond, Wisconsin, as the "Captain Robert C. Harmon and Private John R. Peirson Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. LAMB (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. CISNEROS):

H.R. 8426. A bill to provide for modified requirements relating to apprenticeship and on-job training programs during the COVID-19 emergency under the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. LURIA (for herself, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Mr. RIGGLEMAN):

H.R. 8427. A bill to provide for certain reports on enrollment in the Lifeline program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MALINOWSKI (for himself, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. PHILLIPS, and Mr. TAYLOR):

H.R. 8428. A bill to provide for temporary protected status for residents of Hong Kong, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York (for herself and Mr. ROUDA):

H.R. 8429. A bill to amend chapter 3 of title 5, United States Code, to require Federal agencies to submit plans for responding to, mitigating, and adapting to climate change, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Mr. NADLER, Mr. COHEN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. COOPER, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Mr. MORELLE):

H.R. 8430. A bill to promote arts, culture, and humanities; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Labor, Small Business, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker,

in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. PINGREE (for herself and Mr. FORTENBERRY):

H.R. 8431. A bill to support small and very small meat and poultry processing establishments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. QUIGLEY:

H.R. 8432. A bill to require the establishment of an advanced energy technology research initiative and an advanced energy technology and modeling grant program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. QUIGLEY (for himself and Mr. UPTON):

H.R. 8433. A bill to address the public health risks posed by wildlife markets, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Financial Services, the Judiciary, Natural Resources, 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. RICE of South Carolina:

H.R. 8434. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to establish a Restaurant Reimbursement Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. ROSE of New York (for himself and Mr. KATKOV):

H.R. 8435. A bill to allow certain veterans to use high occupancy vehicle lanes, including toll lanes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Ms. BASS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. COOPER, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. LEE of California):

H.R. 8436. A bill to prohibit discrimination in health care and require the provision of equitable health care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SCHRADER:

H.R. 8437. A bill to extend the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to treat certain programs of education converted to distance learning by reason of emergencies and health-related situations in the same manner as programs of education pursued at educational institutions; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. McCaul, Ms. KAPUR, Mr. KINZINGER, and Mr. KEATING):

H.R. 8438. A bill to reauthorize the Belarus Democracy Act of 2004; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SPANBERGER (for herself and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois):

H.R. 8439. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income any interest paid on an overpayment of tax; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Ms. FINKENAUER):

H.R. 8440. A bill to provide disaster tax relief; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Small Business, 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 Mrs. TORRES of California (for herself, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. SOTO, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. VELA, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. CARSON of Indiana):

H.R. 8441. A bill to establish certain protections and benefits for front line workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, 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 Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself and Mr. SAN NICOLAS):

H.R. 8442. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for activities to increase the awareness and knowledge of health care providers and women with respect to ovarian and cervical cancer, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. COLLINS of Georgia (for himself, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BUCK, and Mr. CRAWFORD):

H.J. Res. 96. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to ensure that an Act of Congress that increases the number of judges comprising the Supreme Court may not take effect before the date that is 10 years after the date of the enactment of such Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WALKER:

H.J. Res. 97. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to limit the composition of the Senate to Senators from States admitted to the Union prior to the One Hundred Sixteenth Congress; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SWALWELL of California:

H. Res. 1155. A resolution reaffirming the House of Representatives' commitment to the orderly and peaceful transfer of power called for in the Constitution of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary. considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BIGGS (for himself, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. PERRY, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. RIGGLEMAN, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BUDD, Mr. EMMER, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, and Mr. BANKS):

H. Res. 1156. A resolution condemning attacks on Judge Amy Coney Barrett; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. JUDY CHU of California (for herself, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. TAKANO, Mr.

SABLAN, Ms. MENG, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. CASE, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. COX of California, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. BERA, and Mrs. LEE of Nevada):

H. Res. 1157. A resolution expressing support for the recognition of September 28, 2020, to October 2, 2020, as Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions Week; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. COSTA (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. COX of California, and Mr. MCKINLEY):

H. Res. 1158. A resolution supporting the recognition of October 8, 2020, as "National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. PAYNE (for himself, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. WELCH, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. BASS, Mr. RUSH, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, and Ms. SPEIER):

H. Res. 1159. A resolution calling upon all candidates for Federal office to respect the American tradition of the peaceful transfer of power and reject any efforts to prevent people from exercising their right to vote; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

## 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 Mrs. LOWEY:

H.R. 8406.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states:

"No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law . . . ."

In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides:

"The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States . . . ."

Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use.

By Mr. RESCHENTHALER:

H.R. 8407.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article One Section Eight

By Mr. DEFAZIO:

H.R. 8408.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1, Clause 3, and Clause 18 of the Constitution.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:

H.R. 8409.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

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 Mr. BARR:

H.R. 8410.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 8411.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

By Ms. BROWNLEY of California:

H.R. 8412.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. CARTER of Texas:

H.R. 8413.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. 1, Sec. 8, Cl. 18)

General Welfare Clause (Art. 1, Sec. 8, Cl. 1)

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:

H.R. 8414.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Constitutional Authority—Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. I, Sec. 8, Clause 18)

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I, SECTION 8: POWERS OF CONGRESS

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 Mr. CISNEROS:

H.R. 8415.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 8416.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. CRENSHAW:

H.R. 8417.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. EMMER:

H.R. 8418.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mrs. FLETCHER:

H.R. 8419.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Ms. HAALAND:

H.R. 8420.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Constitution Article I, Sec. 8

By Mr. HARDER of California:

H.R. 8421.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Const. art. I, Sec 8

By Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma:

H.R. 8422.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8, clause I

By Ms. JAYAPAL:

H.R. 8423.

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 of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mr. KHANNA:

H.R. 8424.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article III, Section 1

By Mr. KIND:

H.R. 8425.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. LAMB:

H.R. 8426.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mrs. LURIA:

H.R. 8427.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Constitution, Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. MALINOWSKI:

H.R. 8428.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 8429.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 8430.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution which provides Congress with the power to lay and collect taxes and regulate commerce among the several states.

By Ms. PINGREE:

H.R. 8431.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. QUIGLEY:

H.R. 8432.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. QUIGLEY:

H.R. 8433.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. RICE of South Carolina:

H.R. 8434.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 3 of section 8 of Article I

By Mr. ROSE of New York:

H.R. 8435.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Constitution Article I, Sec. 8

Under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the 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 any Department or Officer thereof".

By Mr. SCHIFF:

H.R. 8436.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to Article I, Section 8, clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SCHRADER:

H.R. 8437.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 8438.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the US Constitution

By Ms. SPANBERGER:

H.R. 8439.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. THOMPSON of California:

H.R. 8440.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I

By Mrs. TORRES of California:

H.R. 8441.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

According to Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: of the United States Constitution, seen below, this bill falls within the Constitutional Authority of the United States Congress.

Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: 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. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 8442.

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. COLLINS of Georgia:

H.J. Res. 96.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, cl. 18; Article III, Section 1; Article V.

By Mr. WALKER:

H.J. Res. 97.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18—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.

## ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 40: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.

H.R. 497: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 616: Mr. BOST.

H.R. 689: Ms. BASS, Mr. COHEN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mrs. LURIA.

H.R. 692: Mr. BURGESS and Mr. WEBER of Texas.  
 H.R. 913: Mr. ROSE of New York and Mrs. DINGELL.  
 H.R. 945: Mr. KIM.  
 H.R. 1002: Mr. FERGUSON.  
 H.R. 1407: Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. DELAUR, Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma, and Mr. TAYLOR.  
 H.R. 1570: Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.  
 H.R. 1685: Mr. EVANS.  
 H.R. 1753: Mr. LAMALFA.  
 H.R. 1754: Ms. PLASKETT.  
 H.R. 1763: Mr. JACOBS, Mr. CROW, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, and Mr. LEVIN of Michigan.  
 H.R. 2009: Mr. BUTTERFIELD and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.  
 H.R. 2086: Ms. KAPTUR.  
 H.R. 2137: Mr. DIAZ-BALART and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.  
 H.R. 2350: Mr. HURD of Texas.  
 H.R. 2441: Mr. ROSE of New York.  
 H.R. 2442: Mr. O'HALLERAN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. HAALAND, and Mr. HASTINGS.  
 H.R. 2457: Mr. SAN NICOLAS.  
 H.R. 2531: Mr. RESCHENTHALER.  
 H.R. 2653: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER and Mr. DOGGETT.  
 H.R. 2693: Mr. STEWART.  
 H.R. 2764: Mr. NADLER.  
 H.R. 2771: Mr. SENSENBRENNER.  
 H.R. 2808: Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. SAN NICOLAS.  
 H.R. 3048: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.  
 H.R. 3138: Mr. TURNER, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. BACON.  
 H.R. 3157: Mr. LOWENTHAL.  
 H.R. 3225: Ms. HAALAND.  
 H.R. 3580: Mr. BUDD.  
 H.R. 3693: Ms. SHERRILL.  
 H.R. 3711: Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.  
 H.R. 3771: Mr. TAYLOR.  
 H.R. 3783: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.  
 H.R. 3874: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.  
 H.R. 3972: Mr. RUTHERFORD.  
 H.R. 4172: Mr. SAN NICOLAS.  
 H.R. 4211: Mr. VARGAS, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, and Ms. BASS.  
 H.R. 4228: Mr. GARAMENDI.  
 H.R. 4346: Ms. DEGETTE and Ms. HAALAND.  
 H.R. 4364: Ms. HAALAND, Mr. HASTINGS, and Ms. DEGETTE.  
 H.R. 4370: Mr. GUTHRIE.  
 H.R. 4518: Mr. SMITH of Washington.  
 H.R. 4542: Mr. MAST.  
 H.R. 4549: Mr. RUSH.  
 H.R. 4681: Mrs. LURIA.  
 H.R. 4714: Mr. COX of California.  
 H.R. 4764: Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.  
 H.R. 4838: Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.  
 H.R. 4932: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.  
 H.R. 5004: Ms. SHERRILL.  
 H.R. 5046: Mr. SENSENBRENNER.  
 H.R. 5141: Mr. ENGEL, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. OMAR, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Ms. HAALAND.  
 H.R. 5172: Mr. ROSE of New York, Ms. PINGREE, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.  
 H.R. 5191: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.  
 H.R. 5247: Mr. SAN NICOLAS.  
 H.R. 5308: Mr. KHANNA.  
 H.R. 5447: Mr. TURNER.  
 H.R. 5565: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.  
 H.R. 5583: Ms. WILD.  
 H.R. 5605: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. GUEST, and Mr. SOTO.  
 H.R. 5636: Ms. DEGETTE and Ms. HAALAND.  
 H.R. 5701: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.

H.R. 5736: Mr. COHEN.  
 H.R. 5845: Mr. JEFFRIES.  
 H.R. 5857: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.  
 H.R. 5873: Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. HORSFORD, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. VAN DREW, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. KIM.  
 H.R. 5901: Mr. HICE of Georgia.  
 H.R. 5995: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Ms. TITUS.  
 H.R. 6104: Mrs. HARTZLER.  
 H.R. 6142: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.  
 H.R. 6183: Mr. McGOVERN and Mr. SAN NICOLAS.  
 H.R. 6197: Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico.  
 H.R. 6306: Mr. FOSTER.  
 H.R. 6431: Mr. ROSE of New York.  
 H.R. 6449: Mr. MCNERNEY.  
 H.R. 6495: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.  
 H.R. 6654: Mr. MORELLE, Mr. O'HALLERAN, and Ms. SEWELL of Alabama.  
 H.R. 6696: Mr. ROSE of New York.  
 H.R. 6718: Mr. COHEN.  
 H.R. 6774: Ms. CRAIG.  
 H.R. 6788: Ms. DEAN and Mr. QUIGLEY.  
 H.R. 6802: Mr. BROOKS of Alabama and Mr. WALTZ.  
 H.R. 6828: Ms. ESCOBAR.  
 H.R. 6829: Mr. BYRNE and Mr. GUEST.  
 H.R. 6958: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Ms. PINGREE.  
 H.R. 6965: Mr. QUIGLEY.  
 H.R. 6986: Mr. SHERMAN and Mr. CICILLINE.  
 H.R. 6994: Mr. SHERMAN.  
 H.R. 7039: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.  
 H.R. 7040: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.  
 H.R. 7072: Mr. KIM.  
 H.R. 7103: Mrs. MILLER and Mrs. BUSTOS.  
 H.R. 7178: Mr. GIANFORTE.  
 H.R. 7227: Mrs. BEATTY.  
 H.R. 7233: Ms. GABBARD.  
 H.R. 7298: Mr. ROSE of New York, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. LIPINSKI.  
 H.R. 7308: Mr. O'HALLERAN, Ms. WEXTON, and Mr. BAIRD.  
 H.R. 7396: Mr. FLORES.  
 H.R. 7414: Ms. KAPTUR and Mr. FITZPATRICK.  
 H.R. 7415: Mr. LIPINSKI.  
 H.R. 7483: Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. COX of California, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. TONKO, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, and Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.  
 H.R. 7490: Ms. FINKENAUER.  
 H.R. 7496: Ms. PLASKETT.  
 H.R. 7497: Mr. SAN NICOLAS.  
 H.R. 7502: Mr. COSTA.  
 H.R. 7548: Mr. GROTHMAN.  
 H.R. 7615: Mr. WENSTRUP and Mr. BARR.  
 H.R. 7640: Mr. YOUNG and Mr. ROSE of New York.  
 H.R. 7642: Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. CRAWFORD, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. CHENEY, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. TRONE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. ALLRED, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. MENG, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. CARSON of Indiana.  
 H.R. 7659: Mr. KELLER, Mr. BALDERSON, and Mr. WALTZ.  
 H.R. 7663: Mr. STANTON.  
 H.R. 7666: Ms. PINGREE.  
 H.R. 7673: Mr. HUFFMAN.  
 H.R. 7745: Mr. COSTA.  
 H.R. 7777: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. BOST, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee, Ms. WILD, and Mrs. HARTZLER.  
 H.R. 7800: Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 7806: Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. DELAUR, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. POCAN.  
 H.R. 7809: Mr. KELLER, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. FOSTER, and Mr. TIFFANY.  
 H.R. 7838: Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, and Ms. MENG.  
 H.R. 7839: Mr. HARDER of California and Mr. COLE.  
 H.R. 7841: Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio.  
 H.R. 7895: Mr. FLORES.  
 H.R. 7917: Mr. STEWART.  
 H.R. 7940: Mrs. BEATTY.  
 H.R. 7947: Mrs. LAWRENCE and Mr. COLE.  
 H.R. 7950: Ms. GARCIA of Texas.  
 H.R. 7965: Mr. SHIMKUS.  
 H.R. 7990: Mr. SHERMAN.  
 H.R. 8003: Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania.  
 H.R. 8017: Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. LEVIN of California, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mrs. TORRES of California.  
 H.R. 8020: Mr. GARCIA of Illinois.  
 H.R. 8044: Mr. COOPER.  
 H.R. 8077: Mr. FLORES and Mr. BAIRD.  
 H.R. 8079: Ms. SÁNCHEZ.  
 H.R. 8082: Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. HUDSON, and Mr. GOHMERT.  
 H.R. 8094: Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.  
 H.R. 8114: Mr. BALDERSON.  
 H.R. 8125: Mr. GALLEGOS, Mr. COLE, and Mr. HURD of Texas.  
 H.R. 8144: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia and Mrs. BUSTOS.  
 H.R. 8145: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia and Mrs. BUSTOS.  
 H.R. 8171: Mr. CISNEROS, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. WELCH, Mr. GREEN of Texas, and Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas.  
 H.R. 8179: Mr. POCAN and Mr. GAETZ.  
 H.R. 8181: Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. FINKENAUER, and Mr. MORELLE.  
 H.R. 8199: Mr. DELGADO.  
 H.R. 8201: Mr. BARR.  
 H.R. 8210: Mr. KING of New York.  
 H.R. 8220: Mr. McGOVERN, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. Sires, Mr. TRONE, Ms. OMAR, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, and Mr. COHEN.  
 H.R. 8242: Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. KING of New York, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, and Ms. FRANKEL.  
 H.R. 8254: Mr. KILDEE, Mr. SOTO, Ms. MENG, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. SMUCKER, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. BOST, Ms. CRAIG, and Mrs. WAGNER.  
 H.R. 8259: Mr. BERA.  
 H.R. 8265: Mr. LUCAS, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. MITCHELL, and Mr. FORTENBERRY.  
 H.R. 8270: Mr. TIPTON, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. KELLER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. SCHRIER, Ms. BLUMENTHALL, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. LUJÁN, and Mr. AGUILAR.  
 H.R. 8277: Mr. KIM.  
 H.R. 8283: Mr. BROWN of Maryland.  
 H.R. 8284: Mr. FLORES.  
 H.R. 8287: Mr. CRAWFORD and Mr. LAMALFA.  
 H.R. 8322: Mr. SMUCKER.  
 H.R. 8325: Mr. COLE and Mr. CASE.  
 H.R. 8327: Mr. EMMER, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. CRAWFORD, and Mr. BALDERSON.  
 H.R. 8333: Mr. STEUBE, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. FLORES, Mrs. LESKO, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, and Mr. BOST.  
 H.R. 8339: Mr. SAN NICOLAS.  
 H.R. 8345: Ms. ADAMS, Mr. ALLRED, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BRINDISI, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. COHEN, Mr. COLE, Mr. COOPER, Ms. CRAIG, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. EMMER, Ms.

ESCOBAR, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HECK, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. KATKO, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. LAHOOD, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. MCKINLEY, Ms. OMAR, Ms. PINGREE, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RYAN, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. SCHRADER, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Ms. SHALALA, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. TAYLOR, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. VELA, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. WEXTON.

H.R. 8348: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.  
H.R. 8351: Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. SIRES.

H.R. 8353: Mr. GOSAR and Mr. HARRIS.  
H.R. 8354: Mr. CICILLINE and Ms. GARCIA of Texas.

H.R. 8357: Mr. SAN NICOLAS.  
H.R. 8359: Mr. BARR.  
H.R. 8360: Mr. CHABOT.

H.R. 8363: Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. BERA, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. SHERMAN, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. HECK, Mr. KILMER, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. TITUS, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. BEYER, Mr. CASE, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CUELLAR, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. McGOVERN, Mr. CROW, Mr. COOPER, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MFUME, Mrs. TRAHAN, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. KAPTRU, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. VISCHOSKY, Mr. WELCH, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. DELAUR, Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. COX of California, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. HAALAND, and Mr. HIMES.

H.R. 8366: Mr. NADLER and Mr. CICILLINE.  
H.R. 8368: Mr. RIGGLEMAN.  
H.R. 8387: Mr. COHEN and Ms. JUDY CHU of California.

H.R. 8392: Ms. DEAN.  
H.R. 8396: Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Ms. STEVENS, and Mr. PAYNE.

H.R. 8402: Mr. RYAN, Ms. HAALAND, and Ms. PORTER.

H.R. 8403: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.  
H.J. Res. 94: Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. ADAMS, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. GREEN of Texas, and Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas.

H. Con. Res. 71: Ms. CASTOR of Florida and Mr. VAN DREW.

H. Res. 114: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. PETERSON, and Mr. PAYNE.

H. Res. 229: Mr. RUTHERFORD.

H. Res. 672: Mr. SHERMAN.  
H. Res. 697: Mr. CHABOT, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BERA, and Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H. Res. 823: Mr. BERA, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mrs. BUSTOS, and Mr. PERRY.

H. Res. 825: Ms. OMAR, Mr. CASE, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. TRONE, and Mr. CARBAJAL.

H. Res. 835: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.

H. Res. 972: Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. CRIST, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. SCANLON, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. HURD of Texas, Mr. WESTERMAN, and Mr. CISNEROS.

H. Res. 1012: Mr. PERRY, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. COSTA, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. TED LIEU of California.

H. Res. 1057: Ms. DEAN.

H. Res. 1076: Mr. DESAULNIER.

H. Res. 1077: Mr. ENGEL, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. TRONE, and Mr. CICILLINE.

H. Res. 1100: Mr. CHABOT, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. TED LIEU of California.

H. Res. 1110: Ms. DEAN, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. BACON, Mr. CROW, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. TONKO, Mr. GOLDEN, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. BYRNE, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. NUNES, Mr. SOTO, Mr. PETERS, Mr. CORREA, Mr. WALKER, Mr. VAN DREW, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. WILD, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. FOXX of North Carolina, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. COHEN, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. YOUNG, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. DELAUR, Mr. HIMES, and Ms. SPANBERGER.

H. Res. 1113: Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. BERA, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Ms. WILD, and Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H. Res. 1115: Mr. ALLRED, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. WRIGHT.

H. Res. 1116: Mr. JOYCE of Ohio.

H. Res. 1121: Mr. RASKIN, Mr. McGOVERN, Mr. TRONE, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. BERA, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H. Res. 1123: Mrs. TRAHAN and Mr. KATKO.

H. Res. 1140: Ms. DELBENE, Mr. FOSTER, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. O'HALLERAN,

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. COX of California, Mr. COOK, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. HECK, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. COLE, Mr. BACON, and Mr. MULLIN.

H. Res. 1143: Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.

H. Res. 1145: Ms. KAPTRU, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. COHEN, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. ROUDA, Ms. OMAR, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. SAN NICOLAS.

H. Res. 1149: Mr. KATKO.

H. Res. 1150: Mr. ENGEL, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Ms. OMAR, Mr. TRONE, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.

H. Res. 1153: Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. PORTER, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. BERA, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mrs. DEMINGS, Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. ROUDA, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. STANTON, Mr. MFUME, Mr. CLAY, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. DELGADO, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, Mr. COSTA, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. NEAL, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. CASE, Mr. HIMES, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. LAMB, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. KIND, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. VISCHOSKY, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. NORTON, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. O'HALLERAN, and Ms. FINKENAUER.

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#### CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

##### OFFERED BY MRS. LOWEY

H.R. 8406, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, and for other purposes, does not contain any congressional earmark, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 116<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 166

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

No. 169

## 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.

Eternal God, sovereign source of wisdom, hear our prayers. Listen as we lift our hearts to You. In our times of distress, answer us quickly.

Strengthen our lawmakers. Keep them restless until they find rest in You. Keep them dissatisfied until they find their satisfaction in You.

Lord, give them the wisdom to make wise choices that will glorify Your Name. Help them to keep their hearts and minds responsive to You, enabling them to help make a better Nation and world.

Remind them that You keep a protective eye on the godly so that they may be surrounded with the shield of Your divine favor. May our Senators, with faith, expect You to provide them with strength for each task.

We pray in Your great 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. BOOZMAN). The Senator from Iowa.

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

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

### BLACK REVOLUTIONARY WAR PATRIOTS MEMORIAL

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I have been working for decades to es-

tablish a memorial on the National Mall to those Black Revolutionary War patriots who fought for the founding of our country. We are close to achieving that goal, which is needed now more than ever.

The rationale for the memorial was summarized in congressional testimony in 1985 by its founder, Maurice Barboza:

The Patriots Memorial would serve an educational purpose in that it would remind Americans of the rich and meaningful contributions of Blacks to the birth of America. It would illuminate the past so that the present generation would better understand the Nation's history. In that sense, it would serve a retrospective purpose.

The Patriots Memorial would serve a prospective purpose by helping future generations of Americans understand what it is that binds us . . . as a [nation].

He then quoted then-Representative Nancy L. Johnson, the memorial's chief proponent in the House of Representatives. I quote her and will end with this quote:

An American cannot be identified by simple physical, ethnic, racial, or religious characteristics. Even our cultural heritage is best defined by its rich diversity. What ties us together as a nation is our commitment to individual freedom and maintaining the rights and privileges guaranteed by the Constitution to assure the perpetuation of our freedom.

I yield the floor.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

### NOMINATION OF AMY CONEY BARRETT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, on Saturday evening, President Trump announced his nominee for the Supreme Court, Judge Amy Coney Barrett of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit.

I had the opportunity to meet with Judge Barrett earlier today. I left our discussion even more convinced that President Trump has nominated exactly the kind of outstanding person whom the American people deserve to have on their highest Court.

Americans deserve brilliant judges with first-rate legal minds. Judge Barrett is that and then some. She attended Notre Dame Law School on full scholarship, graduated No. 1 in her class, and was executive editor of the Law Review.

She secured top-flight clerkships on the DC Circuit and the Supreme Court. After a few years in private practice, she returned to academia and built a national reputation as an award-winning professor and legal scholar. Judge Barrett is brilliant.

Americans also deserve judges who are committed to fairness and impartiality, to following the facts in every case. They deserve judges who understand that their job is to interpret the text of our laws and Constitution as they are written, not as the judge might personally wish they had been written differently.

Again, Judge Barrett passes with flying colors. Her 3 years of rulings on the Seventh Circuit are the record of a judge who sets out to do impartial justice under law—nothing more and nothing less. This nominee could not be more fully qualified to serve on the Supreme Court.

Harvard Law Professor Noah Feldman is a fierce critic of President Trump. He was one of the House Democrats' star witnesses in their impeachment. He has known Judge Barrett professionally for more than 20 years. Despite some philosophical differences, he went out of his way this past weekend to write that she is "highly qualified to serve on the Supreme Court."

Here is what Professor Feldman wrote:

I know her to be a brilliant and conscientious lawyer who will analyze and decide

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



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cases in good faith, applying the jurisprudential principles to which she is committed. Those are the basic criteria for being a good justice. Barrett meets and exceeds them.

And if you “believe in an ideal judicial temperament,” Professor Feldman went on, “then rest assured that Barrett has it.”

It is the same story from everyone—everyone—who knows Judge Barrett well.

The dean of Notre Dame Law School says she is “an absolutely brilliant legal scholar and jurist [and] one of the most popular teachers we have ever had here.”

One of her faculty colleagues said: “She is a principled, careful judge, admired legal scholar, and amazing teacher.”

Six young women who all studied under now-Judge Barrett say she drilled into them “the necessity of setting personal beliefs aside when evaluating the answer to a legal question.”

These objective qualifications and credentials are what matter most. Judge Barrett deserves to be judged by her record.

But a few more things bear notice. As our Nation continues to honor the trailblazing life of the late Justice Ginsburg, it seems fitting that President Trump has nominated another brilliant woman who has climbed to the very top of the legal field. Young women who know Judge Barrett well describe her as not just an excellent teacher but a gracious mentor and an inspiring example of female leadership.

As the only congressional leader not from New York or California, I applaud the President’s decision to look to the heartland. If confirmed, Judge Barrett would be the only current Supreme Court Justice with a law degree from anywhere besides Harvard or Yale—from anywhere besides Harvard or Yale. I would say this nominee would bring welcomed diversity on multiple fronts.

As I predicted last week, the far left is rushing to make this nomination about anything but Judge Barrett’s qualifications. The instant she was announced, they started with the same unhinged attacks they have recycled for every Supreme Court nomination by every Republican President since the 1970s.

Remember, the far left said Justice Stevens opposed “women’s rights,” that Justice Kennedy would be “a disaster for women,” and that Justice Souter would put the “health and lives” of Americans at risk.

Well, Saturday went like clockwork. The political left took one more look at Judge Barrett’s qualifications, gave up on debating the merits, and headed right at the same old scare tactics. Our colleague, the Democratic leader, informed Americans that this 48-year-old working mother was going to “turn back the clock on women’s rights.” This 48-year-old working mother was going to “turn back the clock on women’s rights,” so said the Democratic leader.

The junior Senator from California said the nominee would “harm millions of Americans.”

The junior Senator from Connecticut said “Amy Coney Barrett would create a humanitarian catastrophe.”

Well, here we go again. Here we go again. One of the preselected scare tactics is that Judge Barrett is out to steal Americans’ healthcare coverage. That is the claim. This mother of seven, including multiple children who were born or adopted facing preexisting medical challenges, is just itching to block families like hers from accessing medical care. What a joke. What a joke.

When Senate Democrats were trying to attack Chief Justice John Roberts, long before ObamaCare even existed, they claimed he had sought to “put millions of American consumers and families at risk of losing coverage.” They have been recycling these same attacks since before they even passed the law they now say they are worried about.

On this occasion, their entire argument seems to come down to a technical analysis Judge Barrett put forward in a 4-year-old academic paper about one part of ObamaCare, which Congress has already zeroed out in the meantime. Let me just say that again. The entire argument seems to come down to a technical analysis that Judge Barrett put forward in a 4-year-old academic paper about one part—just one part—of ObamaCare, which Congress has already zeroed out in the meantime.

These hysterical claims collapse under the slightest examination, but, sadly, they are just beginning. Three years ago, Senate Democrats’ bizarre attacks on Judge Barrett’s religious faith became a national embarrassment for their side of the aisle.

The senior Senator from Illinois asked now-Judge Barrett: “Do you consider yourself an orthodox Catholic?” This was actually during a U.S. Senate hearing. The senior Senator from California told her that “the dogma lives loudly within you. And that’s of concern.”

This was not, regrettably, an isolated incident. Over the past few years, multiple Senate Democrats, on multiple different occasions, have openly suggested that certain kinds of religious beliefs might disqualify citizens from public service.

In 2017, the junior Senator from Vermont, Senator SANDERS, told an executive branch nominee that he had made an “indefensible, hateful, Islamophobic” statement because he had articulated a personal belief that Christianity gets things right which Islam gets wrong.

In 2018, the junior Senator from California, who is now asking for Americans’ votes to be Vice President, attacked a different nominee for participating in the Knights of Columbus. The Knights of Columbus? This is a massive, noncontroversial Catholic men’s

association that is known for things like shoveling snow off church sidewalks and hosting pancake breakfasts.

“Were you aware that the Knights of Columbus opposed a woman’s right to choose,” Senator HARRIS asked, as though it were remotely controversial that a famous Catholic organization would subscribe to Catholic teaching on the right to life.

The junior Senator from Hawaii suggested this nominee would need to quit the organization, quit the Knights of Columbus to serve as a judge. You would think the national backlash to all of this would have taught the political left a lesson.

Here is what happened in just the past few days. The Associated Press, Reuters, POLITICO, Newsweek, and the Washington Post have already run up major stories on the Barrett family’s private faith practices. Each strongly implied there might be something worrisome or disqualifying if a Federal judge were a faithful Christian with strong ties to spiritual groups. POLITICO’s contributing editor literally went and peered around the physical grounds of a religious facility in South Bend so he could report what the youth group had written on their whiteboard. Less than 72 hours in, this is where we are. The elite class is already treating Americans of faith like exotic animals on display in a menagerie.

Look, I understand the far left had committed to opposing this nominee before she was even named. I understand some politicians have decided to oppose Judge Barrett before they even considered her record. But every time they choose to use the nominee’s personal faith as a political weapon, they will only be reminding millions of Americans why it is so essential to have judges just like Judge Barrett on the bench.

In this country—our country—citizens have religious liberty. In this country—our country—there is no religious test for public office. In this Country—our country—we have the right to seek the protection of the courts when our free exercise of religion is threatened. That is why we need judges like Judge Barrett who understand our laws and Constitution and will uphold our freedoms accordingly. If the reflexive opponents of Judge Barrett’s nomination want to argue otherwise, they will only be proving how much better she understands our Constitution than they do.

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

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

#### UKRAINE INVESTIGATION

Mr. GRASSLEY. Last week Senator JOHNSON and I released our report

about our investigation into potential conflicts of interest with respect to Ukraine policy during the Obama administration. My Democratic colleagues have attacked this investigation with unsupported and inaccurate allegations that this investigation is rooted in a foreign-sourced influence campaign. They have asserted that our oversight activities relating to the Obama administration are advancing a Russian disinformation campaign and have implied that we are “wielding that disinformation as a political cudgel.” Nothing could be further from the truth, so I want to explain.

My Democratic colleagues have publicly insinuated that I received the records from a Ukrainian national, Andriy Derkach, a Russian agent who has taken action to influence and interfere in the 2020 election.

Now, get this: I have praised the Treasury Department for sanctioning Derkach. I have neither received nor solicited information from Derkach. This is probably the third time I have come to the floor of the Senate to say this. Yet you still keep getting these accusations from my friends on the other side of the aisle. Now, the Democrats know that we have not received this information. Yet they refuse to stop repeating their false insinuations, and those false insinuations have resulted in Russian-based media repeating the Democratic disinformation, which is Exhibit A why the Democrats should have never created that false narrative in the first place. In fact, during the course of this investigation, the minority—not the majority—of the committee introduced Derkach’s disinformation into the committee record.

Foreign election interference should have no quarter in this country, and we must do everything to stop that interference. If only the Democrats felt the same about the Steele dossier, which is the very definition of Russian disinformation and election interference.

Our investigation is based upon Obama administration government records and records from a Democratic lobby shop, Blue Star Strategies. They aren’t based on any information that we received from a fellow by the name of Derkach. So if my Democratic colleagues think that those records amount to Russian disinformation, then that says more about the previous Obama administration than it does about the Johnson-Grassley inquiry.

Do you think my Democratic colleagues would have attacked an investigation involving Donald Trump, Jr.? Remember, I interviewed the President’s son years ago as part of my Russia investigation. I didn’t hear any complaints about my investigative work at that time. Funny how this has played out, right?

My Democratic colleagues have jammed up document production from government agencies and engaged in questionable political media efforts.

We would have been done with this investigation a long time ago if all that opposition hadn’t occurred, but here we are, and now the American people can see our work and judge our work for themselves.

I would like to remind my Democratic colleagues that the first step in this investigation was a letter that I wrote on August 14, 2019. That letter was about an Obama-era Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States transaction. That transaction gave control over an American company that made anti-vibration technologies with military applications to a Chinese Government-owned aviation company and a Chinese-based investment firm with established ties to the Communist Chinese Government. Reports indicated that a firm formed by Hunter Biden and Chris Heinz, the stepson of John Kerry, later partnered with a Chinese-based firm to purchase the American company.

Also at that time, Joe Biden was Vice President and John Kerry was Secretary of State. The State Department is an approval agency on the Committee on Foreign Investment.

Clearly, this transaction presented conflicts of interest, and that is exactly why I wrote the letter of August 2019 to the Treasury Department.

My Democratic colleagues like to say that we started this investigation as a result of the Trump impeachment. Well, the last time I checked, August 14, 2019, was well before the impeachment investigation began. That letter was also sent before Congress was notified of the Ukrainian-related whistleblower complaint and before it was made public.

No matter how hard the Democrats try to say otherwise, this investigation is rooted in nothing but simply good government oversight. That is exactly the type of investigation I have run my entire Senate career.

After the August 2019 letter, news reporting picked up the pace about Hunter Biden’s association with Burisma, the corrupt Ukrainian company, and the fact that his father was in charge of the Obama administration’s anti-corruption policy for Ukraine.

Now, just think about that for a second. Vice President Biden was responsible for carrying an anti-corruption message to Ukraine on behalf of the U.S. Government. At the same time, his son was making millions of dollars working on the board of a corrupt Ukrainian company.

To any reasonable observer, that is a very questionable fact pattern that deserves attention, and it got a lot of attention besides from GRASSLEY and JOHNSON. Documents made public as a result of the Freedom of Information Act and investigative reporting brought very fresh public attention and scrutiny to this fact pattern.

Reporting showed additional potential conflicts of interest with respect to Hunter Biden’s business dealings all over the world, not just Ukraine. Those

financial dealings also exposed how Hunter Biden and his business associates sought to benefit financially from their relationship with Vice President Biden.

As our report shows, Hunter Biden and his business associates had extensive connections to Russian or Ukrainian nationals. Their business association also extended to Russian nationals.

The report also shows that Hunter Biden, his family members, and business associates had extensive connections to Chinese nationals. The records acquired by the committee show that Hunter Biden and his associates and family members were connected to Chinese nationals associated with the Communist Party and the People’s Liberation Army. Those connections formed business links, which resulted in millions of dollars passing through company after company.

Some of those companies were associated with Hunter Biden, his business partner Devon Archer, and James Biden. The records show deep and complex financial relationships with Chinese nationals and how financially fruitful those relationships became.

As one example, records show that Hunter Biden opened a bank account with a Chinese national linked to the Communist regime and funded with approximately \$100,000. Then he, James Biden, and Sarah Biden went on an extravagant global spending spree. Records show that Hunter Biden, via his law firm, also sent over a million dollars to James Biden’s consulting firm, the Lion Hall Group. When the bank contacted Sarah Biden, who was associated with the firm’s bank account, she refused to answer the questions and provide any additional information and documentation. According to records we have on file, the bank submitted the account for closure.

Now, what is very clear is that Hunter Biden leveraged his name and his father’s position for financial gain, and his work with Burisma is just the tip of the iceberg.

These associations and the millions of dollars that passed between and among Hunter Biden, Archer, James Biden, and others create criminal financial concerns. Moreover, they create counterintelligence and extortion concerns.

The investigation also uncovered that the Obama administration was well aware of the problems that Hunter Biden’s board position caused. State Department officials testified that his board membership created the perception of a conflict of interest and was very awkward for all U.S. officials pushing an anti-corruption agenda in Ukraine.

Secretary of State Kerry publicly denied knowing of Hunter Biden’s role on the Burisma board. Now, we have acquired evidence that he did, in fact, know about that role.

The owner of Burisma was viewed as an “odious oligarch” by State Department officials. However, in December

of 2015, instead of following U.S. objectives of confronting oligarchs, Vice President Biden's staff advised him to avoid commenting on the odious oligarch and instead say "I am not going to get into naming names or accusing individuals."

Well, if you are running an anticorruption agenda in Ukraine and you pull your punches when it comes to Burisma while your son is on the board, that goes to judgment—and here it looks like very bad judgment and weak leadership.

Based on witness testimony, Burisma's owner allegedly paid a \$7 million bribe to officials serving under Ukraine's prosecutor general to shut the case against him. When he allegedly placed the bribe in December 2014, Hunter Biden was on the board and—can you believe this—he had been hired to be on the board to assist with what they call "corporate governance and responsibility." Obviously, he wasn't doing his corporate job—due diligence.

The facts show that the Obama administration was well aware of the problems that Hunter Biden being on the Burisma board caused. The facts show that the Obama administration turned a blind eye to it. Everyone knew about the problems it caused, but nobody wanted to do anything about it. So much for leadership.

At its core, the investigation is a good government oversight investigation. These are exactly the kinds of shady, backroom deals that the American people should know about. So now the facts are out there. The American people can judge this information for themselves. They don't need the people on the other side of the aisle of this institution telling them what went on when they were using disinformation from Russia and spreading that disinformation around and trying to say it was attributed to something that we got.

As for the next step, Senator JOHNSON and I will continue to review the records that we possess and further records that we hope we are able to acquire.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. 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 MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

#### NOMINATION OF AMY CONEY BARRETT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, after Senate Republicans established the

principle that the Senate shouldn't consider Supreme Court nominations in Presidential election years, on Saturday, President Trump nominated Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court with less than 40 days left in the Presidential election.

The Senate has never—never—confirmed a nominee to the Supreme Court this close to a Presidential election. In fact, the election is already underway, but President Trump gets to play by different rules under this Republican majority.

By nominating Judge Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court, President Trump has once again put Americans' healthcare in the crosshairs. President Trump has promised to nominate Supreme Court Justices who will "terminate"—his words—our healthcare law. In Judge Barret, President Trump has found the deciding vote.

Judge Barret strongly criticized the ruling to uphold the Affordable Care Act, claiming that if Justices read the law the way she does, they would "have had to invalidate" the entire healthcare law. Let me repeat that: Judge Barrett strongly criticized Justice Roberts' decision to uphold the Affordable Care Act, saying that "he pushed [the law] beyond its plausible meaning to save the statute." If Justice Roberts had read the law the way Judge Barret does, the Supreme Court would have had to invalidate the entire Affordable Care Act.

The Republican lawsuit against the Affordable Care Act, as everyone knows, will be heard 1 week after the election. Senate Republicans are rushing to jam Judge Barrett's confirmation through in time for her to hear arguments in that very case. Not one for subtlety, President Trump tweeted on Saturday that our healthcare law would be replaced "if terminated by the Supreme Court."

So the American people should make no mistake, a vote by any Senator for Judge Amy Coney Barrett is a vote to strike down the Affordable Care Act and eliminate protections for millions of Americans with preexisting conditions.

Judge Barrett's record also suggests that if she is confirmed, the reproductive freedom of millions of women would be in grave danger. Should Judge Amy Coney Barrett be confirmed, a far-right majority on the Court could turn back the clock on women's rights and a woman's right to choose, workers' rights, voting rights, civil rights, environmental protections, LGBTQ rights, and many more. The future for DACA recipients hangs in the balance as well.

So this nomination concerns no less than the fundamental rights of the American people. After holding a Supreme Court vacancy open for 8 months before a Presidential election, President Trump and Leader MCCONNELL are doing what no Senate has done before—shamelessly rushing to fill Justice

Ginsburg's seat less than 40 days before the Presidential election.

Justice Ginsburg's dying wish was that she not be replaced until a new President is installed. Republicans are poised not only to ignore her wishes, but to replace her with someone who could tear down everything she had built.

This reprehensible power grab is a cynical attack on the legitimacy of the Court, and I would strongly, strongly oppose this nomination.

The Senate Republican majority has decided, however, that they will stop at nothing, break all the rules—even their own rules—to rush this nomination through before the election. But apparently the Senate majority isn't going to stop at naked hypocrisy. It is also going to engage in manufactured hysterics.

For the past few weeks, long before President Trump even nominated Judge Barrett, Senate Republicans have been telling everyone who will listen that Democrats "better not make Catholicism an issue in this nomination." That is their quote.

Last week, a Member of this Chamber wrote me an entire letter preemptively warning about anti-Catholic attacks against a nominee who hadn't been named yet. Another Member of this Chamber said that "in CHUCK SCHUMER's America—only atheists can be Supreme Court Justices."

Of course, not a single Democrat will make these attacks or make personal religious beliefs an issue, but that doesn't matter to my Republican friends. Oh, no. They will try to slander Democrats with this imaginary issue anyway because they are desperate for a distraction. Republicans invented this concern because they are so eager to make this nomination about anything other than their disgraceful double standard—anything besides their attempts to take away healthcare and curtail the fundamental rights of the American people.

Honestly, it is embarrassing how transparent Republicans are being about this manufactured line of attack. They couldn't even wait for a Catholic nominee to be chosen. They already scripted the attacks.

The Senator from Tennessee is making wild allegations; the Senator from Missouri is writing ridiculous letters; and my friend from Florida is cutting videos decrying the kind of attacks on a person's faith that haven't occurred since the political right was implying that our last practicing Christian President, President Obama, was a secret Muslim.

I don't remember my Republican colleagues making a fuss when peaceful protesters were tear-gassed so President Trump could hold the Bible upside down in front of a church for a photo op.

I understand why certain Republicans are resorting to this disgusting tactic: They have no other argument. They can't argue that this nomination

could proceed because of some solemn constitutional duty because they argued the exact opposite position 4 years ago.

They certainly can't argue the merits of Judge Barrett's position on the Affordable Care Act because they know it is dreadfully unpopular with the American people. No wonder—no wonder Republicans are so desperate to talk about, literally, anything else.

#### CORONAVIRUS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, on another matter, COVID-19, yesterday, the House of Representatives unveiled legislation to provide \$2.2 trillion in emergency funding to help the American people in the fight against COVID-19.

The proposal includes a number of crucial provisions that families, businesses, local leaders, and hospitals desperately need, including \$600 in weekly emergency unemployment insurance, funding for our schools, support for State and local governments, assistance for renters and homeowners, additional resources for testing and contact tracing, and measures to strengthen the post office and complete the census.

It includes important aid for transit systems, by the way, vital to our Nation's economy. It includes crucial support for economic drivers like restaurants, music venues, independent theaters, and more that we have named in our Save Our Stages Act, and it includes critical workplace standards and protections for our workers.

Is this new bill everything that Democrats want? No, but it is an honest attempt to provide the relief our country needs and reach an agreement by moving closer to our Republican colleagues who want to provide much less relief, if they want to provide any at all.

Once again, the bill demonstrates the willingness on the part of Democrats to compromise. COVID-19 remains the No. 1 issue in America. Weekly unemployment claims are still through the roof. Schools are struggling to adapt. Over 200,000 Americans have died. We are a long way from putting this crisis in the rearview mirror.

But none of this seems to concern the Republican majority in the Senate. As countless businesses are going under, as thousands continue to get sick, as millions of Americans are waiting for the Senate to do its job, Leader McCANNELL and Senate Republicans are moving at a lightning pace to jam through a Supreme Court nominee—a nominee who could rip healthcare away from tens of millions of Americans in the middle of a pandemic.

Leader McCANNELL chose to put the Senate on pause for 4 months while COVID devastated our country. Now Leader McCANNELL has the Senate on fast-forward to rush through a partisan nomination to the Supreme Court. It goes to show you the priorities on the other side of the aisle.

#### TRUMP TAX RETURNS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, one final matter: Over the weekend, the New York Times reported that President Trump paid \$750 in income taxes in 2016 and nothing in 10 of the prior 15 years, largely because he reported losing more money than he made. No New Yorker was at all surprised by this report. All the hallmarks of President Trump's career before and after politics are there: hyperbole, fraud, avoiding responsibility, and pursuing selfish interests above all else. That is President Trump in a nutshell.

The documents obtained by the New York Times showed a long history of President Trump's egregious tax avoidance and potentially criminal activity and include the astounding figure that the President owes more than \$500 million—\$500 million—in personal obligations. Who does he owe that money to? And \$500 million is not chump change. Who does the President owe \$500 million to?

If President Trump wants another 4-year term as President, the people have to know who President Trump is so deeply indebted to. These documents reveal that President Trump was an abject failure in business and a serial tax cheat.

We have already heard the President claim the reporting in the New York Times is fake. Well, President Trump, put your tax returns where your mouth is.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KENNEDY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### 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.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

#### CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2021 AND OTHER EXTENSIONS ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 8337, which the clerk will report.

The senior legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 8337) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes.

#### Pending:

McConnell amendment No. 2663, to change the enactment date.

McConnell amendment No. 2664, of a perfecting nature.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for a few minutes as if in morning business.

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

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN DAVID ARNOLD

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I thought I would deliver a little good news. It is a little hard to get good news these days, but I ran across some.

I want to tell you about a man named Dr. John David Arnold, who, many years ago, started out teaching school. He taught school in Arizona. He had a little blue bus from which he had ripped out the seats and put in desks. He used that blue bus to follow the migrant workers from Arizona clear to the northern border as they worked, teaching the migrant kids.

He came up with an idea. As technology advanced, he said: You know, if I give the kids a computer, I can handle a whole lot more kids. They could use the phone to send their assignments in. He did that. So remote learning has been around for a long time—probably 40 years.

One of the benefits he found was that the parents benefited from it too. The parents of these migrant workers learned along with their kids. That program grew.

Then he came up with another problem that he saw a solution for, and that is that, in Phoenix, there were a lot of high school dropouts and some kids being expelled. There weren't good results from that. So he thought maybe he could start a school for these kids, and he would only take a student who had dropped out or been expelled if they would sign a contract. They and their parents had to sign a contract before they could become students. That contract had to say, of course, that they would behave, they would do their work, and what their goal was for a job after they got out of high school. Then he trained them for that.

That was also a successful educational endeavor that goes on today. There have been a lot of graduates from that, and, today, there are students helping students.

A lot of people who graduated from that want to work with their hands and do things. He has turned out a lot of mechanics, and he has helped some mechanics get their own garages. Those mechanics have contributed money so that other kids who graduate can go into competition with them, but so that they will have the same kind of a start that they had.

Now the students in the school and the graduates are working on inventions to fight against COVID. This isn't their first crisis. They were there after Katrina, and they are still there doing

work. On COVID, they have been providing food, clothing, and medical supplies. They are still doing the job training. They have been working on some mental health problems. They have helped with utilities. They have helped with rent, and they have helped with group homes.

Where is this happening? It is not just in Arizona, not just in Phoenix where it all started. It is happening in much of Arizona and in a lot of New Mexico. They are working with the Apaches and the Navajos. They are working against COVID in Mexico and in Africa. Yes, his school has expanded to Africa. They are in Ghana. They are in Cameroon. They are in Nigeria and in Liberia.

There are some good things happening in this world—people watching out for other people. It isn't government that has all the solutions. It is people caring about people.

I congratulate Dr. John David Arnold and his efforts following the blue bus and through these other iterations of education. I hope he is helping others with more on remote learning because that is where America is at the moment.

I thank you for the time.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

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**PROTECTING THE HEALTHCARE OF HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES AND PREVENTING EFFORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TO ADVOCATE COURTS TO STRIKE DOWN THE PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT—Motion to Proceed**

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 551, S. 4653, a bill to protect the healthcare of hundreds of millions of people of the United States and prevent efforts of the Department of Justice to advocate courts to strike down the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 551, S. 4653, a bill to protect the healthcare of hundreds of millions of people of the United States and prevent efforts of the Department of Justice to advocate courts to strike down the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

**CLOTURE MOTION**

Mr. SCHUMER. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

**CLOTURE MOTION**

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 551, S. 4653, a bill to protect the healthcare of hundreds of millions of people of the United States and prevent efforts of the Department of Justice to advocate courts to strike down the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Patty Murray, Tim Kaine, Martin Heinrich, Jack Reed, Jeff Merkley, Bernard Sanders, Jon Tester, Benjamin L. Cardin, Brian Schatz, Debbie Stabenow, Richard Blumenthal, Angus S. King, Jr., Michael F. Bennet, Edward J. Markey, Chris Van Hollen, Sheldon Whitehouse, Kirsten E. Gillibrand.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOZMAN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

**TRUMP TAX RETURNS**

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, the New York Times' latest reporting tells us everything we need to know about why President Trump has worked so hard to conceal his tax returns from the American people. The President is a liar, a cheat, and a fraud. For years he marketed himself as a self-made, successful businessman, but it is all an illusion. Like the Wizard of Oz, behind the curtain is just a small, petty fraud.

He made millions playing a billionaire businessman on TV, but in real life, Donald Trump was racking up huge losses in debts that he then used to get out of paying his fair share of Federal taxes. Call it tax avoidance. Call it tax evasion. Call it whatever you want. The bottom line is that Trump is no business genius. He is a con artist who thinks that the rules don't apply to him.

The President managed to avoid paying any Federal income tax for 11 of 18 years, from 2000 to 2017, and then only paid \$750 in 2016 and 2017. When I first read that in the New York Times, I thought there must have been a typo. Surely there were zeros missing. I was wrong. The page read right. Our self-proclaimed billionaire President paid just \$750 in Federal income taxes—\$750. That is a heck of a lot less than what essential workers supporting America throughout this pandemic pay in taxes, like the grocery clerk in Newark, NJ, who makes \$11 an hour but owes about \$1,060 in Federal taxes—\$300 more than Donald Trump. How about the nurse in Hackensack, NJ, working nights to save patients with COVID-19, making \$60,000 a year. She owes about \$6,200 in

Federal income taxes—more than eight times what the President paid.

Most people would agree that is a problem with our economy. Americans are working harder than ever for less. They are drowning in skyrocketing healthcare, housing, childcare, and tuition bills. At the end of the day, many middle-class New Jersey families still find themselves owing money to Uncle Sam. Meanwhile, for rich people like Donald Trump, the tax rate is the lowest it has been in decades, and you can write off fancy haircuts and consulting fees paid to your own daughter and all the losses you racked up running your business into the ground.

I have to say, this is no surprise to most New Jerseyans. We watched in horror as Donald Trump ran his Atlantic City casinos into the ground, scamming hard-working contractors out of their pay and costing the local economy thousands of jobs. Donald Trump was like a reverse King Midas—everything he touched went bankrupt. Then after his string of bankruptcies and broken promises to workers, Trump turned around and got a \$72.9 million bailout from the IRS—you heard me right, a \$72.9 million bailout from the IRS. Most people I know think it is a good year when they get \$400 or \$500 back from the Federal Government; this scam artist got off with \$72.9 million.

Yet Donald Trump isn't swimming in cash; he is drowning in debt. The President is on the hook for approximately \$421 million in loans, more than \$300 million of that coming due in the next 4 years. To get out of the debt, the President is doing everything he can to profit off the Presidency. Over the last 4 years, he has continued to make money off foreign investments, rake in cash from special interests and foreign officials at his Washington hotel, and charge the Federal Government millions for the use of his properties. He could go anywhere. He could go to Camp David. No. He goes to his properties, where millions—Secret Service and other entities protect the President and help the President whenever he leaves Washington. But he is always at his properties.

In spite of all this revenue, Trump is still badly in debt. It is no surprise that intelligence experts are concerned about who is holding it. They worry about the President's personal exposure to foreign creditors and what that might mean for national security. Anyone else in that much debt to foreign entities would have their security clearances immediately revoked. Is this why Trump refuses to punish Putin for putting bounties on the heads of U.S. soldiers? Is this why he applauds dictators like Erdogan and sells out American allies like the Kurds? Is this why he applauds dictators like Philippines President Rodrigo Duterte for doing “an unbelievable job”?

The bottom line is this: Who does Donald Trump owe those hundreds of millions of dollars to, and how much do

they know about him and how deep are they into him?

For years, the President has fought to keep Americans in the dark. Well, now we know why. He is a liar, a fraud, and a failed businessman so deep in the red, he is a potential national security liability.

Let me close by quoting President Donald Trump in his own book, “The Art of the Deal.” He said:

You can't con people, at least not for long. You can create excitement, you can do wonderful promotion and get all kinds of press, and you can throw in a little hyperbole. But if you don't deliver the goods, people will eventually catch on.

I only hope the American people are catching on.

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.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. MCSALLY). 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 Calendar No. 552, H.R. 8337, a bill making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes.

Mitch McConnell, Richard C. Shelby, Lindsey Graham, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Tom Cotton, Mike Rounds, Thom Tillis, Roy Blunt, Lamar Alexander, Richard Burr, Cory Gardner, John Barasso, Joni Ernst, Mike Crapo, Rob Portman, James E. Risch, John Hoeven.

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 H.R. 8337, a bill making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes, 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 Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted “yea” and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) would have voted “yea.”

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Vermont (Mr.

SANDERS), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ), and the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 82, nays 6, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 196 Leg.]

#### YEAS—82

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

#### NAYS—6

Cruz	Lee	Paul
Hawley	Loeffler	Toomey

#### NOT VOTING—12

Alexander	Harris	Sasse
Blackburn	Moran	Schatz
Blunt	Rubio	Tester
Coons	Sanders	Tillis

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 82, the nays are 6.

Three-fifths of the Senate duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

#### NOMINATION OF AMY CONEY BARRETT

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, the selection of the person to fill the Supreme Court vacancy is a historic moment in Washington. This is the seventh time that we will be in a position to at least meet someone who is aspiring to that position. I have had opportunities with each one of them to ask some questions before the formal hearing. I hope I have the same opportunity with the current nominee, Judge Amy Coney Barrett.

What is different about this particular moment is the fact that we know that there is an issue at stake here and one that is likely to be decided almost immediately by the new Supreme Court Justice. It is the only explanation I can find—perhaps one other—the only two explanations I can find as to why there is this hurry to fill this vacancy.

You see, it was 4 years ago, when there was a vacancy on the Supreme Court with Antonin Scalia’s death—and that occurred on the February before the election—that Senator McCONNELL, then the Republican Senate leader, argued there was no need to hurry. Why hurry about it? Leave the vacancy on the Supreme Court. Wait until after

the next Presidential election. Let the American people decide who will be filling that vacancy.

He made that argument, despite the clear history in this Chamber that did not support him, and he won the support of his position by every Republican Senator. They went so far as to say that if President Obama, in his last year in office, nominated someone to fill the Supreme Court vacancy, they wouldn’t give that person a hearing.

Well, President Obama, in his last year of his Presidency, nominated Merrick Garland, a person who was widely respected as the chief judge in the DC Circuit Court—the second highest court in the land by some measure—and Merrick Garland came to Capitol Hill in the hopes that he would get his day in court, so to speak, in the Senate. But Senator McCONNELL said: No way. Words out, Republican Senators, don’t meet with him. A couple of them broke his rule and met with him anyway. But the word was out not to even give him the courtesy of a meeting 4 years ago. So Merrick Garland never had his day before the Senate Judiciary Committee, and his nomination departed with the Presidency of Barack Obama.

Senator McCONNELL’s new theory prevailed on how the Senate should treat Supreme Court vacancies. Every one of his soldiers on the Republican Senate marched in lock step with his theory. Well, guess what happened 4 years ago later. An incumbent President had a late vacancy on the Supreme Court with the untimely death of Ruth Bader Ginsburg, just a little over a week-and-a-half ago. And the obvious question to Senator McCONNELL is: Will you be consistent now and say that that vacancy should not be filled until a new President is elected, and that President should have the option to fill it? And Senator McCONNELL said: Of course not. It is not to my political advantage—he didn’t add those words; I did—not to my political advantage. I am going to change this hard-and-fast rule of 4 years ago, and I am going to ask all of my Republican Senators to march before a camera and a microphone and to look down at their shoes and say the position they took 4 years ago, they are abandoning today. And all but two of them did it. All but two of them walked away from their pledge that they were under the old McConnell rule.

That McConnell rule was stated in just a few words. Here is what Senator McCONNELL said 4 years ago:

The American people should have a voice in the selection of their next Supreme Court Justice. Therefore, this vacancy should not be filled until we have a new President.

The McConnell rule was thrown out just a few days ago. Why? Because it was to Senator McCONNELL’s advantage to fill this vacancy and to the President’s and not to wait for the outcome of the November 3 election. So what is the issue? What would cause Senator McCONNELL to change so quickly and

to ask all of his loyal Republican Senators to go through the embarrassment of recanting the position they took publicly 4 years ago? What is the big deal, Senator McCONNELL? Well, it turns out we know what the big deal is. It is the Affordable Care Act. To paraphrase a Senator from Arkansas, Dale Bumpers, the Republicans and President Trump hate the Affordable Care Act like the devil hates holy water. They have tried every imaginable way to eliminate it, to change it, to water it down, and to discourage it. There were 50 different votes in the House of Representatives to eliminate the Affordable Care Act, and were it not for the Democrats in the Senate, they might have had some luck in doing that, but it didn't work. So they tried it on the Senate floor under reconciliation. They thought: Here is our chance. We just need a majority. We should be able to pull this one off.

And we had this historic moment just 3 years ago when, at 2:30 in the morning, John McCain came through those doors, and, with his "no" vote and the vote of two other Republican Senators, saved the Affordable Care Act. Imagine the frustration of MITCH McCONNELL. Here was his moment to finally drive that dagger deep in the heart of the Affordable Care Act, and John McCain voted no. What was he going to do to get this job done?

Well, it turns out he figured he would get it done across the street in the U.S. Supreme Court. So 18 Republican State attorneys general filed a lawsuit to eliminate the Affordable Care Act. And then the Trump administration said: We are on board too. Let's get rid of it completely.

Off they went through the long treacherous journey in the courts all the way up to the Supreme Court across the street. Guess when the argument is scheduled to be heard. It is to be heard 7 days after the election. So you wonder why there is such a hurry to put another Supreme Court Justice on the Court who also opposes the Affordable Care Act? And make no mistake, President Trump made that one of the conditions of employment for anyone he would name to the Supreme Court. You have to be ready to march right in there and put an end to it.

So if we can vote under Senator McCONNELL's timetable on or before the election, November 3, the new Supreme Court Justice sworn in, in her black robe, ascends to the bench in the Supreme Court on November 10, listens to the oral argument on the Affordable Care Act, and then a few weeks or months later puts an end to it. That is why we are in such a hurry, because if that Supreme Court vacancy is not filled by November 10, then whomever is chosen, as they do by tradition, could vote on the actual outcome of the case in the spring. That is what this is all about.

As someone told me long ago in this business of politics, there is always a good reason, and then there is always

the real reason. The real reason for the mad dash of the Senate Judiciary Committee to fill the Supreme Court vacancy, the real reason why Republican Senators are asked to march in lock-step and say that what they pledged 4 years ago meant nothing today—the real reason—is to put an end to the Affordable Care Act.

Let me tell the story, if I can, about the Affordable Care Act. I voted for it and am proud to have done it. Twenty million Americans have insurance because of it—600,000 in Illinois and, I might add, protections for people all across America. Let me discuss one of the protections of the Affordable Care Act that will go away and be eliminated if President Trump, the Republican Attorney General, and the Republican Senators who are supporting MITCH McCONNELL have their way. Here is one of the provisions in the law. Here is the story.

A couple of years ago, Tom from Palatine, IL, a suburb of Chicago, wrote to me about the Affordable Care Act. I will show a picture here. This is him. At the age of 30, Tom, married with dreams of fatherhood, was diagnosed with cancer, a tumor in his chest. He underwent 20 rounds of chemo and major surgery to remove the tumor. Thankfully, after that, he was cancer free.

There is Tom in his better days, racing to Wrigley. And there he is fighting his way through cancer in a hospital bed.

How much did it cost him for all of that care? Two million dollars. Two million dollars was the bill.

Before the Affordable Care Act, insurance companies imposed arbitrary annual and lifetime limits on how much they would actually reimburse a patient for medical bills. If you pass the limit, you are on the hook personally. That is why for years, medical debt was a leading cause of bankruptcy in America.

A fellow like Tom, racing along here, looking as healthy and fit as possible, ends up with a cancer diagnosis and goes through months and months of therapy and a bill of 2 million bucks, and the insurance company says: It is all yours. There is a limit in your policy.

That is the way it used to be before the Affordable Care Act. The Affordable Care Act put an end to those limits. Without those protections, Tom wrote to me and said that he "would most likely have capped [his] coverage and be bankrupt." It is pretty clear.

Thousands of other Americans could also be right there with him without the Affordable Care Act. Although Tom wants to continue working and contributing to society, he said he is scared to death. He is "terrified"—in his words—that protections for pre-existing conditions would be ended. You see, Tom having defeated surgery and declared this great victory—I am sure his friends and family couldn't be happier—is now branded by the insur-

ance companies as a man with a pre-existing condition.

In the old days, before the Affordable Care Act: Good luck, Tom. Good luck, because if you had a preexisting condition—and almost anything would count: acne, asthma, being a woman who might get pregnant, and on and on and on—you were subjected to higher premiums, maybe even no insurance at all. Those were the days before the Affordable Care Act.

Now, President Trump, the Republican attorneys general, and the Republicans in the Senate are dutybound to send a new Supreme Court Justice in to put an end to that protection, to put an end to the Affordable Care Act. They are so determined to get rid of ObamaCare at any cost that they could care less about Tom and people just like him with these lifetime limits.

If the Affordable Care Act is struck down, insurers could once again deny coverage to millions of Americans with preexisting conditions. That isn't all.

The Affordable Care Act also made it clear that if you are a family with a son or daughter who goes to college, comes out of school looking for a job, maybe had taken that gap year, maybe had taken an internship, but likely not to have health insurance, the Affordable Care Act says don't worry. Until that young man or young woman in your household reaches the age of 26, they can stay on your family's health insurance plan—a provision of the Affordable Care Act and a provision that a lot of families count on.

Our family needed something just like that when our daughter graduated college and didn't have health insurance and assured me that she sure didn't need it and she was so healthy. Well, that is scary talk for a parent to hear. But when it came to the Affordable Care Act, we would have been able to keep our young daughter under that policy—our family policy—for a period of time. The Republicans want that to go away—to go away with the Affordable Care Act.

You say to yourself: Well, clearly, Durbin, you are not telling the whole story. You are not telling us what the Republican plan is to replace the Affordable Care Act.

It is true—guilty as charged. I am not describing to you the Republican alternative to the Affordable Care Act because it doesn't exist. It does not exist. That is why John McCain and two other Republican Senators said: You can't eliminate the Affordable Care Act unless you have a replacement that is as good or better. Otherwise, too many American families will lose their insurance and lose their protection.

We had a hearing a few weeks ago, and I asked the leaders in the health community under the Trump administration the basic question: What have you heard about the Republican substitute for the Affordable Care Act? President Trump has told us over and over and over again that it is

just a week or two away. So what have you heard about preparedness?

They said: Nothing. We have heard nothing.

There is no Republican substitute for the Affordable Care Act. They are just dutybound to eliminate ObamaCare, and, sadly, the consequences would be awful.

That is what this is about. So if you think, I don't want to tune in to this whole debate about a new Supreme Court Justice from Indiana; I don't want to hear all these arguments because what difference does it make to me—if you are that person in America—I would say to you, please, take a look at what we are really facing here—an effort to fill a vacancy on the Supreme Court in a timely way to eliminate the Affordable Care Act. That is what this is all about.

Then, the President, just for good measure, tossed in another issue last week. How about this one—the first President in the history of the United States to not publicly declare that he would accept the outcome of an election? How about that? It is nothing short of a constitutional outrage that any President would say that. It is no surprise with this President because, when he was a candidate, he said basically the same thing: If it doesn't turn out that I win, then, I am not sure I want to live by the results.

He makes up these contrived arguments against paper ballots and how fraudulent they are. There are five States—five States in America—that use mail-in ballots exclusively. They include, of course, the State of Oregon, which might have been one of the first, and they include the State of Utah, as well, and Hawaii. Other States do it. How much fraud is there? Almost none. But that doesn't stop the President from claiming that mail-in ballots are fraudulent.

How does the President vote, incidentally? By mail-in ballot. What hypocrisy for him to make that kind of statement when he is casting his own vote with a mail-in ballot.

So now he said that he wants that Supreme Court vacancy filled: Do it now because I need nine Justices sitting on that Supreme Court if there is any election contest to follow.

It is pretty obvious what this is all about. The President needs a sure vote on the Supreme Court.

What a shame that we have reached this point, that we have denigrated the U.S. Senate to the point that we change the rules at our convenience, that we have reached the point where we are prepared to eliminate protections for 20 million Americans with nothing to replace it, and that we have reached a point where a President is so brazen as to say he wants to fill that spot on the Supreme Court just in case he runs into an election contest.

You would think there would be a chorus—a bipartisan chorus—of outrage for that statement by the President. Not so. There may have been oth-

ers—and I will scour the records to make sure—but two Republicans stepped up and said that the President's public statement on not abiding by election returns was terrible.

Who were those two? Senator MITT ROMNEY, here, the only Republican Senator I know of. If there were more, I will come back and correct the record. But I heard him clearly say that what the President said was intolerable. Then there was the Republican Governor of Massachusetts. I watched that press conference. He wasn't just declarative. He was upset to think that any President of either party would make that kind of statement. That is what we are up against.

Two weeks from yesterday, they want to hold a hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee on this nominee, Judge Barrett, and they want the vote before the election, before the argument on the Affordable Care Act, and before the President faces any possibility of an election contest.

What a point we have reached in this country. The silence of Republicans across the Nation is deafening. They ignore the obvious.

You cannot have a viable, trustworthy democracy if you don't have viable, trustworthy elections, and in order to have that happen, you need Presidents of both political parties who are committed to fairness, committed to honesty, and committed to our Constitution.

Sadly, at this moment in time, we do not have a President who is, and there are too many of his own political party who stand back in the shadows in silence, recanting on pledges they made 4 years ago, doing whatever is necessary to win the favor of this President.

I hope another day will come soon with different leadership and a different view of this country. I am genuinely concerned about what we face on November 3 and the days that follow, but I have never given up on America, and I never will. I believe this democracy will prevail, and I hope that after he is gone, some Republicans will step forward and say: It is time to create a party not in his image.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it recess until 12 noon, Wednesday, September 30; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 8337; finally, that all

time during recess of the Senate and leader remarks count postclosure on H.R. 8337.

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

## MORNING BUSINESS

### VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, I was unable to attend the rollcall vote No. 184 on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Edward H. Meyers, of Washington, DC, to be judge of the Court of Federal Claims. Had I been able to attend, I would have voted to oppose cloture.

I was unable to attend the rollcall vote No. 185 on the motion to confirm the nomination of Edward H. Meyers, of Washington, DC, to be judge of the Court of Federal Claims. Had I been able to attend, I would have voted to oppose confirmation.

I was unable to attend the rollcall vote No. 186 on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Andrea R. Lucas, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Had I been able to attend, I would have voted to oppose cloture.

I was unable to attend the rollcall vote No. 187 on the motion to confirm the nomination of Andrea R. Lucas to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Had I been able to attend, I would have voted to oppose confirmation.

I was unable to attend the rollcall vote No. 188 on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Keith Sonderling to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Had I been able to attend, I would have voted to oppose cloture.

I was unable to attend the rollcall vote No. 189 on the motion to confirm the nomination of Keith Sonderling to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Had I been able to attend, I would have voted to oppose confirmation.

## NATIONAL BLACK BUSINESS MONTH

Mr. PERDUE. Madam President, I rise today to recognize the great work of the Georgia Greater Black Chamber of Commerce. The Georgia Greater Black Chamber has focused on recognizing the integral contributions of Black-owned businesses to the strength of both our State and our Nation's economy during National Black Business Month in August. For 7 straight years, Georgia has been named the No. 1 place in the country in which to do business, and the Georgia Greater Black Chamber has been instrumental in making that possible.

As I mentioned, August was National Black Business Month, and the Georgia Greater Black Chamber celebrated by honoring an important Georgian: Mr. Herman J. Russell.

H. J. Russell was the epitome of the American entrepreneur. Despite all the obstacles in his way, he worked hard to achieve his dreams. His business started as a plastering company, and he grew it into one of Atlanta's best real estate developers. Anywhere you look in Atlanta, you will see the incredible landmarks that the H.J. Russell Company has worked on: the Georgia Dome, Hartsfield-Jackson Airport, and Castleberry Hill. As a business guy myself, I am inspired by all that Herman J. Russell did in his life. Simply put, Atlanta would not be what it is today without H.J. Russell and the H.J. Russell Company. His children carry on this entrepreneurial spirit to this day. I recently had the opportunity to visit with his sons Michael and Jerome. They and their sister Donata Russell Ross are dedicated to continuing Black entrepreneurship.

Recently, I had the privilege of visiting the Russell Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship—RCIE—with Housing and Urban Development Secretary Ben Carson. The Russell Center assists African-American entrepreneurs by providing workspace, networking opportunities, and educational resources. In 2019, RCIE converted a 43,000-square-foot corporate headquarters into space for 100 emerging entrepreneurial companies. RCIE is a testament to the efforts of African-American entrepreneurs to uplift each other.

As the Georgia Greater Black Chamber and other organizations in my State look to support growth in Black business and entrepreneurship, I will continue to work to support them. Through a recent conversation with Dr. David Thomas, president of Morehouse College, I was made aware that approximately 45 percent of the young men who start as freshmen at Morehouse will not graduate. I have appealed to the Georgia business community to support HBCU's and hire their graduates as part of the solution to this problem. I was also proud to work with Congressman David Scott on a scholarship program for the '1890s' land grant institutions like Fort Valley State to help ensure they can continue to produce farmers and agri-businesses that are of critical importance to Georgia's economic future.

African-American entrepreneurship and business ownership accounts for nearly 3 million businesses in the United States and nearly a million employees. Before COVID-19, African-American unemployment was at its lowest point in U.S. history. These are remarkable statistics, but we must continue to advance the important work of supporting Black businesses, as this is key to empowering communities and individuals to move out of poverty and into prosperity.

I look forward to working with the Georgia Great Black Chamber of Commerce and other Chambers in Georgia to ensure Georgia remains the best place in America for all businesses.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE ON SEPTEMBER 24, 2020

At 1:28 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 785. An act to improve mental health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 1646. An act to designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in St. Augustine, Florida, as the "Leo C. Chase Jr. Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic".

S. 4072. An act to designate the clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Bend, Oregon, as the "Robert D. Maxwell Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic".

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 451. An act to repeal the requirement to reallocate and auction the T-Band spectrum, to amend the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 to clarify acceptable 9-1-1 obligations or expenditures, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1925. An act to designate the Manhattan Campus of the New York Harbor Health Care System of the Department of Veterans Affairs as the "Margaret Cochran Corbin Campus of the New York Harbor Health Care System".

H.R. 3798. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for limitations on copayments for contraception furnished by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4983. An act to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Gilbert, Arizona, as the "Staff Sergeant Alexander W. Conrad Veterans Affairs Health Care Clinic".

H.R. 5023. An act to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Youngstown, Ohio, as the "Carl Nunziato VA Clinic".

H.R. 5245. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a bar on the recovery of certain payments or overpayments made by the Department of Veterans Affairs by reason of delays in processing of certain information, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7105. An act to provide flexibility for the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in caring for homeless veterans during a covered public health emergency, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a retraining assistance program for unemployed veterans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7347. An act to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Ann Arbor, Michigan, as the "Lieutenant Colonel Charles S. Kettles Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center".

H.R. 8247. An act to make certain improvements relating to the transition of individuals to service from the Department of Veterans Affairs, suicide prevention for veterans, and care and services for women veterans, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR ON SEPTEMBER 24, 2020

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

S. 4675. A bill to amend the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 5245. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a bar on the recovery of certain payments or overpayments made by the Department of Veterans Affairs by reason of delays in processing of certain information, and for other purposes.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As 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 Judiciary.

(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 Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 45. Concurrent resolution providing for the use of the catafalque situation in the crypt beneath the Rotunda of the Capitol in connection with memorial services to be conducted in the Supreme Court Building and the Capitol for the late honorable Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

#### 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 Mrs. MURRAY:

S. 4739. A bill to amend the Arms Export Control Act to provide for better monitoring and verification of the use of defense articles and defense services by countries of concern, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. CASEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BENNET, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. HIROKO, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. REED, Ms. SMITH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 4740. A bill to support public health infrastructure; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 4741. A bill to prohibit transfers of individuals between ICE facilities and Federal, State, and local facilities, to ensure physical distancing inside ICE facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BURR (for himself and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 4742. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to promote access to life-saving therapies for Medicaid enrollees by ensuring coverage of routine patient costs

for items and services furnished in connection with participation in qualifying clinical trials, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ROUNDS:

S. 4743. A bill to amend the Act of August 10, 1956, to provide for the payment of pay and allowances for certain officers of the Army who are assigned to the Corps of Engineers; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CRUZ:

S. 4744. A bill to authorize the Daughters of the Republic of Texas to establish the Republic of Texas Legation Memorial as a commemorative work in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 4745. A bill to prevent surprise medical bills with respect to COVID-19 testing; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DAINES:

S. 4746. A bill to permit reenrollment and establishment by retiree beneficiaries of monthly enrollment fee payment for TRICARE Select at any time during 2021, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

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

S. 4747. A bill to amend title IV of the Social Security Act to require States to provide information about available benefits and services to kinship caregivers; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH:

S. 4748. A bill to require the Bureau of Prisons to submit to Congress an annual summary report of disaster damage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 4749. A bill to address the public health risks posed by wildlife markets, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. HEINRICH:

S. 4750. A bill to assist Tribal entities in deploying broadband using the 2.5 GHz spectrum band; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. 4751. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to limit the charitable deduction for certain qualified conservation contributions; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. WARREN:

S. 4752. A bill to establish the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policy in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 4753. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a pilot program to furnish doula services to veterans; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PERDUE (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 4754. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish COVID Recovery Bonds, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 4755. A bill to prohibit private passenger automobile insurers from using certain income proxies to determine insurance rates and eligibility; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 4756. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to narrow the scope of the

limitation on liability provided under section 230 of that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 4757. A bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to establish additional requirements for dealers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 4758. A bill to require reporting of suspicious transmissions in order to assist in criminal investigations and counterintelligence activities relating to international terrorism, 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. PERDUE (for himself, Mrs. LOEFFLER, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. Res. 726. A resolution honoring Rosalynn Smith Carter's 50 years of mental health advocacy; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 350

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 350, a bill to restore the application of the Federal antitrust laws to the business of health insurance to protect competition and consumers.

S. 511

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of S. 511, a bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors.

S. 514

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 514, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the benefits and services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs to women veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 764

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 764, a bill to provide for congressional approval of national emergency declarations, and for other purposes.

S. 997

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) 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. 1190

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms.

ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1190, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for payments for certain rural health clinic and Federally qualified health center services furnished to hospice patients under the Medicare program.

S. 1480

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1480, a bill to protect law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

S. 2473

At the request of Mrs. LOEFFLER, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2473, a bill to extend certain provisions of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act until September 30, 2030, and for other purposes.

S. 2561

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 2561, a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to clarify provisions enacted by the Captive Wildlife Safety Act, to further the conservation of certain wildlife species, and for other purposes.

S. 2886

At the request of Ms. MCSALLY, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2886, a bill to prohibit the use of animal testing for cosmetics and the sale of cosmetics tested on animals.

S. 3064

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3064, a bill to oppose violations of religious freedom in Ukraine by Russia and armed groups commanded by Russia.

S. 3067

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3067, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to combat the opioid crisis by promoting access to non-opioid treatments in the hospital outpatient setting.

S. 3595

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 3595, a bill to require a longitudinal study on the impact of COVID-19.

S. 3608

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3608, a bill to amend the CARES Act to

provide flexibility in use of funds by States, Indian Tribes, and municipalities.

S. 3761

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3761, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide veterans service organizations and recognized agents and attorneys opportunities to review Department of Veterans Affairs disability rating determinations before they are finalized, and for other purposes.

At the request of Ms. WARREN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3761, *supra*.

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3761, *supra*.

S. 3823

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3823, a bill to ensure that a portion of funds appropriated to the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund for payments to eligible health care providers is reserved for such providers located in rural areas, and for other purposes.

S. 4117

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4117, a bill to provide automatic forgiveness for paycheck protection program loans under \$150,000, and for other purposes.

S. 4166

At the request of Ms. SINEMA, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4166, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to secure medical opinions for veterans with service-connected disabilities who die from COVID-19 to determine whether their service-connected disabilities were the principal or contributory cases of death, and for other purposes.

S. 4258

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4258, a bill to establish a grant program for small live venue operators and talent representatives.

S. 4284

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4284, a bill to provide for emergency education freedom grants, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish tax credits to encourage individual and corporate taxpayers to contribute to scholarships for students through eligible scholarship-granting organizations, and for other purposes.

S. 4380

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4380, a bill to provide redress to the employees of Air America.

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 4380, *supra*.

S. 4433

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4433, a bill to authorize the National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes.

S. 4442

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4442, a bill to amend subtitle A of title II of division A of the CARES Act to provide Pandemic Unemployment Assistance to individuals with mixed income sources, and for other purposes.

S. 4453

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor 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. 4572

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4572, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a presumption of service connection for certain diseases associated with exposure to toxins, and for other purposes.

S. 4608

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4608, a bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to provide for the portability of professional licenses of members of the uniformed services and their spouses, and for other purposes.

S. 4649

At the request of Mrs. LOEFFLER, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4649, a bill to provide that for purposes of determining compliance with title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 in athletics, sex shall be recognized based solely on a person's reproductive biology and genetics at birth.

S. 4658

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4658, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to allow for greater State flexibility with respect to excluding providers who are involved in abortions.

S. 4671

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4671, a bill to prohibit Federal law enforcement officers from wearing camouflage uniforms in the United States.

S. 4683

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4683, a bill to designate the Battleship IOWA Museum, located in Los Angeles, California, as the National Museum of the Surface Navy, and for other purposes.

S. 4703

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4703, a bill to amend the West Los Angeles Leasing Act of 2016 to authorize the use of certain funds received pursuant to leases entered into under such Act, and for other purposes.

S. 4704

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4704, a bill to require reforms to programs of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and for other purposes.

S. 4708

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4708, a bill to establish a commission to review certain regulatory obstacles to preparedness for, response to, and recovery from the Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 pandemic and other pandemics, and for other purposes.

S. 4714

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4714, a bill to preserve health benefits for workers.

S. 4736

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4736, a bill to prepare the United States for the impacts of climate change, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 709

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 709, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the August 13, 2020, and September 11, 2020, announcements of the establishment of full diplomatic relations between the State of Israel and the United Arab Emirates and the State of Israel and the Kingdom of Bahrain are historic achievements.

At the request of Mr. McCONNELL, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 709, *supra*.

S. RES. 716

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 716, a resolution designating the week of October 5 through October 9, 2020, as “Malnutrition Awareness Week”.

AMENDMENT NO. 1551

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1551 intended to be proposed to S. 2657, a bill to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 4757. A bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to establish additional requirements for dealers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

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

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

S. 4757

*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 “Puppy Protection Act of 2020”.

#### SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR DEALERS.

(a) HUMANE TREATMENT OF DOGS BY DEALERS.—Section 13(a) of the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2143(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(9) In addition to the requirements under paragraph (2), the standards described in paragraph (1) shall, with respect to dealers, include requirements—

“(A) that the dealer provide adequate housing for dogs that includes—

“(i) completely solid flooring;

“(ii) indoor space sufficient to allow the tallest dog in an enclosure to stand on his or her hind legs without touching the roof of the enclosure;

“(iii) with respect to dogs over 8 weeks in age, primary enclosures that, with the length of the dog measured from the tip of the nose to the base of the tail, provide at least—

“(I) 12 square feet of indoor floor space per each dog measuring not more than 25 inches long;

“(II) 20 square feet of indoor floor space per each dog measuring more than 25 but less than 35 inches long; and

“(III) 30 square feet of indoor floor space per each dog measuring not less than 35 inches long;

“(iv) enclosures that are not stacked or otherwise placed on top of or below another enclosure; and

“(v) temperature control that—

“(I) is appropriate for the age, breed, and condition of each dog in the enclosure; and

“(II) is between 45 and 85 degrees Fahrenheit, when dogs are present in the enclosure;

“(B) that appropriate and nutritious food be provided to each dog at least twice per day, in an amount sufficient to maintain the good health and physical condition of each dog;

“(C) that each dog has continuous access to potable water that is not frozen and is free of feces, algae, and other contaminants;

“(D) that each dog has adequate exercise, including, for each dog over the age of 12 weeks—

“(i) except as provided in clause (ii), unrestricted access from the primary enclosure of the dog during daylight hours to an outdoor exercise area that—

“(I) is at ground-level;

“(II) is a solid surface;

“(III) is enclosed by a fence or other structure;

“(IV) is properly controlled for the safety of the dog; and

“(V) allows the dog to extend to full stride, play, and engage in other types of mentally stimulating and social behaviors; or

“(ii) if the dealer obtains a certification from the attending veterinarian stating that a dog should not have unrestricted access to an outdoor exercise area for a specific medical reason, an alternative exercise plan prescribed by the veterinarian for the dog that meets the applicable requirements under section 3.8 of title 9, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations);

“(E) that each dog has meaningful socialization with humans and compatible dogs for at least 30 minutes each day that—

“(i) includes positive interaction with a human such as petting, stroking, grooming, feeding, playing with, exercising, or other touching of the dog that is beneficial to the well-being of the dog; and

“(ii) does not include time spent in veterinary care;

“(F) that each dog receives adequate veterinary care, including—

“(i) prompt treatment of any disease, illness, or injury by a licensed veterinarian;

“(ii) a thorough, hands-on examination by a licensed veterinarian at least once each year, which shall include a dental exam;

“(iii) core vaccinations recommended by the latest version of the American Animal Hospital Association Canine Vaccination Guidelines; and

“(iv) medications to prevent intestinal parasites, heartworm disease, fleas, and ticks that are approved by a licensed veterinarian for canine use;

“(G) with respect to safe breeding practices for dogs, including—

“(i) a screening program for known prevalent inheritable diseases that may be disabling or likely to significantly affect the lifespan or quality of life of the mother or the offspring;

“(ii) prohibiting breeding, unless each dog bred—

“(I) has been screened by a licensed veterinarian prior to each attempt to breed; and

“(II) is found in the screening under subclause (I) to be free from health conditions that may be disabling to, or likely to significantly affect the lifespan or quality of life of the mother or the offspring;

“(iii) prohibiting the breeding of a female dog to produce—

“(I) more than 2 litters in any 18-month period; or

“(II) more than 6 litters during the lifetime of the dog;

“(iv) that a female dog of any small breed (having a maximum weight range at maturity that is less than 40 pounds) not be bred—

“(I) before reaching the age of 18 months; or

“(II) after reaching the age of 9 years;

“(v) that a female dog of any large breed (having an expected weight range at matu-

rity that includes 40 or more pounds) not be bred—

“(I) before reaching the age of 2 years; or

“(II) after reaching the age of 7 years; and

“(vi) that any canine caesarian section be performed by a licensed veterinarian;

“(H) that dogs be housed with other dogs, unless health or behavioral issues make group housing unsafe; and

“(I) to make all reasonable efforts to find humane placement for retired breeding dogs—

“(i) such as with an adoptive family, rescue organization, or other appropriate owner for that dog; and

“(ii) not including selling at auction or otherwise placing a retired breeding dog with another breeder for breeding purposes.”

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 13(a)(2)(B) of the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2143(a)(2)(B)) is amended by inserting “subject to paragraph (9),” before “for exercise of dogs”.

(c) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue final regulations establishing the standards for the care of dogs by dealers, as required by this section and the amendments made by this section.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 726—HONORING ROSALYNNE SMITH CARTER'S 50 YEARS OF MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCACY

Mr. PERDUE (for himself, Mrs. LOEFFLER, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 726

Whereas Rosalynn Smith Carter, since 1970, when her husband, future President of the United States Jimmy Carter, was a candidate for Governor of Georgia, has been a leading advocate for raising awareness about mental health and the ability of people with mental health disorders to recover and live happy and fulfilling lives;

Whereas Mrs. Carter emerged as a national driving force for mental health when, during Jimmy Carter's presidential administration, Mrs. Carter became the active honorary chair of the President's Commission on Mental Health;

Whereas the work of President Carter's Commission on Mental Health resulted in passage of the Mental Health Systems Act of 1980, which offered reforms to publicly-funded mental health programs;

Whereas, in 1982, President and Mrs. Carter founded The Carter Center, which is dedicated to improving the quality of life for people in the United States and in the developing world through programs that promote peace and health;

Whereas, from 1985 to 2016, Mrs. Carter hosted the annual Rosalynn Carter Symposium on Mental Health Policy, bringing together national leaders in the mental health community to discuss a specific topic each year, including promoting access to appropriate and affordable behavioral health care services, improving the quality of such services, and reducing the stigma and isolation associated with mental health disorders and substance use disorders;

Whereas The Carter Center's Mental Health Program, established in 1990 and continuing under the leadership and guidance of Mrs. Carter, strives to build consensus in

order to effect positive change in mental health and substance use policy and systems, with a focus on vulnerable populations, including children and the elderly;

Whereas, in 1996, Mrs. Carter established the Rosalynn Carter Fellowships for Mental Health Journalism, which have provided training and support to more than 220 journalists in the United States and abroad to report accurately and sensitively about and reduce the stigma surrounding mental health disorders, mental health care, mental health law and policy, and related issues;

Whereas Mrs. Carter, in 2008, played a key role in supporting the passage of the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act, which helps ensure that mental health disorders and substance use disorders are covered by insurance at parity with other illnesses;

Whereas Mrs. Carter, who has long been a champion of the physical and mental health, strength, and resilience of family caregivers, established the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving in 1987, where she continues to serve as President of the Board of Directors;

Whereas, throughout Mrs. Carter's 50 years of advocacy for mental health, she has been an effective champion for the elimination of stigma and discrimination against people with mental health disorders, which are among the most common health conditions around the world; and

Whereas, at 93 years of age, Mrs. Carter continues her devoted work to improving the lives of those affected by mental health disorders and substance use disorders in the United States and around the world: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) hereby expresses its profound gratitude, on behalf of the people of the United States, to Rosalynn Smith Carter for her lifetime of accomplishments and commitment on behalf of those affected by mental health disorders and substance use disorders;

(2) recognizes, praises, and appreciates the improvements in wellbeing and the betterment of society Mrs. Carter's contributions have engendered; and

(3) encourages all people of the United States to follow Mrs. Carter's example of putting compassion into action through a lifetime of service to humanity.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2670. Mrs. LOEFFLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2671. Mrs. LOEFFLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2657, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2672. Mr. DAINES submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the

bill H.R. 8337, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 2670.** Mrs. LOEFFLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2657, to support innovation in advanced geothermal research and development, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title I, insert the following:

##### **Subtitle I—People's Republic of China Prohibition on Participation**

##### **SEC. 1901. PROHIBITION ON PARTICIPATION FOR CERTAIN ENTITIES.**

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the “Securing our Energy Future Act of 2020”.

(b) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **CONTROLLING SHAREHOLDER.**—The term “controlling shareholder” means a shareholder that owns more than 5 percent of the total shares in a company.

(2) **COVERED ENTITY.**—The term “covered entity” means any company, organization, or entity—

(A) that is primarily based in the People's Republic of China;

(B) the primary owner of which is a resident or citizen of the People's Republic of China; or

(C) in the case of a publicly traded company, the controlling shareholder of which is—

(i) an individual that is a resident or citizen of the People's Republic of China; or

(ii) an entity that is primarily based in the People's Republic of China.

(c) **PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN ENTITIES.**—No covered entity shall be eligible for any grant or contract, or to participate in any program, authorized under this title or the amendments made by this title shall be ineligible if the company, entity, or organization, as applicable—

(2) **COVERED ENTITY.**—The term “covered entity” means any company, organization, or entity—

(A) that is primarily based in the People's Republic of China;

(B) the primary owner of which is a resident or citizen of the People's Republic of China; or

(C) in the case of a publicly traded company, the controlling shareholder of which is—

(i) an individual that is a resident or citizen of the People's Republic of China; or

(ii) an entity that is primarily based in the People's Republic of China.

(c) **PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN ENTITIES.**—No covered entity shall be eligible for any grant or contract, or to participate in any program, authorized under this title or the amendments made by this title.

(d) **PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN PRODUCTS AND SERVICES.**—Any company, entity, or organization otherwise eligible for any grant or contract, or to participate in any program, authorized under this title or the amendments made by this title shall be ineligible if the company, entity, or organization, as applicable—

(1) partners or subcontracts with a covered entity;

(2) uses products or services provided by any company owned in whole or in part by the Chinese Communist Party; or

(3) uses products or services provided by any company deemed a national security risk by the Department of Defense, the Department of Commerce, or any United States intelligence or national security agency.

**SA 2672.** Mr. DAINES submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 8337, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 4604.

#### RECESS UNTIL TOMORROW

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand in recess under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:13 p.m., recessed until Wednesday, September 30, 2020, at 12 noon.

#### NOMINATIONS

Executive nomination received by the Senate:

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

AMY CONEY BARRETT, OF INDIANA, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES, VICE RUTH BADER GINSBURG, DECEASED.

#### NOTICE

*Incomplete record of Senate proceedings. Today's Senate proceedings will be continued in the next issue of the Record.*

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### VETERAN'S PROSTATE CANCER TREATMENT AND RESEARCH ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. NEAL P. DUNN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 22, 2020*

Mr. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in favor of H.R. 6092, the Veteran's Prostate Cancer Research and Treatment Act. This bill will support our Nation's heroes who are diagnosed with prostate cancer.

September is recognized as National Prostate Health Month, or Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. The timing could not be better to advance the Veteran's Prostate Cancer Research and Treatment Act from the House floor.

Prostate cancer is the number one cancer diagnosed at the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) and this bill will improve the care our veterans receive every step of the way. Whether it be at an early screening, the difficult moment a veteran receives a prostate cancer diagnosis, during treatment, during recovery, or while receiving end of life care, our veterans deserve the best.

The VA is already a notable leader in prostate cancer research and the goal of this legislation is to help the agency build on its success. A clearly defined national clinical pathway for the treatment of prostate cancer is needed because 500,000 veterans are being treated for it in the VHA today. 16,000 veterans are diagnosed with prostate cancer annually—nearly 43 each day.

The most common cancer diagnosed in the VA health system should be met with the most recent clinical data, national expertise, and state-of-the-art technology. Another element of my bill is the creation of a national prostate cancer registry. Cancer registries are important because they inform research and lead to improved treatment protocol, and thus, outcomes. The creation of a registry supports the goals of the clinical pathway and allows for updates and improvements as researchers learn more about the disease.

I thank my colleague Mr. CUNNINGHAM for working with me as the democratic lead on this bill. I encourage all of my colleagues to support the Veteran's Prostate Cancer Research and Treatment Act today so that the VA may better support our veterans' health moving forward.

COMMENDING THE LIFE AND WORK OF REVEREND LEON FINNEY, JR.

**HON. BOBBY L. RUSH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2020*

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and commemorate the life of Reverend

Leon Finney, Jr., who stood at the forefront of advancing the cause of justice in Chicago and throughout the nation.

A spiritual mentor of mine at McCormick Theological Seminary, where he founded the African American Leadership Program, which was responsible for the training of innumerable African American Pastors in receiving their master's degrees. Rev. Finney's work in Chicago's spiritual, educational, and civil rights communities was deeply intertwined and catalyzed positive change for the most vulnerable members of our society.

Rev. Finney was an organizer's organizer. Shortly after serving his country in the Marine Corps, he would join the Woodlawn Organization, a community group in Chicago's Woodlawn neighborhood where Rev. Finney worked tirelessly to revitalize Woodlawn after the neighborhood was nearly decimated in the 1960s and 1970s. Rev. Finney's activism would open the eyes of those across Chicago and the United States to what is really possible when communities come together. The arc of Rev. Finney's legacy is long and stretches from Congressman Ralph H. Metcalfe, Jr., to Reverend Jessie L. Jackson, Sr., from Mayor Harold Washington all the way to former President Barack Obama.

A deeply spiritual man with an unparalleled understanding of how faith could help uplift entire communities, Rev. Finney served as the pastor of three churches, and was the founder of the Christ Apostolic Church, which would later merge with the Metropolitan Apostolic Community Church where Rev. Finney continued to serve the people of Chicago's South Side as a senior pastor. Rev. Finney's sense of justice was also evident throughout his career in public service, beginning with his three decades of service on Chicago's city planning commission, followed by a chairmanship of Chicago State University's board of trustees, and continuing as a board member of the Chicago Housing Authority for five years thereafter. His strong commitments to equity and community empowerment enabled these organizations to better serve the people of Chicago for years to come.

Madam Speaker, I along with countless others, are in deep mourning due to Rev. Finney's transition, but we all remain committed to furthering his life's pursuit. My condolences are extended to his immediate family, his church, and to his many friends. His legacy lives on.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GALE SAYERS

**HON. SHARICE DAVIDS**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2020*

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Gale Sayers, who passed away this week. A native Kansan, Gale was a revered athlete in the Sunflower State.

Known as the Kansas Comet, Gale played football at the University of Kansas for three years before getting selected by the Chicago Bears in the 1965 NFL draft. He went on to become the youngest professional football player ever inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Though Gale's career was cut short after a knee injury, he was still considered a renowned player for many years and inspired young athletes across the country. Many will remember his accomplishments on the field, but he also contributed to the community in other ways. At KU, Gale joined the student march for fair housing. Most notably, Gale spoke up about the pattern of head trauma football players face over time and its long-term consequences, a topic that was still relatively unknown and unstudied.

Madam Speaker, I am deeply grateful for Gale's contributions and I know that even in his death, he will continue to be remembered for generations. I offer my heartfelt condolences to Gale's family and friends.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JORGE NUÑEZ

**HON. JIMMY GOMEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2020*

Mr. GOMEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jorge Nuñez, a tireless fighter for peace and social justice.

In the 1980s, Jorge made the difficult decision to immigrate to the United States in order to flee the terrible violence that had fallen on his beloved countrymen and women in El Salvador. Although he was new to this country, he continued to dedicate his life mission to fight for the oppressed and the dignity of all human beings.

If you ask Angelenos about Jorge Nuñez, they will tell you he is known for his social service work. He started his advocacy efforts as a community organizer in Los Angeles with the Salvadoran American Leadership and Educational Fund (SALEF), where he promoted the vote of Salvadorans and Latinos. He later became a respected staff member for State Assembly Speaker Fabian Nuñez, and subsequently completed his career as Assistant to the President of the State Senate, Kevin De León, and as Board Member Emeritus of SALEF.

Regardless of his titles, Jorge devoted himself to working tirelessly for the rights of immigrants and their families, including TPS holders, day laborers and braceros. He never said no, and his desire to help was always present, even in his last days.

Jorge's humility and commitment to his values were his finest characteristics. His kindness and sense of humor were a couple of the reasons he was so well-liked and respected in all social circles.

Jorge leaves behind a beautiful family, his wife Sonia, and four children, Damaris, Edwin, Jorge and Marvin.

● 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.

Madam Speaker, Jorge Nuñez left us a priceless legacy to honor, to continue to build a better world. With that, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering and celebrating the life of Jorge Nuñez.

**HONORING THE CAREER OF LEROY JACKSON**

**HON. TED LIEU**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the career of LeRoy Jackson who is retiring from his position as City Manager of Torrance, California at the end of September 2020. LeRoy has served the city of Torrance for 54 years and is one of the longest serving city managers in the state of California and the country. I had the honor of working with LeRoy when I served on the Torrance City Council. Torrance is a better place to live, work and play because of LeRoy's distinguished service.

LeRoy is a native Californian who has lived in Torrance since 1967 and graduated from California State University, Long Beach with a degree in Political Science and Public Administration. He first started his career serving Torrance in 1966 as a Personnel Analyst. After serving in various positions on the City Manager's staff, he was appointed as the city's fourth City Manager in 1983 and has spent 37 years serving in that position.

As City Manager he helps lead a city of over 146,000 people and oversees ten departments with over 2,000 employees and a budget exceeding \$320 million. In his five decades serving Torrance, Leroy has helped the city grow and thrive through multiple recessions and served alongside numerous mayors, council members and department heads.

Torrance Mayor Patrick Furey stated that LeRoy's "thoughtful leadership, fiscal foresight and dynamic approach to city planning have helped groom our City's strong executive staff." Former Mayor Frank Scotto said, "the key to his longevity is that he's exceptionally good at seeing the best things in other people and getting good people around him." LeRoy's management style has helped the city succeed throughout the decades he has served Torrance.

LeRoy is confident that the organization he has helped create will continue to serve Torrance well. I would like to thank LeRoy for his incredible public service, and wish him, his wife Connie and their family all the best.

**HONORING IVETTE DOMINGUEZ DRAWE, OWNER AND PRESIDENT OF ALPINE BUICK GMC**

**HON. JASON CROW**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize the accomplishments of Ms. Ivette Dominguez Drawe who will be honored by The Chamber of Northwest Douglas County as a "Woman Who Soars."

Ms. Dominguez Drawe is an outstanding businesswoman. She is one of just 13 His-

panic female car dealership owners among thousands of General Motors dealerships nationwide. Her first location, opened in Denver in 2007, consistently outperforms any other Buick GMC dealership in Denver.

In 2017 and 2018, Ivette acquired struggling dealerships in Illinois and quickly turned them into thriving, profitable businesses. She purchased Alpine Buick GMC South in late 2018 and Post Oak Toyota in late 2019. In Summer 2020, she will officially open Alpine Buick GMC's hallmark location in Douglas County, Colorado.

Ivette currently serves on the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce Board, on the Habitat for Humanity of Metro Denver Board, and is immediate past chair of GM's Minority Development Dealership Council. She also supports local women and families through her dealership's Alpine Cares program, which grants up to \$15,000 per year to organizations such as the Colorado Ovarian Cancer Alliance and is a sponsor of Habitat for Humanity annual builds. Ivette and Alpine Buick GMC are also longtime supporters of Children's Hospital Colorado.

A tireless volunteer, advocate, and community supporter, I can think of few others more deserving of this honor and I congratulate Ms. Dominguez Drawe for being recognized as a "Woman Who Soars."

**RECOGNIZING HYDROCEPHALUS AWARENESS MONTH**

**HON. LLOYD DOGGETT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. DOGGETT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hydrocephalus Awareness Month. Every September patients, caregivers and their families come together throughout the nation in support of the more than 1,000,000 people of all ages living with hydrocephalus in the United States. As co-chair of the Congressional Pediatric and Adult Hydrocephalus Caucus, I believe Congress has an important role to play in both raising awareness of this condition, as well as crafting policies that result in better treatments and potentially a cure. I urge my colleagues to join the caucus to learn more about this devastating condition.

Anyone can develop hydrocephalus, an abnormal accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid in the brain, at any time. This can include premature babies, active duty service members, veterans, and seniors. Individuals can also be born with hydrocephalus, develop it as part of the aging process, or acquire it as a result of infections, brain tumors or traumatic brain injuries, among other causes. The only present treatment for this condition is brain surgery.

From children to veterans, the prevalence of this condition is reflected in my own district. The physicians and staff at the Children's Hospital of San Antonio perform the brain surgeries necessary to treat many of the one in 770 babies across the country who develop hydrocephalus per year. Nationwide, these cases alone cost the U.S. health care system \$2 billion per year. Veterans and active military personnel, such as those stationed at Joint Base San Antonio, are also disproportionately affected. Medical researchers

believe that two-thirds of our nation's current and former military service members suffering from moderate to severe traumatic brain injuries are at risk of developing hydrocephalus.

In the midst of this pandemic, it is now more important than ever to improve the federal government's partnership with the hydrocephalus community. Many individuals with hydrocephalus live with other serious medical comorbidities, putting them at a higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. We must do all we can to help patients, health care professionals and families as they struggle to maintain and improve quality of life during these challenging times.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Hydrocephalus Awareness Month and the 1 million Americans living with hydrocephalus by joining the Congressional Pediatric and Hydrocephalus Caucus.

**RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEFEAT OF ABOLISHING THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE**

**HON. JAMIE RASKIN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, in September 1969, Senator Birch Bayh, Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Constitutional Amendments, introduced a constitutional amendment to abolish the Electoral College. The amendment passed with overwhelming bipartisan support in the House and with support from President Richard Nixon. But on this day 50 years ago, the amendment was blocked by a filibuster in the Senate.

The author of two successful and important constitutional amendments (the 25th and 26th), Senator Bayh was an eloquent and learned champion of sweeping institutional reform to make sure that the Constitution safeguards democratic principles rather than antiquated structures rooted in an undemocratic past. At this moment of profound constitutional stress and recurring global and domestic threats to democratic values and practices, we should remember the Senator's passionate commitment to building democratic self-government that serves as an instrument of the common good. Senator Bayh recognized that, in order to make sure that all votes count in our presidential elections and all votes count equally, it will be necessary to abolish the electoral college—or at least transform it through the National Popular Vote interstate agreement. I was honored to work with Senator Bayh, who was a great gentleman and patriot, during my time as a State Senator and he definitely helped us to make Maryland the first state to pass the National Popular Vote Agreement.

Madam Speaker, I wish to include in the RECORD a speech by New York Times Editorial Board Member Jesse Wegman for the annual Birch Bayh Lecture given at University of Indiana McKinney School of Law in honor of Senator Bayh's historic efforts towards electoral reform and in recognition of the melancholy day of defeat of the popular vote in the Senate on September 29, 1969.

THE BIRCH BAYH LECTURE  
(By Jesse Wegman)

I'd like to thank everyone for having me today: the McKinney School of Law community, Dean Bravo, Assistant Dean MacDougall and, of course, the Bayh family, especially Kitty Bayh, who has been so generous with her time, her assistance and her memories over the past few years.

I am honored to give the first Birch Bayh lecture since his passing in March of last year. And while I'm sad not to be with you in person, I think it's very appropriate for this talk to be taking place on September 17, Constitution Day—the day in 1787 that the framers in Philadelphia signed the charter they had spent the past four months drawing up, arguing about, threatening to walk out over—and yet still, in the end, agreeing to sign and take the next step in this audacious new experiment in self-government.

It's appropriate because in any conversation about the nation's founders, we must include the name Birch Bayh. He shares with James Madison, the father of the Constitution, the distinction of being the only Americans to have authored more than one successful amendment to that document. This is not an easy task. More than 11,000 amendments have been proposed over the centuries, and only 27 have been adopted.

I will note that when Birch Bayh pushed through his first amendment, the 25th, he was just 36 years old—the same age Madison was that summer in Philadelphia.

So, now that we've put Senator Bayh in his proper place in American history, I'd like to begin by reading you a short section of my book. (To be fair, this is not included in the book, although as I'll explain, I really wish it had been.)

The Aero Commander 680, a twin-engine prop, descended through heavy fog as it approached Barnes Airport, in western Massachusetts. It was late Friday evening, June 19, 1964. On board were two junior United States senators, Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts and Birch Bayh of Indiana, along with Bayh's first wife, Marcella, and an aide to Kennedy named Ed Moss.

The four were en route from Washington, D.C., to the Massachusetts Democratic Convention in Springfield, where Bayh was to give the keynote speech. They had planned to leave the capital earlier in the afternoon, but were held up by the Senate's long-delayed vote on the landmark Civil Rights Act, which finally passed at around 7:40 p.m. (Both Kennedy and Bayh voted yes.)

By the time the Aero Commander took off, the day's calm weather had turned. Thunderstorms dotted the route, and the pilot, Ed Zimny, had to weave his way around the rain and winds. As the plane descended, it was knocked around like a piñata. "It seemed so dark and foggy," Marcella told a reporter a few days later. "I whispered to my husband, 'Aren't we in trouble?'" He replied, "Oh, no, we're doing fine."

As soon as they broke beneath the cloudline at 600 feet, it was clear something was very wrong. Bayh looked out the window and saw a black line approaching. "I thought it was another storm, but it was the tops of trees," he said.

They had flown directly into an apple orchard. The plane skidded along "like a toboggan," as Kennedy put it, until the left wing snagged on a larger tree, cartwheeling the aircraft to the left and shearing off parts of both wings. The plane came to a stop on a hill three miles short of the runway, its illuminated beacon slowly spinning, its nose crumpled like a soda can.

"I remember mosquitoes coming in and absolute silence," Kennedy recalled. The silence was broken by the sound of Marcella's

voice calling out for her husband, who had managed to free himself from his seat belt and escape through a broken window. Bayh's stomach was badly bruised and his right arm was numb, but with his left arm he dragged Marcella out through the window and laid her on the grass. He then returned to the plane and called out, "Are you all right up there?" Kennedy could hear, but he couldn't move or answer.

Bayh headed off to find help, then became aware of the smell of gasoline. "The plane might catch on fire," he said, running back. Hearing this, Kennedy found his voice. "I'm still alive!" he cried. Bayh reached in and maneuvered him out through the window, probably saving the 32-year-old's life.

"It's not the kind of crash you're supposed to walk away from," Bayh told reporters afterward.

Years later, he still couldn't believe what he'd done. "We've all heard adrenaline stories about how a mother can lift a car off a trapped infant," he said. "Well, Kennedy was no small guy, and I was able to lug him out of there like a sack of corn under my arm."

After extracting his wife and his fellow lawmaker, Bayh limped down to the road and tried to flag down a passing car. Nine drove by before a pickup truck stopped. Ambulances soon followed, and took the passengers to a nearby hospital. Zimny, the pilot, was dead on arrival. Kennedy's aide, Ed Moss, died a few hours later. Kennedy's back was broken in six places, his lung was collapsed and he had significant internal bleeding. He would remain in the hospital for six months, much of it in traction. Birch and Marcella Bayh were shaken and bruised, but basically unhurt.

Okay, so I thought that was a fun way to start a chapter: a plane crash! Two US senators! Dragging people to safety!

My editor read it and said, no.

As anyone who's a writer knows, "No" is often the most painful and yet most necessary word you can hear. So naturally, I pushed back, pleading to keep this story in. My editor said, Jesse, all the parts of your book need to contribute to the central argument. This does not do that. It's not relevant. You know how it would be relevant? If Birch Bayh crawled out of the smoking wreckage and said, by God, I have to abolish the Electoral College!

It was hard to accept, but he was right. All stories need to be streamlined, to be directed so the listeners can follow along. In that regard, editors are essential. They help you find that central thread and follow it, always focusing on what's important.

The problem for Birch Bayh was that everything was important. For him, all the parts \*did\* contribute to the central argument.

Imagine an editor confronting this: The youngest Speaker in Indiana history; the author of two constitutional amendments; the Senate sponsor of the Equal Rights Amendment; the author of Title IX; the Bayh-Dole Act; and on and on and on.

And on top of that, he literally walked away from a plane crash? I mean, come on. He pulled his wife out of the burning wreckage. He pulled out Ted Kennedy. He saved lives.

An editor would say, stop! Hold up! No one will be able to follow all this. Cut.

Birch Bayh didn't cut. He just kept adding. His life filled with a spirit of democracy and inclusion, a commitment to a better, fairer, more just, more humane, more equal America. So while I'm a firm believer in strong editing, I'm grateful Birch Bayh didn't have an editor.

And I keep coming back to that night in June 1964.

The accident made the front page of the next morning's New York Times, right next

to the lead report on the Senate's passage of the civil-rights bill. The headline read: "Senator Kennedy Hurt In Air Crash; Bayh Injured, Too."

Of course Kennedy got top billing. He was the brother of a fallen president and a rising member of the nation's most prominent political dynasty. Bayh, despite his late-night heroics, was unknown to most Americans. At 36, he was not yet two years into his first term as senator. Had he died that night, like most people do when their airplane crashes, he would have been remembered as a genial, progressive Indiana politician who got along well with his colleagues. But he didn't die. And the fluke of his survival turned out to be one of those moments on which history pivots. Over the decade following the crash, Bayh would find himself at the center of the nation's biggest constitutional debates, and in the process he became one of the most influential lawmakers in American history.

As I said, Birch Bayh holds a rare distinction: he is the only American other than James Madison to have spearheaded multiple successful amendments to the Constitution. He has two under his belt so far: the 25th, adopted in 1967 to lay down clear rules for replacing a president or vice president who dies, resigns or becomes unable to govern; and the 26th, adopted in 1971 to lower the voting age to 18 from 21. He may yet to claim credit for a third—the Equal Protection Amendment, which would prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and for which Bayh was the lead Senate sponsor. With his help, the ERA passed Congress in 1972. Last year it got its 38th state ratification—enough (in theory, at least) for it to become the 28th Amendment.

Bayh's almost unequalled record of constitutional reform speaks for itself, but the amendment that would have had the most profound effect on the structure of American government and society was the one he failed to pass—the one that got away, as his staffers called it.

Between 1966 and 1970, the young Indiana senator led a vigorous, high-profile campaign to abolish the Electoral College and elect the president by direct popular vote—a goal he came closer to achieving than anyone since the 1787 convention in Philadelphia.

Back then, it was a Pennsylvania delegate named James Wilson, the most respected lawyer in the country, who pushed throughout the summer for a direct vote. Like Wilson, Senator Bayh fought hard and came up short. Like Wilson, he was blocked by southern politicians intent on protecting their outsized power, which they had seized and maintained through two centuries of systematic racial violence and subjugation.

Unlike Wilson, however, Senator Bayh didn't start out as a believer in the popular vote. He favored modest tweaks to the Electoral College, not a complete overhaul. Then he learned more about the College's historical unfairness and the harms it continued to inflict on American politics. Within months, he became a convert to the cause of a direct presidential election. And but for a handful of Senate votes one late September afternoon in 1970, he may well have converted the nation.

Did you know about any of this? I didn't. Nor did most of the people I've asked over the last few years, many of whom were politically active adults in the late 1960s. What explains this mass amnesia? An effort like Bayh's on an issue like the Electoral College should be burned into America's history books. But like Wilson's valiant but unsuccessful push for a popular vote in Philadelphia, Bayh's has almost completely disappeared down the public memory hole. I'd like to pull it back up and see what it can teach us.

I've spoken about Birch Bayh's astonishing record of accomplishment. But as someone who grew up following Boston sports in the 1970s and 1980s, I have always been less attuned to the successes than to the failures, to the near misses.

So in this talk I want to focus on the one that got away: The Electoral College amendment.

Obviously this matters to me because I wrote a book about it. But, if I may, I also feel a sort of kinship with Senator Bayh. He did not begin as a radical constitutional reformer. After several years, however, he found himself where virtually everyone who spends that much time studying the electoral College does: as an unabashed advocate for a popular vote.

In following his journey of discovery into the way we choose our president, I found myself on a similar track: one of skepticism that transformed into full-on belief.

I will start in the early 1960s, with Birch Bayh as a first-year senator from Indiana looking to make a name for himself in the world's greatest deliberative body. I'm going to tell a shorter version of the story that's in Chapter 5 of my book:

Despite its important-sounding name, the Senate Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Constitutional Amendments was a sleepy affair in 1963.

In theory it had a significant role to play—drafting amendments to the Constitution and introducing them into Congress to be voted on—but in practice the subcommittee had done little of note since the days of Prohibition. When its longtime chair, Estes Kefauver, died of a heart attack that August, no one immediately stepped up to take his place. The job wasn't that appealing.

"It was a graveyard," Bayh recalled years later. "How often do you amend the Constitution, for heaven's sakes?" (For the record: 27 times, the first 10 of which, known collectively as the Bill of Rights, were adopted almost before the original Constitution's ink was dry. Since then, we've ratified a new amendment on average once every 13 years.)

Bayh also knew that sitting on a committee was the best way for a young senator to gain power and influence. By the middle of 1963, only a few months after getting elected to the Senate for the first time, Bayh had maneuvered his way onto the Judiciary Committee. It was a prestigious post that involved interviewing Supreme Court nominees, among many other high-profile responsibilities. The problem for Bayh was that he didn't want to be just a member of a gang; he wanted to lead one, and all the Judiciary's subcommittee chairmanships were spoken for. Then Estes Kefauver died.

Bayh didn't volunteer to take over Kefauver's seat at first, because it wasn't being offered. James Eastland, the Judiciary Committee chairman, had begun the process of shuttering the subcommittee entirely. By chance, Kefauver's former chief of staff knew of Bayh's ambitions and suggested that he go to Eastland in person and make the case for saving it. In a 2009 interview, Bayh remembered his first meeting with Eastland, a staunch segregationist from Mississippi:

So I got an appointment and saw Senator Eastland. He got a little scotch and ice. I didn't really drink at the time, but I may have taken a sip or two of it. And I made my pitch: "Mr. Chairman, when I went to law school, constitutional law was my most exciting subject. Boy, it would be my dream come true if I could be Chairman of that Subcommittee."

He said, "Well, Birch, I hope you understand here, but Allen Ellender [a conservative senator from Louisiana] has been giv-

ing us a rough time. I sort of told him I'd close this down. I hope you understand, boy."

I said, "Mr. Chairman, I'd even put one of my own staff people there. It wouldn't cost you a nickel."

"I just made up my mind, Birch. I hope you understand."

"Thank you, Mr. Chairman," and I left.

The next morning, 9:00, my secretary said, "You've got Chairman Eastland on the phone."

"Birch?"

"Yes, Mr. Chairman."

"I want you to be Chairman of that Subcommittee. I think you'd be a good one."

Click.

Whenever else could a plantation owner, one step away from being a slave master, an avowed segregationist, ever do anything to get a little chit with a liberal young turk like me?

If Bayh had any pretensions about the new job, they were snuffed out fast. Eastland, who had apparently taken Bayh's won't-cost-a-nickel promise literally, parked the subcommittee and its small staff in a converted men's room on the third floor of the Capitol building. Jay Berman, an aide and later the senator's chief of staff, described it to me. "It had no windows and it was very small. No claustrophobic could've worked there."

On the plus side, the toilets had been removed.

In politics as in life, everything can change in an instant. Bayh was officially named chair on September 30. Fifty-three days later, President John F. Kennedy was assassinated. And just like that, a graveyard job run out of a bathroom was about to become one of the most important in the country.

Bayh was faced with a suddenly urgent challenge: what to do if a president becomes incapacitated while in office? Previous presidents had informal arrangements in place to deal with such a scenario, but the Constitution itself provided no next steps. It said only that if a president can't serve, the vice president takes over, and any further details can be hammered out by Congress.

The nation was still absorbing the shock of Kennedy's death when Bayh got to work. On December 12, he introduced a resolution to amend the Constitution by adding clear rules for presidential and vice presidential succession in cases of emergency.

Under Bayh's guidance, the bill passed both houses of Congress and went out to the states for ratification. The Twenty-Fifth Amendment went into effect a little more than three years after Bayh first introduced it. It was a remarkable accomplishment for a junior senator who, in the words of a 1970 New York Times profile, "had flunked his bar exam the first time and had practiced law only a couple of months before coming to Washington."

Bayh's success on the Twenty-Fifth Amendment transformed him into a respected lawmaker whose opinions mattered, particularly when it came to the Constitution.

That's why President Lyndon Johnson turned to him for his next big project: amending the Electoral College.

There have been, since the nation's founding, roughly 800 attempts to amend or abolish the Electoral College. With the exception of one—the 12th Amendment—all have failed. So what was Lyndon Johnson trying to do?

He was trying to save the Democratic party from insurgent southerners who were peeling off as the party turned against segregation and toward civil rights. Longtime Democrats like Strom Thurmond in South Carolina were not fans of racial equality, and they were running third-party campaigns to try to undercut the national party.

Across the south, they urged electors to be "faithless"—that is, to break their pledges to vote for the Democratic nominee in favor of third-party segregationist candidates like Harry Byrd. This alarmed the leadership of both major parties, and especially President Johnson, whose support depended on southern Democrats. So he asked Birch Bayh to take the lead on drafting an amendment that would eliminate the risk of faithless electors.

Senator Bayh took up the challenge. In February 1966, he held the subcommittee's first hearing on amending the Electoral College.

Right out of the gate, he shot down any prospect of abolition. "Putting it optimistically," he said in his opening remarks, the chances of Congress passing a popular-vote amendment were "extremely slim, if not hopeless."

And yet, a few months later, after questioning multiple witnesses, reading thousands of pages of archival and statistical documents, Senator Bayh realized he had been wrong. He was aiming too low, getting trapped in the details of endless debates about ratios and percentages. He was missing the bigger picture.

Bayh had come to see, as he would later quote from the historian John Roche, that the College was "merely a jerry-rigged improvisation which has subsequently been endowed with a high theoretical content."

On top of that, the nation in the early 1960s was in the midst of a democratic awakening. From the civil rights movement to the one-person-one-vote cases at the Supreme Court, from the abolition of the poll tax to the Voting Rights Act, America's long history of racial discrimination and exclusion from the ballot box was being challenged like never before. Birch Bayh wasn't just sensitive to all of this, he was energized by it. And when he looked at that bigger picture, the problems with the Electoral College seemed much more serious.

Jay Berman, Bayh's staffer, recalled to me the feeling that emerged after months of hearings. "All of a sudden, you're in the weeds and people are saying, 'You're amending the Constitution for this?' Look, we have fundamental issues here. We've expended so much time and effort to expand the franchise. You've been involved in all these civil rights bills. What are the consequences for the present system if the person with the most votes doesn't win? What was all this about if it doesn't mean that every vote should count?"

On May 18, after months of hearings and expert witnesses and statistical reports, Birch Bayh stood up on the floor of the Senate and gave what I consider one of the strongest and most eloquent arguments for the popular vote in the nation's history. I will quote from it at length, because his words are full of hope and inspiration, and they deserve being repeated.

Mr. President, from the inception of our nation, controversy and complexity has surrounded the question of how to choose the President of the United States.

Indeed, one of the framers of the Constitution, James Wilson, described this problem as "the most difficult of all" to resolve at the Convention. . . .

Bayh acknowledged the hundreds of failed efforts to fix the system, then he said,

Today, Mr. President, the situation is different. Today, for the first time in our history, we have achieved the goal of universal suffrage regardless of race, religion or station in life . . . .

Today, the next logical outgrowth of the persistent and inevitable movement toward the democratic ideal is the popular election

of our national officers—an election in which each person has the right to vote for President without an artificial barrier separating him from the choice of his Chief Executive.

Bayh then noted that the subcommittee had considered many different amendment proposals, before rejecting them all.

It may well be that mere procedural changes in the present system would be like shifting around the parts of a creaky and dangerous automobile engine, making it no less creaky and no less dangerous. What we may need is a new engine, Mr. President, because we are in a new age.

... Some may say this proposal is too new, too radical a break with tradition. In all honesty, Mr. President, I was among that number only a few short months ago. Then, we began hearings on the problem. I consulted with scholars in the field. I did a great deal of study and reflection. I came to the conclusion that this idea was not truly a break with tradition at all. It was, in fact, a logical, realistic and proper continuation of this nation's tradition and history—a tradition of continuous expansion of the franchise and equality in voting.

He ran through the list: ending property qualifications and giving the vote to poorer white people; the abolition of slavery and the enfranchisement of blacks . . . of women, of Jews and Catholics . . .

Today, we have witnessed the climax of the long struggle to guarantee Negroes the right to exercise the franchise—the 14th, 15th and 24th Amendments; the Civil Rights Acts of 1957, 1960 and 1964, and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

In fact, we have only one election remaining, Mr. President, wherein some votes are not equal to others and wherein millions of votes do not count in the final result—and that is in the election of the most powerful political officer in the world, the President of the United States.

It is not radical to suggest that we abolish the Electoral College and elect our President by direct popular vote—no more so than if we suggested the advantages of grounding an open-cockpit biplane in favor of a supersonic jet.

Direct election of the President would make that office truly national. We elect our local official locally; our Congressmen by districts to protect district interests; our Governors and Senators statewide. Why should we not elect the President and Vice President nationally? The President has no authority over state government. He cannot veto a bill enacted by a state legislature. Why then should he be elected by state-chosen electors? He should be elected directly by the people, for it is the people of the United States to whom he is responsible.

Direct election would greatly encourage voter participation. Today, if a state votes traditionally in the column of one party, voters of the other party correctly assume that their vote will count for naught. Under direct election, these votes will be as important as votes cast anywhere else.

In sum, direct popular election brings with it many virtues and no vices; it would substitute clarity for confusion, decisiveness for danger, popular choice for political chance.

Bayh finished with what we would today call the “mic drop”:

James Madison, the father of our Constitution, knew that the President had to be independent of the Congress. He knew, also, that in deciding upon a means of choosing a President some compromise would be reached. But he had his own ideas as to how the President would best be elected.

Madison said that “the people at large . . . was the fittest in itself.”

We are at long last arriving at the place and time in our history where meaning has been brought to the preamble of our Constitution—“We, the People of the United States . . .” Today we are, indeed, “We, the People . . .”

If there was doubt about it in the early years of the Republic, there can be no doubt today. Let us echo Madison. Let us put our trust in the people.

This was the key. More than any political or partisan advantage, Senator Bayh wanted what was best for the American people.

And he people, as it turned out, felt the same way.

On the same day as Bayh's speech, Gallup's first-ever national poll on a direct vote for president found that sixty-three percent of Americans said they favored dumping the Electoral College for a popular vote. Twenty percent opposed it, and 17 percent had no opinion.

Soon the movement had support from across the political spectrum—from the Chamber of Commerce to the League of Women Voters, from organized labor to the American Bar Association. In a report that would later be quoted in the New York Times, the ABA called the Electoral College “archaic, undemocratic, complex, ambiguous, indirect, and dangerous.”

The range and depth of support for a popular vote gave Bayh the confidence that he was on the right track. Still, he moved cautiously. As the 1968 presidential race heated up, he pulled back on the popular vote campaign. Merits aside, any debate over how America might choose its president in the future would surely get tangled up in the politics of how America was choosing its president in 1968.

What Bayh couldn't know was how much that year's election—and the collective heart attack it gave the nation—would help his cause.

The 1968 election was primarily between Richard Nixon and Hubert Humphrey. But it was a third-party candidate—George Wallace, the former Alabama governor and arch-segregationist—who nearly managed to deadlock the vote and force Congress to pick the winner. Wallace won the most votes throughout the deep South, and earned 46 electoral votes, the last time any third-party candidate has won any at all. His aim was not to win the election outright, but to prevent either Nixon or Humphrey from winning a majority of Electoral College votes. In that scenario, the Constitution orders the House of Representatives to choose the president, with each state getting a single vote. Wallace thought that if both candidates needed him to help push them over the top, he could make whatever demands he wanted.

Wallace failed in the end. Nixon won a majority of electors. But he succeeded in highlighting just how bizarre and dangerous the Electoral College could be. It was the first time millions of Americans had given the system a thought. The prospect of an unreconstructed racist extorting the presidency horrified them. The best-selling author James Michener wrote a whole book advocating a switch to the popular vote. He called the Electoral College a “time bomb lodged near the heart of the nation.”

Meanwhile, Birch Bayh was riding the wave of the 1968 election, gathering support across the country for a major constitutional reform. By the end of that year, polls showed more than 80 percent of Americans in favor of a national popular vote for president.

In September 1969, the House voted overwhelmingly to abolish the Electoral College and replace it with a direct popular vote. It was a bipartisan effort. Even President

Nixon got on board, and polls of state legislatures suggested strong support throughout the country. All signs pointed to another successful amendment for Mr. Bayh and a radical change in the way Americans chose their presidents.

All signs but one.

As soon as the amendment reached the Senate, it was blocked by Southern segregationists, led by Strom Thurmond of South Carolina, who were well aware that the Electoral College had been created to appease the slaveholding states. They were also aware that it continued to warp the nation's politics in their favor, since millions of black voters throughout the South were effectively disenfranchised by restrictive registration and voting laws. Even those who were able to vote rarely saw their preferences reflected by a single elector. A popular vote would make their voices equal and their votes matter—and would encourage them to turn out at higher rates.

The Southerners delayed and filibustered the amendment for months. On Sept. 29, 1970—50 years ago this month—the last attempt to end the filibuster failed by five votes. It was another echo of the way the Electoral College had been preserved for the benefit of white political power, particularly in the south.

Now here's the really interesting part. The segregationists had help from a key constituency: blacks and ethnic minorities in northern cities like New York City and Chicago. Why? Because at the time, New York was the nation's biggest and most important swing state. And racial and ethnic minorities in the big cities decided how it swung. These voters understood that the Electoral College, using statewide winner-take-all laws, gave them disproportionate power in choosing the president. They didn't want to give up that power any more than the southerners did.

Strom Thurmond took advantage of this fact. He sent personal telegrams to prominent black and Jewish leaders, warning them of the consequences of supporting a direct popular vote. This made Birch Bayh furious. Here's what he said in a 2009 interview:

He told these groups, “What you're going to do is, you're going to give up your advantage to have influence to sway these large electoral votes if you have a direct popular vote. It will just be confined to one person, one vote. You won't be able to sway that whole group of electors,” which is true, of course.

A couple of these guys . . . came to my office and said, “You're going to have to back away from this.”

I said, “What do you mean?”

They said, “Well, it would give us less power.”

I finally said—the only time while I was there, in my eighteen years—I said, “Look, I busted my tail to see that each of you and your constituencies got one person, one vote. Now you're telling me that if you have 1.01, you want to keep it? Get your rear ends out of my office and don't come back.”

Senator Bayh reintroduced his Electoral College amendment in every session of Congress through the 1970s, until he lost re-election in 1980.

With Bayh's departure, the Senate lost its best advocate for a national popular vote. “No one was a better legislator than he was and he couldn't get it done,” Jay Berman told me. “It's just such an empty feeling because it was so right to do. And we couldn't do it.”

For the final portion of this talk, I'd like jump forward a half century, to today. The 21st century is barely two decades old, and yet it has already been defined by the Electoral College's anti-majoritarian distortions.

It happened first on Nov. 7, 2000, when Vice President Al Gore was the choice of the American people, with more than half a million more votes around the country than George W. Bush. But Bush won the White House thanks to a few hundred ballots in Florida, and a recount stopped short by the Supreme Court.

It happened again in 2016. Two times in less than two decades. And there's a very plausible chance it could happen again in November.

If Senator Bayh were here, I know he would say this is a crisis for our democracy. It is a crisis for our republic.

In fact I don't have to speculate. He stayed deeply involved in the politics of electoral reform after leaving the Senate. In 2005, a team of lawyers and activists devised a plan to elect the president by a national popular vote, not by abolishing the Electoral College but by using it exactly as it was designed in the Constitution. They came to Washington to test the political waters, to see whether they could get support for this plan. The first person they spoke to was Birch Bayh.

I was lucky enough to meet the senator—two years ago this week, at his home on the eastern shore of Maryland. It was the last interview he gave before his death. We were joined by his wonderful wife, Kitty, and Kevin Feely, one of his longtime Senate staffers.

When I asked him about his early life, he recalled a childhood spent working on his grandparents' farm in Terre Haute. "Nobody in my family background had ever been involved in politics," he said. "When my father found out what I was doing, I think he wondered what he'd done wrong as a parent."

On the topic of the popular-vote amendment, the pain of the loss was still there. If anything, it was keener, now that the Electoral College has awarded the White House to two popular-vote losers in the past two decades.

"I don't know," he told me when I asked how he thought of the issue today. "I like to think as a country, as we grow older, we learn. It just makes such good sense."

I asked about the familiar charge that eliminating the Electoral College would lead to "mob rule." He was nonplussed. As he saw it, the "mob" was the American people. He said, "That, to me, is the positive end of it. Why shouldn't they be able to determine their own destiny?"

This was emblematic of Bayh's broader commitment to fairness, equality and inclusion. Birch Bayh's America is a big, open, welcoming place. It has room for everyone, and it treats all of us as equals.

I think it's fair to say that Birch Bayh was one of this nation's founding fathers. He changed the country for the better, and he would have done even more if he could. The fact that he didn't succeed in changing how we choose our President . . . well, Madison didn't get everything he wanted either. But the seeds have been planted.

Speaking of seeds, I found a short article about Senator Bayh in a Reader's Digest from November 1948. It was titled "GI Ambassador."

Of course, we know that the senator was raised in a farming family, and had a knack for the work. When he was a teenager, he won \$200 for the best teenaged tomato patch in the state. So, when he joined the army and learned he was being shipped overseas to help with the recovery effort, what's the first thing he did?

He ordered seeds. "Please send at once \$4 worth of vegetable garden seeds," he wrote to the county agent in Terre Haute. "Be sure to put in some sweet corn."

He got 18 packets in the mail. But when he showed up for inspection, he nearly lost

them all. "Regulations state that you can take only military equipment and personal belongings," his sergeant said. "But vegetable seeds—get rid of 'em!"

So he broke open each packet and emptied its contents into a different pocket on his uniform. When he arrived in the small German village where he was stationed, he slowly redistributed the seeds into their 18 packets. "It was quite a job," he said. "But I did want a garden."

He helped build 45 garden plots and got 2 village children to tend each plot. By the end of the growing season, they'd produced mountains of cabbage, beans, spinach, turnips, tomatoes, cucumbers, beets, lettuce, kale, chard . . . and sweet corn. The village was fed all winter.

In an interview years later, he said, "The thing I love about agriculture is that it's pretty hard to get away from the facts. There it is. Mother Nature takes care of it. If you do something wrong, you pay."

Birch Bayh was a farmer of democracy. He planted the seeds of a more equal and more just America. He helped us cultivate a national debate by connecting our modern lives to the fundamental principle of universal human equality embedded in the Declaration of Independence.

This was not a dry intellectual exercise for him. Bayh's conviction was profound, and his inability to achieve a national popular vote pained him deeply for the rest of his life. It was, he would say, the single greatest disappointment of his career.

As an example, in the fall of 2000, John Feerick, the former dean of Fordham Law School and an instrumental figure in the passage of the 25th Amendment, was teaching a seminar at Georgetown Law School, and invited Senator Bayh as a guest speaker.

Bayh visited the class in October. In a few weeks, the nation would be upended with the drama and chaos of a contested election—the recount in Florida, the butterfly ballot, the hanging chads, the Brooks Brothers riot . . . and finally, a tense resolution by the Supreme Court, giving George W. Bush a bare Electoral College majority, and sending the first popular-vote loser to the White House in more than a century.

All of that was in the future when Feerick, sitting next to Bayh in his law-school seminar, posed what seemed at the time like an innocent hypothetical.

"I put the question to him," Feerick said, "What do you think the reaction of the American people will be if there's a difference between the electoral vote and the popular vote winner?"

"And his response to me was that the people would accept the legal system we have, and the outcome of that system. The one we have. And then he started to cry."

I want to return a final time to the words Birch Bayh spoke on the Senate floor in 1966. A national popular vote is "a logical, realistic and proper continuation of this nation's tradition and history—a tradition of continuous expansion of the franchise and equality in voting."

That is the essence. In my book I write, "Maybe this is the real American exceptionalism: our nation was conceived out of the audacious, world-changing idea of universal human equality. And though it was born in a snarl of prejudice, mistrust, and exclusion, it harbored in its DNA the code to express more faithfully the true meaning of its founding principles. Over multiple generations, and thanks to the tireless work and bloody sacrifices of millions of Americans—some powerful but most just regular people who wanted to be treated the same as everyone else—that code has been unlocked, and those principles, slowly but surely, have found expression."

I believe a central reason Birch Bayh's effort in the late 1960s came so close was that this was his argument. It was irrefutable, and it resonated with millions of Americans.

Now here we are, 50 years later, facing the same questions he faced, fighting the same battles he fought, and relying all along on his wisdom, his vision and his humanity to help us find our way to an answer—and to a more perfect Union.

#### HONORING RECOLOGY

##### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Recology in celebration of its 100th anniversary on September 20, 2020.

Since its founding in San Francisco in 1920, Recology has become a leader in resource recovery and landfill diversion. As a result of its commitment to Waste Zero, Recology has worked to reduce the amount of accumulated waste by converting the waste that they collect for reuse, recycling, composting, or energy generation. Recology has expanded its efforts to cover over 140 communities in California, Oregon, and Washington.

Recology is not just a leader in waste management, but also a leader in employee ownership. Since 1986, Recology has been 100 percent employee-owned and is now one of the nation's ten largest fully employee-owned companies. Recology's efforts to empower its employees through employee ownership has especially served to empower female and minority employees, who currently hold a majority of the company's shares.

Recology has become an integral part of my own Congressional district in California, with offices and facilities in Santa Rosa and Vallejo employing 135 employee-owners. Not only has Recology helped communities in my district with its commitment to Waste Zero and employee ownership, but it has also continued to give back through participation in civic engagement projects and community organizations.

Madam Speaker, Recology emulates the type of company that we should expect from all American companies. Recology is a corporate leader in environmental sustainability, employee ownership, and community involvement within countless communities. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor Recology here today as they celebrate their 100th anniversary.

#### CONGRATULATING JAKE BURKE UPON HIS RETIREMENT WITH TRI-COMMUNITY ACTION

##### HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, I'm honored to congratulate Gerald "Jake" Burke upon his retirement after 50 years of service with Tri-County Community Action to our community, Commonwealth, and Country. Jake was born on September 11, 1944 in Shippensburg, delivered by his grandmother at home. Growing

up, he was a member of both the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts before beginning high school. He graduated from Shippensburg High School in 1962, and from the Barber School Harrisburg the following year. He was a member of the AV Club in addition to the proud owner of a 1952 Chevy Coupe, his first car. Jake started his work for Community Action in 1968, working part-time until 1970. He returned in 1972 as a full-time Community Development Coordinator working from the Shippensburg location, and has been with the agency since, becoming Housing Counselor in 1994. With Community Action, Jake has helped thousands achieve their goals, connecting first-time homebuyers to needed resources, and promoting economic self-sufficiency.

While working for Community Action, he managed to balance a litany of other roles that serve as a testament to his character. He worked at both the Carlisle and Chambersburg Hospitals in the 1980s and 90s, graduated Columbia School of Broadcasting in 1980, and honed his craft at WSHP radio, all while owning his own business—JB's Disc Jockey Service, which operated into the 2000s.

Jake is a cancer survivor of 26 years, and remains active in marching bands while being a world-renowned Masters Powerlifting Champion. He is a member of the Reilly Raiders Drum & Bugle Corps and the leader of the Dungeon Powerlifting Crew at the Front Street YMCA, holding numerous world records for his age group. Jake is also a member of the Mt. Pisgah AME Zion Church and the Locus Grove Cemetery Committee Firefighter Vigilant Hose Company No. 52. He loves gardening, the LA Dodgers, trains, fireworks, motorcycles, books, firearms, mini whiskey bottles, music, and enjoys collecting African-American relics.

Jake will tell you that his biggest and proudest accomplishment, by far, is his family. He is the proud father of five children (Andrew, Gerald, Mike, Kacey, and Ashley), 11 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren. Jake has lived his life by his personal mantra: “Never stop learning. Live everyday as if it were your last. Put your faith in God and never give up.”

With great honor, I commend Gerald “Jake” Burke’s distinguished career of service to Tri-County Community Action, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the United States of America.

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**HONORING THE FAITHFUL SERVICE OF ASSISTANT CHIEF DEPUTY DOUGLASS TACKETT**

**HON. MARK E. GREEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2020*

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Assistant Chief Deputy Douglass Tackett.

Mr. Tackett began his career in law enforcement as part of the Army Military Police Corps. Upon leaving the Army, he transitioned to working in civilian law enforcement with the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Department. On account of his persistent work ethic, he quickly rose through the ranks, serving as Jail Administrator, Lieutenant, Captain, and finally as Assistant Chief Deputy.

Charged with the supervision of the hundreds of inmates housed in the Montgomery

County Jail on a daily basis, Assistant Chief Deputy Tackett sought to maintain order and discipline while trying to aid inmates who wanted to change their ways. His constant fidelity and excellence throughout his career stands as an example to be followed by all those who are charged with upholding law and order.

Assistant Chief Deputy Tackett’s four decades of service to the Montgomery County Sheriff’s office have been invaluable and he has made an impact in his community for years to come. His service exemplifies the virtues of steadfastness and dedication. It is fitting that we honor him as he concludes a long and faithful career in service to the people of Montgomery County. On behalf of the United States Congress, I wish to commend Assistant Chief Deputy Tackett for his service, and I congratulate him on the occasion of his retirement from the Montgomery County Sheriff’s office.

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**RETIREMENT OF DANIEL SPATZ**

**HON. GREG WALDEN**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2020*

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Daniel Spatz as he retires after 12 years as the Washington, D.C. Trip Scheduler for The Dalles Community Outreach Team. Daniel’s dedication, diligence, and passion to support others has helped make the Community Outreach Team the success it is today.

Dan was born in Portland, Oregon and raised outside of White Salmon, Washington, and graduated from Columbia High School. He went on to earn his degree in journalism and business from Eastern Oregon State College after working at The White Salmon Enterprise as a high school student. After college, Dan began his career in the newspaper business working for every other newspaper in the Columbia River Gorge: Hood River News, Goldendale Sentinel, The Dalles Reminder, and lastly, The Dalles Chronicle. During this time, Dan learned all the nuances of newspaper production including running a printing press, running advertisement sales, directing news meetings, writing for publication, and ultimately serving as an editor and general manager. Additionally, he became an award-winning journalist recognized by both the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) and the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association (ONPA).

While working at The Dalles Reminder, Dan met his wife, Michele, when he interviewed her for a news story. Together they built a family and raised two daughters, Melissa and Kathryn, who are now, respectively, a general surgeon and an emergency room physician. In fact, Dan and Michele have always shared a welcoming home, especially since they developed a high school student exchange program between The Dalles and its sister city, Miyoshi City, Japan. For several years the Spatz home has served as a homestay family and hosted numerous Miyoshi City students, visitors, and adult chaperones.

After 30 years in regional journalism, Dan left to join Columbia Gorge Community College (CGCC) as their Chief Institutional Advancement Officer where he serves today as

the Executive Director of Institutional Advancement. His outstanding accomplishments at CGCC include negotiating intergovernmental agreements securing \$14.6 million for capital construction programs to build the Treaty Oaks Skills Center and student housing on The Dalles CGCC campus. Dan also supported CGCC’s Hispanic Serving Institution designation by creating and facilitating the college’s Latinx Advisory Council, which represents community organizations, school districts, and other groups with a mission to identify barriers to college recruitment, retention, and academic completion of Latinx students.

Additionally, as Chief Institutional Advancement Officer, Dan embraced the task of scheduling the Community Outreach Team’s complement of Washington, D.C. meetings that occur each March and September. He was also instrumental in helping CGCC receive funding for a new National Guard Readiness Center, a Wind Energy Technician Training program, new 911 dispatch equipment for Wasco County, and construction dollars for The Dalles’ East Gateway Project. Dan secured meetings with Oregon and Washington Legislators, the American Wind Energy Association, the Department of Energy, and the Department of Education enabling the Community Outreach Team to advocate for and ultimately receive funding for these important community projects. Dan was also an integral member of the Community Outreach Team itself and made many trips to Washington, D.C. as a representative of CGCC and the City of The Dalles.

Finally, over the last two decades, Dan has also served in several other key leadership positions within The Dalles and Wasco County. From 2008 to 2016, he was elected to The Dalles City Council representing the Cities of Wasco County and served on the Mid-Columbia Economic Development District Board, the Mt. Hood Economic Alliance Board, and as Vice-President of the QualityLife Intergovernmental Agency (QLife) Board. Additionally, through a CGCC subcontract with Wasco County, Dan served as the Wasco County Economic Development Coordinator where he crafted Wasco County’s comprehensive economic development strategic plan and led the Wasco 2000 initiative to develop wastewater treatment in rural Wamic, Oregon.

It’s hard to look around The Dalles without spotting something that hasn’t been touched by Dan’s efforts. The community and region are better off because of the time and energy he has invested in helping spur growth and development in the Gorge. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dan’s service, leadership, and dedication to the communities of Wasco County and The Dalles.

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**HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN ERIC SWING**

**HON. JIMMY GOMEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2020*

Mr. GOMEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and leadership of John Eric Swing, whose service to the members of Los Angeles’ Historic Filipinotown and greater Filipino-American community will not be forgotten.

John's passion for service began even before he championed community service and empowerment in the community. It was during his college years as an ethnic-studies student at University of California, Riverside that John started learning about and developing his Filipino-American identity, eventually starting the Asian American fraternity Psi Chi Omega and continuing to serve in community organizations throughout college. Upon graduating, he served his country as part of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves, receiving a National Defense Service Medal, a Good Conduct Medal, and a Rifle Expert Marksman badge during his six years with the Marine Corps. John then spent the rest of his career and life dedicated to advocacy and service.

John had only recently been appointed as the Executive Director of Search to Involve Pilipino Americans (SIPA), an organization in my district that seeks to enrich and empower Pilipino Americans by providing important health and human services, community economic development, and cultural enrichment. Previously, he led SIPA's small business counseling services and entrepreneurship program as a staff member. Even before his term as Executive Director began, John was out there on the frontlines. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, he delivered food to seniors and underserved families and led wellness and cultural webinars. John even secured critical funding to support SIPA's outreach programs and was later honored by the state legislature as one of the "Unsung Heroes of Southern California."

What stands out to all those who worked with John over the years is his work ethic, his selflessness, and his unwavering commitment to serving all communities, regardless of people's race, ethnicity or background.

John's lifetime of dedication and service will be remembered and greatly missed by all whom he encountered and all those who were impacted by his tremendous work. May it bring comfort to his family, friends, and loved ones that so many are celebrating the life John led and praying for them at this time.

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RECOGNIZING THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL MUSEUM OF CHICAGO

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**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Ukrainian National Museum of Chicago (UNM), a cultural landmark in the heart of my district, on the occasion of its annual banquet. The UNM prides itself, for good reason, on its museum artifacts, library, and archives, which highlight Ukraine's history, its ongoing fight for freedom and democracy, and the rich culture and contributions made by Ukrainian Americans and Americans of Ukrainian heritage, both to Chicago's cultural tapestry and to that of the United States.

Each one of the four waves of immigration from Ukraine, as well as the generations of American Ukrainians who have followed, have brought with it a wealth of literary, music, artistic, and cultural artifacts, historical testimonials, relics, scientific patents, personal keepsakes and reminders, all of which speak to the importance of Ukrainian heritage and

the personal and professional accomplishments of American Ukrainians across our country.

Themselves a part of the third wave of Ukrainian immigrants to the United States, Olexa Hankewych, Julian Kamenetsky and Orest Horodsky, founded the Ukrainian Library and Archival Center in 1952 in order to preserve books and other documents at risk of destruction in Ukraine. Shortly after the establishment of the Library and Archival Center, a call went out to the Ukrainian community, which enthusiastically responded. Several years later the Library and Archival Center grew into the Ukrainian National Museum of Chicago, fully funded by community donations. While some artifacts in the Museum's burgeoning collection were purchased in Ukraine, others were donated by Ukrainian American collectors and artists, as well as from personal libraries and individuals throughout the community, in Chicago and beyond. Over 100,000 Ukrainian Americans live in Chicago, and I am proud that the Museum has its roots in our great city.

The Ukrainian National Museum of Chicago too has much to be proud of, due to the hard work of its staff, board of directors, and officers. Unfortunately, only two of its past presidents remain with us—Dr. George Hrycelak and Jaroslaw Hankewych, son of the Museum's founder, Olexa Hankewych. Today, under the leadership of Lydia Tkaczuk, the Museum's first female president, the UNM continues its work in one of Chicago's most historic neighborhoods, Ukrainian Village. More than just engaging visitors and adding to their understanding of Chicago's rich and diverse communities, it also serves as a window to Ukraine, its history, and its people.

The Museum's diverse collection of folk-art, fine art, tapestry, traditional dress and artifacts help to illuminate the societal impact American Ukrainians have had on Chicago and across the United States. Its permanent exhibitions educate visitors on the history, heritage, politics, culture and religions of Ukraine and the broader Ukrainian American community, including exhibits on the Kozak period, Ukraine's role in the World Wars and importantly, the Holodomor, the forced famine-genocide of nearly 4 million Ukrainians by Stalin across 1932 and 1933.

Madam Speaker, the Ukrainian National Museum is a place where visitors feel welcomed and engaged. It serves as a pillar of knowledge and culture for the Ukrainian community, for individuals of every background who call our city home, and for all the universities and students, artists, and authors throughout the world who have benefited from work in its archives. The City of Chicago is lucky to house such an institution, and it is my privilege today to recognize the Ukrainian National Museum here in Congress.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF REGGIE ROBINSON

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**HON. SHARICE DAVIDS**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life of Reggie Robinson, who passed away last

week. Reggie was a fixture at the University of Kansas and inspired countless Jayhawks during his time there. He is survived by his wife and their two daughters.

Reggie attended KU both as an undergraduate and law student. While there, he served as the student body vice president and went on to work as editor in chief of the Kansas Law Review. But his dedication to KU did not stop after earning these degrees.

Reggie devoted nearly 40 years of his life to KU and held numerous leadership roles. He was vice chancellor for public affairs at KU, director of KU's School of Public Affairs and Administration, president and CEO of the Kansas Board of Regents, a faculty member at the Washburn and KU schools of law, and chief of staff to Chancellor Robert Hemenway. Most recently, Reggie served as CEO of the Kansas Health Foundation, a position he deeply loved.

Another way that Reggie gave back to the community was through service on several leadership boards, including for the Friends of the Spencer Museum of Art, Hall Center for the Humanities, Kansas Leadership Center, Douglas County Community Foundation, and Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center. He also was a life trustee of KU Endowment and held advisory roles with the KU Alumni Association.

On a personal note, I had the opportunity to meet Reggie several times and I always found him to be incredibly passionate about his job and ready to represent the best interests of his students. Though we didn't serve at the same time, Reggie and I were also both White House fellows. Reggie spent five years in Washington, D.C., including the time he served as a White House fellow assigned to the office of then-Attorney General Janet Reno.

Madam Speaker, I offer my sincere and deepest condolences to Reggie's family, friends, and all those who benefitted from his kindness and mentorship. Reggie inspired many who walked the halls of KU and he will be dearly missed.

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THE IMPROVING CYBERSECURITY OF SMALL ORGANIZATIONS ACT

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**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I'm proud to introduce H.R. 8379, the Improving Cybersecurity of Small Organizations Act, a bipartisan and bicameral bill to help small businesses, nonprofits, and local governments implement strong protections against cyberattacks.

Many small businesses, small nonprofits, and small local governments can't afford to hire cybersecurity professionals, yet they are still vulnerable to highly damaging cyberattacks. Ransomware attacks have caused critical government functions to become inoperable. Data breaches have harmed employees and customers of businesses. Devices managed by organizations have been turned into botnets used to attack other organizations.

H.R. 8379, the Improving Cybersecurity of Small Organizations Act simply requires federal agencies to recommend easy-to-understand and evidence-based guidance that small

organizations can adopt to improve their cybersecurity and protect everyone they serve. Specifically, H.R. 8379 directs the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) to issue guidance that documents and promotes evidence-based cybersecurity policies and controls for small organizations (i.e., small businesses, nonprofits, and local governments); requires CISA, the Small Business Administration (SBA), and the Minority Business Development Agency to promote the cybersecurity guidance; requires the Secretary of Commerce to submit to Congress a report describing methods to incent small organizations to improve their cybersecurity; and requires the SBA to report on the state of small business cybersecurity every two years.

I thank Congressman JOHN KATKO, Senator JACKY ROSEN, and Senator JOHN CORNYN for partnering with me to introduce this bipartisan, bicameral bill, and I urge the House to take up this legislation in a timely fashion and ask my colleagues to support it.

**HONORING DR. MONIQUE BUTLER, CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER OF SWEDISH MEDICAL CENTER**

**HON. JASON CROW**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize the accomplishments of Dr. Monique Butler who will be honored by The Chamber of Northwest Douglas County as a “Woman Who Soars.”

Dr. Butler has been the Chief Medical Officer for Swedish Medical Center since 2018 and her career is an inspiration to all aspiring female doctors. A board-certified internist, Dr. Butler graduated from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and received her medical training at Wayne State University School of Medicine.

Dr. Butler also completed a Master of Business Administration from the University of Tennessee Physician Executive MBA program and holds a clinical assistant professorship at Michigan State University’s College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Prior to joining Swedish Medical Center, Dr. Butler came from the Children’s Hospital of Michigan—Detroit Medical Center, where she was the Chief Operating Officer. Previously she held positions as the Chief Medical Officer at Detroit Receiving Hospital and Sinai-Grace Hospital.

Dr. Butler was voted A Woman of Excellence in STEM careers in Michigan, was recognized as one of the Michigan Chronicle’s 40 under 40, and most recently was identified in Becker’s Hospital Review as one of the 50 great African American leaders in healthcare to know in the nation. She is the co-founder of the Young Doctors of Detroit program and founder of The Women Physicians Network.

A dedicated leader who brings an exceptional background, knowledge, expertise, and record of success to our community, there are few others deserving of such an honor. I congratulate Dr. Butler for receiving recognition as a “Woman Who Soars.”

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, on September 15, I joined President Trump for the historic signing ceremony at the White House. For this purpose, I was absent from votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted Nay on Roll Call No. 185, and Nay on Roll Call No. 186.

**SALUTING AMERICAN PATRIOTS OF WWII FOR SERVICE WITH THE CANADIAN AND BRITISH ARMED FORCES**

**HON. TIM RYAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to formally honor the legacy of the Ohioans and all other Americans who volunteered to defend democracy, our nation, and our allies during the Second World War. These individuals joined the military by the thousands prior to the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt encouraged the volunteerism through words and initiatives, and Hollywood supported these efforts in feature films.

Notably, the responding patriots proactively fought the forces of Nazism and fascism before the U.S. was officially a combatant, which helped provide time for the United States to prepare. The practical skills and knowledge obtained through Canadian and British training and operations proved invaluable once our nation officially took up arms in Europe and Asia.

The intrepid volunteers from the State of Ohio included Edward Tracey of Cortland, Donald James Matthew “Don” Blakeslee of Fairport Harbor, and Dominic Salvatore “Don” Gentile of Piqua. Gentile has been often referred to as a “One Man Air Force” and the “Ace of Aces.” I would be remiss if I did not mention Frank Zavakos of Dayton, who was a member of the famous No. 71 (Eagle) Squadron of the Royal Air Force, a unit largely comprised of American pilots, who gave his life.

Madam Speaker, those American women who served in the British Air Transport Auxiliary are also deserving of recognition. Among this group was Bessie Lee Pittman, more commonly known as Jacqueline “Jackie” Cochran. Cochran was a pioneer of women’s aviation and the first woman to fly a bomber across the Atlantic. She was the wartime leader of the Women Airforce Service Pilots and in the postwar era the first female to make a supersonic flight. Another was Helen Richey, who in 1934 won the premier air race in Dayton, Ohio, during the first National Air Meet for women. Richey was the first female pilot to be hired by a commercial airline in the United States. Ann Wood-Kelly was also an ATA standout, receiving the King’s Medal for Service in the Cause of Freedom and eventually becoming an assistant to the U.S. air attaché in London, a public relations manager for Northeast Airlines, and the first female vice-president of Pan American Airways.

There are certainly more heroes to note. Kermit Roosevelt, the son of President Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., secured a commission in the British Army. John Gillespie Magee, Jr., enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force and subsequently composed the immortal sonnet High Flight. William Meade Lindsley “Billy” Fiske III, who was the youngest gold medalist in any winter sport until 1992, died as a Royal Air Force aviator. Joseph Charles “Big Joe” McCarthy of the Royal Canadian Air Force flew on Operation Chastise, the famous Dams Raid. William Robert “Poppy” Dunn, either the first or second American ace of the conflict, served in the Canadian Army and Royal Air Force. William J. Vanderkloot, Jr., Prime Minister Winston Churchill’s personal pilot, flew for the Royal Air Force Ferry Command. Chesley Gordon “Pete” Peterson earned a Distinguished Flying Cross while flying with the Royal Air Force. Last but not least was the inspirational Vernon Charles “Shorty” Keough, who flew many missions during the Battle of Britain. Keough was the most diminutive aviator in the Royal Air Force; yet his legacy is lofty in the annals of history.

This year, 2020, marks the 75th anniversary of the formal ending of World War II. The bravery and foresight displayed by the volunteers from my state and the rest of the United States represent a largely unrecognized story of valor. Therefore, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in saluting them.

**EXPANDING ACCESS TO SUSTAINABLE ENERGY ACT OF 2019**

SPEECH OF

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 23, 2020

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4447, the Clean Economy Jobs and Innovation Act.

As we know from the devastating wildfires in my state, the reality of the climate crisis is here. The planet we are leaving to our children is different from the one we were born on, and we have to reverse course now before it is too late.

I want to thank my colleagues who offered amendments to make this an even stronger green bill. In particular, I thank my friend Representative BARRAGÁN for offering an amendment I co-sponsored to invest in helping seaports to make their operations more efficient and less polluting. And I thank the environmental groups who gave critical input on this legislation and on the urgent need for our country and for the world to close the chapter on the era of fossil fuels.

During this year’s unprecedented wildfires, smoke has been at unhealthy and even hazardous levels for weeks on end in my district. Wildfire smoke is especially damaging to vulnerable populations, for example unsheltered people. H.R. 4447 includes the Smoke Planning and Research Act to help state and local governments protect their communities from wildfire smoke. I believe we have a critical need for this legislation to respond to a serious threat to public health—for example by creating shelters for at-risk populations or retrofitting schools with air filters so students can safely attend school.

H.R. 4447 also includes the Climate Smart Ports Act, which will help us address health disparities and other issues in communities near ports, which have often suffered from generations of environmental injustice. The legislation includes a \$1 billion per year zero emissions ports infrastructure program to assist ports and port users with replacing cargo handling equipment, port harbor craft, drayage trucks, and other equipment with zero emissions equipment and technology. In West Oakland, the neighborhood bordering the Port of Oakland, the asthma hospitalization rate for children under the age of 5 is almost twice the rate for Alameda County as a whole. We must take action to reduce the massive amounts of fossil fuels burned by ports—both to address the climate crisis and to help our kids breathe.

I have heard the concerns expressed about some key provisions of this bill, and those concerns are valid. I do not support funding for projects that could result in further use of dirty or dangerous energy sources. I hope that we can work to improve this bill as it moves through the legislative process.

Nonetheless, much of the content of this bill would make necessary steps toward the clean energy revolution that we are all working for. It encourages the innovation that we need to address the fossil fuel-driven climate emergency while investing in renewable energy resources, electrification of transportation, reduction of carbon pollution from industrial and other sources, modernization of the grid and much more.

For these reasons, I support H.R. 4447 as a significant step away from fossil fuels and towards innovation and cleaner energy.

#### HONORING THE MEMORY OF GEORGIA DOBBINS DAVIS

##### HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Georgia Dobbins Davis, a long-time resident of the 13th Congressional District's Inkster, Michigan and Former Motown artist, who passed away on September 18, 2020.

Born in Arkansas, Ms. Dobbin moved to Michigan at a young age. She spent her teenage years in Inkster, singing and performing with several local musical groups, including the Marvels, the group with which Georgia Dobbin made her mark on Motown. The Marvels nearly missed the chance to audition for Motown when they came in fourth place of their high school talent show. In the end, they ended up tagging along with the winning group. Motown executives were so impressed by the group's performance, they asked the young women to come up with an original song. Ms. Dobbin worked with a friend who wrote the melody for the song "Please Mr. Postman" while she wrote the lyrics in only three days' time. "Please Mr. Postman" was the hit song that launched a career for the Marvels, now known as the Marvelettes.

While Ms. Dobbin ultimately did not pursue a musical career, her song was a significant contribution to music and Detroit's culture and sound. It reached number one on the charts after only fourteen weeks and has been covered by artists such as the Carpenters who had their own hit with it, and the Beatles.

Ms. Dobbin remained in Inkster, raising her daughter, Kimberly and working at a local grocery store. She was well known for her beautiful smile and kind heart. Please join me in honoring the memory of Ms. Georgia Dobbin Davis.

what Ben Taub Hospital is known for today, including being one of only two elite Level I Trauma Centers serving the adult population of Harris County, with an emphasis on serving its most vulnerable residents.

As a faculty instructor, he was crucial in training both the present and future generations of surgeons serving southeast Texas and beyond, especially surgeons from the military branch who trained through the Joint Trauma Training Center established and operated at Ben Taub Hospital by the U.S. Department of Defense from 1998 to 2000. Madam Speaker, it is a pleasure to recognize the culmination of a stellar career. I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing his service to the community and people of Houston and Harris County, Texas.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. MARKWAYNE MULLIN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. MULLIN. Madam Speaker, I was not present the week of September 21–25, 2020 on account of supporting my son's continuing recovery.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 196; YEA on Roll Call No. 197; NAY on Roll Call No. 198; NAY on Roll Call No. 199; NAY on Roll Call No. 200; YEA on Roll Call No. 201; NAY on Roll Call No. 202; NAY on Roll Call No. 203; YEA on Roll Call No. 204; YEA on Roll Call No. 205; and NAY on Roll Call No. 206.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF MADYSON ANN LATRICE CARTER

##### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Madyson Ann Latrice Carter. Born on this day, September 29, 2004, Madyson would have been sixteen years old.

She was a resident of Clinton, Mississippi who adored her family and friends. She was kind, intelligent, and possessed a smile that could brighten any room.

Regrettably, on June 18, 2018, Madyson departed from this world leaving behind a community of family and friends that continue to cherish her memories. Her courageous spirit and profound empathy for others will never be forgotten.

On behalf of the Second Congressional District of Mississippi, I send my continued thoughts and prayers to the Carter family.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Madyson Ann Latrice Carter.

#### RECOGNIZING DR. KENNETH L. MATTOX

##### HON. DAN CRENSHAW

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Kenneth L. Mattox upon his retirement from public service at Harris Health System's Ben Taub Hospital after 31 years as its Chief of Staff, having proudly served the sick and injured people of Harris County, Texas for nearly 60 years, as a medical student, resident, surgeon and faculty member of Baylor College of Medicine. Dr. Kenneth L. Mattox is responsible for much of

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF BOBBY LEE VERDUGO

##### HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. GOMEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Bobby Lee Verdugo, a Chicano activist from East Los Angeles, most known as the leader of the 1968 East Los Angeles high school walkouts.

Growing up in the Lincoln Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles, Bobby lived the all-American life—he was a popular football player, his father coached a youth baseball team, and his mother was part of the Parent Teacher Association and volunteered for Bobby's Boy Scouts troop. Despite the active role Bobby's family played in the community, he and his Latino classmates would get singled out for speaking Spanish in school and were subjected to paddlings by their white teachers as punishment. The Latino students at the school were also being tracked into vocational classes. They were not afforded college preparatory courses or resources, and made to feel as if their futures were all but bright. Eastside schools were notoriously rundown and overcrowded and had some of the worst dropout rates in the country. Encouraged by his social science teacher, Sal Castro, Bobby and other students across the Eastside of Los Angeles organized a walkout to protest the discrimination, abuse, and mistreatment. Soon thousands of Latino students across the country followed suit, bringing the attention of the entire nation to their cause.

Bobby eventually enrolled at UCLA but left after two years to work as a bus dispatcher and a labor organizer. He married Yolanda Rios, his high school sweetheart and fellow walkouts organizer, and they had two kids.

After noticing the lack of resources for at-risk young men, particularly Latino youth, Bobby decided to enroll at California State University of Los Angeles at the age of 40 to become a social worker. In 1995, he co-founded Con Los Padres, a counseling program modeled after the Mesoamerican talking circles (círculos), giving teenage fathers the space to discuss their feelings, connect to their heritage, and receive the support they needed to navigate fatherhood.

His advocacy work led him to speaking invitations across the country and Bobby quickly became a frequent figure at Latino high school

youth and academic conferences. Bobby's infectious personality and humor drew thousands of students to him and to them, he became a father-figure and mentor.

Bobby was a trailblazing force that paved the way for the young Latino activists of today and his legacy lives on through their social justice work and activism. May Bobby's lifetime of leadership, passion, and service continue to be an inspiration to us all. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering and honoring Bobby Lee Verdugo.

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RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF POLYCYSTIC OVARY SYNDROME (PCOS)

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**HON. DAVID SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the seriousness of Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS).

PCOS is a genetic, hormone, metabolic and reproductive disorder that affects women and girls. PCOS can lead to lifelong complications such as infertility; anxiety, depression and other psychosocial disorders; obesity; severe hair and skin issues; endometrial cancer; type 2 diabetes; cardiovascular disease; non-alcoholic fatty liver disease and other life-threatening conditions. Many of these complications are a significant burden on quality of life, health, and the healthcare system.

PCOS affects over 10 million women and girls in the United States. Currently, there is no cure for PCOS, and women living with this disorder experience symptoms such as insulin resistance, menstrual irregularities, weight gain, thinning scalp hair, and depression and anxiety during puberty and throughout their lives. PCOS is a grave issue that affects hundreds of thousands of women in Georgia and millions more across the country. For far too long, PCOS has been a prevalent public health concern, threatening the mental and physical health and quality of life of girls, women and their families.

Increasing awareness about polycystic ovary syndrome is critical to our efforts to address the national maternal mortality crisis and prevent pregnancy-related deaths. Pregnant women with polycystic ovary syndrome are more likely to develop gestational diabetes, preeclampsia (pregnancy-related hypertension) and have emergency C-sections. Without access to quality prenatal care, many African American women with PCOS are not diagnosed until they have difficulty getting pregnant or experience dangerous pregnancy complications. PCOS is also the most common cause of female infertility. Many women living with the disorder often have miscarriages or premature deliveries.

There is a growing need to educate healthcare providers about PCOS because 50–70 percent of PCOS patients are going undiagnosed or misdiagnosed. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about 50 percent of women with PCOS develop Type 2 Diabetes or prediabetes by the age of 40 and are at high risk for cardiovascular disease. Women and girls with this disorder are also at higher risk for uterine cancer, liver disease, and suicide.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me to advance this bipartisan effort and make PCOS a public health priority.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

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**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, on September 24, I was in my district to celebrate the unveiling of the Advanced Manufacturing Collaborative to be located at the University of South Carolina Aiken, as well as attend the ribbon cutting for the Salt Waste Processing Facility at the Savannah River Site. Both of these programs will have positive impacts on our community and I look forward to their success.

For these reasons, I was absent for votes. Had I been present, I would have voted: NAY on Roll Call No. 202; NAY on Roll Call No. 203; NAY on Roll Call No. 204; YEA on Roll Call No. 205; and NAY on Roll Call No. 206.

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IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT S. CROUCH

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**HON. BRETT GUTHRIE**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Robert S. Crouch of Willisburg, Kentucky.

Following the attacks on our nation in Pearl Harbor, Bob answered the call to serve and arrived at his local recruiting depot on December 8, 1941, with the intention of signing up for the U.S. Army, though he saw the Marines in their dress blue uniforms and decided to sign up for the Marines instead. Bob was eventually deployed to the Pacific theatre. He earned a Purple Heart for his valiant efforts in the Battle of Iwo Jima. He was also awarded a Presidential Unit Citation, Campaign Ribbons, the WWII Victory Medal, and the Combat Action Ribbon. He retired from the Marine Corps as a Master Gunner Sergeant in 1984. In addition to his service in the Marines, Bob has served as a volunteer firefighter and serves as a deacon at his church.

I want to thank Bob for his service to our great Nation.

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HONORING ZOË ROYER

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**HON. JASON CROW**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize the accomplishments of Ms. Zoë Royer who will be honored by The Chamber of Northwest Douglas County as a "Woman Who Soars."

Zoë's story is heartbreaking and inspiring. When she was 14, her mother was killed by her father who then took his own life. She and her younger sister were suddenly homeless and entered the foster care system. Zoë was

placed in more than a dozen homes in her teens and dropped out of high school. Through the help of a local non-profit, she was given hope and a future. She is a recent graduate of Metropolitan State University and now works to pay it forward.

Zoë has become a mental health advocate, a writer and activist. Zoë believes in fighting for a better and more equitable world through building relationships with her community. She is passionate about social change and hopes to inspire and empower others by telling her story.

Zoë has supported suicide prevention projects, charities assisting homeless students in education, and feminist non-profits throughout the state of Colorado. Zoë has been the president of several student organizations, including a women's social justice honor society. She now holds a psychological sciences degree from Metropolitan State University of Denver and is looking forward to attending a Ph.D. program.

As a recent graduate, advocate, and a survivor of incredible adversity, she truly is deserving of such an honor. I congratulate Ms. Royer for being recognized as a "Woman Who Soars."

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HONORING PETER BLACKSTOCK

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**HON. JIMMY PANETTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the career achievements and community dedication of Peter Blackstock, a prominent businessman, community steward, and philanthropist who has called the central coast of California his home for nearly 40 years.

Peter Blackstock was born on the East Coast and served in the Army as an officer in Vietnam before working for the Ford Motor Company. In 1982, Peter moved to the Central Coast and purchased the Leslie Motors Toyota dealership in Seaside and renamed it Victory Toyota. Later, he opened Lexus Monterey Peninsula, forming Victory Dealership Group.

During his time as owner of Victory Dealer Group, Peter was a significant supporter of the automobile dealer community. He advocated for and actively contributed to industry priorities as a member of the American International Automobile Dealers Association's board of directors, President of the California New Car Dealers Association, and a director on the board of the National Automobile Dealers Association. He also set the bar for dealerships across the country when Victory Toyota was LEED certified for environmental responsibility in 2014. As a businessman, Peter is held in high esteem by all he worked with for his personal integrity, thoughtful contributions, professional demeanor, and engaging personality.

Peter is an especially involved member of his community on the Central Coast. He has secured resources for and served in many roles in countless organizations, including the Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, Boy Scouts, Monterey Bay Symphony, Monterey Museum of Art, Make a Wish Foundation, AIM Youth Mental Health, Pac Rep Theatre Groups, SPCA, AT&T Junior Golf, Church

in the Forest, Hospice Giving, Arthritis Foundation, National WWII Museum, Marine Scholarship Foundation, Meals on Wheels, and Rancho Cielo. Most notably, he is Director Emeritus of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Monterey County, a past President of the Ventana Wilderness Alliance instrumental in protections for the California Condor, falcons, and other raptors, trustee emeritus of the Naval Post-graduate School Foundation, and was Vice-Chairman of the Economic Development Committee of the Fort Ord Reuse Committee. He has also served on the Monterey County Sheriffs Advisory Council, the task forces of the City of Seaside, the boards of All Saints and Stevenson Schools, and as foreman pro tempore on the Monterey County Civil Grand Jury.

As he begins his retirement, I have no doubt that Peter will continue to find myriad ways to support his community and cherish his time with his beloved wife, Barbara, and his daughter, son-in-law, and three grandchildren, who are triplets. We, as a community, are grateful for his contributions to the Central Coast and celebrate his successful career.

IN HONOR OF THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE AND LEGACY OF REVEREND ROBERT S. GRAETZ, JR.

**HON. TERRI A. SEWELL**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend Robert S. Graetz Jr., a Lutheran minister and heroic Civil Rights Activist who passed away at the age of 92. In 1955, as a white minister Rev. Graetz alongside his wife Mrs. Jeannie Graetz came to Montgomery, Alabama to serve the all black congregation of Trinity Lutheran Church. Demonstrating tremendous courage, Rev. Graetz played a critical role in the Montgomery Bus Boycott by personally sacrificing his time and resources in the fight for equal rights.

Born on May 16, 1928 in Clarksburg, West Virginia, Rev. Graetz studied Theology at Capital University in Ohio, where he became interested in civil rights through his studies, founding a campus group to discuss race relations. After graduating in 1950, he attended Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio where he founded the Columbus N.A.A.C.P. chapter. In 1951, Rev. Graetz and Jeannie Ellis were married in East Springfield, Pennsylvania and together they had seven children.

Shortly after his arrival in Montgomery, Rev. Graetz became acquainted with the local N.A.A.C.P. youth council director Rosa Parks who held weekly meetings in the church pastored by Rev. Graetz. Rev. Graetz became active in the protest upon learning of the arrest of Rosa Parks. At his next Sunday service, he urged his parishioners to participate in the Bus Boycott and offered them a ride to work.

What originally began as a single day on December 5, 1955 turned into over a year of boycotting that ended on December 20, 1956. Rev. Graetz spent three hours every morning driving black members of the community to work. With his increasing involvement, he became an instrumental part of the success of the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

Rev. Graetz became the Secretary of the Montgomery Improvement Association, where he worked closely with Rosa Parks and avidly supported Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Rev. Graetz was the only white minister to publicly support the efforts of the Montgomery Bus Boycott, making him and his family a target of the Ku Klux Klan. There were several threats and attempts on Rev. Graetz and his family's lives—including two firebombs that damaged their home but thankfully harmed no one. Not to be deterred, Rev. Graetz loudly and proudly continued to fight for what he believed was the work of God in securing and defending the equal rights of his black church members. In support of Rosa Parks, he attended her court hearing and even attempted to sit in the colored section in the courtroom. Later, when the FBI urged Rev. Graetz and his family to leave Montgomery for their safety, they refused and remained unwavering in their public support of the Civil Rights Movement.

After the end of the Montgomery Bus Boycott, Rev. Graetz and his wife Jeannie left Montgomery and returned to Columbus, Ohio in 1958 where Rev. Graetz served another predominantly black congregation. In the following years, he and his wife traveled across the nation to advocate for civil rights—eventually spending 13 years in Washington, D.C. as a lobbyist for marginalized individuals.

Throughout his life, Rev. Graetz authored several publications including: A Congregational Guide to Human Relations; An Informed Church Serves a Diverse Society; Montgomery—a White Preacher's Memoir; and A White Preachers Message on Race and Reconciliation—Based on His Experiences Beginning with the Montgomery Bus Boycott. Rev. Graetz also received the following honors: Russwurm Award, National Negro Newspaper Publishers Association; Selma Humanitarian Award; Distinguished Alumnus, Trinity Lutheran Seminary; Doctor of Humanities, Capital University; Ohio Humanitarian Award; Ohio Governor's Humanitarian Award. After returning to Montgomery in 2007, Rev. Graetz and his wife dedicated their service to Alabama State University and hosted the annual Graetz Symposium at the National Center for the Study of Civil Rights and African-American Culture at Alabama State University.

On a personal note, I have tremendous respect and admiration for the significant contributions that Rev. and Mrs. Graetz made to fight for civil rights and racial equality in the Montgomery community. Grounded by his faith and genuine belief in the value of all God's children, Rev. Graetz led by example in supporting the Montgomery Bus Boycott. It was the boycott of public transit in Montgomery for 381 days that resulted in the end of racial segregation in commerce across this nation. We owe a debt of gratitude to the personal sacrifice and threats to their lives that Rev. and Mrs. Graetz must have endured in the quest for equality and justice for all. To say thank you doesn't seem enough. May we rededicate ourselves to the cause of racial equality and reconciliation that exemplified the life's work of Reverend Graetz. And may the Lord say—well done thy good and faithful servant, Well Done.

On behalf of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the extraordinary life and legacy of Reverend Robert S. Graetz, Jr., and his incredible contributions to the Civil Rights Movement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Madam Speaker, I was unavailable and missed votes 202 through 206.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 202; NAY on Roll Call No. 203; NAY on Roll Call No 204; YEA on Roll Call No. 205; and NAY on Roll Call No. 206.

REMEMBERING ERVIN JULIAN

**HON. DEBBIE LESKO**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Ervin Julian from Surprise, Arizona. Mr. Julian was one of the few World War II veterans still alive in Arizona, a centenarian, a Valley resident for more than 50 years, and a proud husband and father.

Mr. Julian was born in Waltham, Massachusetts and enlisted in the United States Navy for four years during World War II. During his time in service, he was stationed at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas, where he worked as the base commander's assistant. Shortly after his service, he moved to Phoenix, Arizona where he worked as a wholesale salesman.

He was married to the love of his life, Louise Julian, for nearly seventy-two years. Together, they raised their son Steven, who often refers to his dad as "a great hero." His only grandson, Joseph Charles Bentley Julian, is proud of his grandfather's service and the contributions he made to our nation.

Mr. Julian was a member of the American Legion and a big supporter of Boy Scouts of America. He fueled his love of antique automobiles by being active in the Horseless Carriage Club of America and Wally Byam Caravan Club International.

His family continues to cherish one of the most memorable final moments they shared together—when he went viral at a rally for President Donald Trump in February 2020. Mr. Julian captured the hearts of many when two men carried him down a flight of stairs at the Arizona Veterans Memorial Coliseum as the crowd chanted "U-S-A! U-S-A!" in the background.

On this day, we as a community would like to thank Mr. Julian for his service to our country and ask those who knew him to pray for his family during this time of mourning.

TRIBUTE TO MR. WALKER HARRIS JR., FOUNDER AND OWNER OF HARRIS ICE COMPANY

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen, Christian, businessman,

church leader, family leader, community leader and all around wonderful human being.

Mr. Walker Harris started work in the ice business when he was eighteen years old while visiting with his sister and her husband while deciding what to do after high school. He had grown up in Louisiana and after school worked for a black owned business helping out; therefore, he knew that he wanted to be a businessman.

While 18 he was hired as an ice bagger, he quickly learned the business and its distribution process. After a few months he heard that one of the drivers was retiring and wanted to sell his route of thirty clients. Mr. Walker Harris purchased the client list, started his own company and was off and running. After a few years he heard that a distribution warehouse was available for sale, he purchased the warehouse, upgraded the building and hired drivers. His business acumen, delivery, and customer service were so effective that he became one of the top ice distributors in the city of Chicago. In the meantime, he was actively engaged with his church, became a developer of some affordable housing units and became known as a leader in the community. He has been acknowledged by several church, civic, business, and community groups for outstanding service and contributions to his community and the city of Chicago.

I now commend and congratulate Mr. Walker Harris for outstanding service to humanity as we celebrate his birthday and the great contributions made through his ownership and development of the Walker Harris Ice Company.

#### 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 Wednesday, September 30, 2020 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

#### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

##### 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

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Business meeting to consider an authorization to subpoena the attendance of a

witness for purpose of a hearing to Jack Dorsey, Chief Executive Officer, Twitter; an authorization to subpoena the attendance of a witness for purpose of a hearing to Sundar Pichai, Chief Executive Officer, Alphabet Inc., Google; and an authorization to subpoena the attendance of a witness for purpose of a hearing to Mark Zuckerberg, Chief Executive Officer, Facebook.

SD-106

##### Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 4632, to amend title 17, United States Code, to establish an alternative dispute resolution program for copyright small claims, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to modify the scope of protection from civil liability for "good Samaritan" blocking and screening of offensive material, and the nominations of Benjamin Joel Beaton, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Kentucky, Kristi Haskins Johnson, and Taylor B. McNeel, both to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of Mississippi, Kathryn Kimball Mizelle, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, and Thompson Michael Dietz, of New Jersey, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims.

SR-325

##### OCTOBER 6

10 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary  
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Crossfire Hurricane investigation.

SD-106

# *Daily Digest*

## **Senate**

### ***Chamber Action***

#### ***Routine Proceedings, pages S5885–S5898***

**Measures Introduced:** Twenty bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 4739–4758, and S. Res. 726. **Pages S5894–95**

#### **Measures Considered:**

**Continuing Appropriations Act and Other Extensions Act—Agreement:** Senate resumed consideration of H.R. 8337, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

**Pages S5889–90, S5891–93**

##### **Pending:**

McConnell Amendment No. 2663, to change the enactment date. **Page S5889**

McConnell Amendment No. 2664, of a perfecting nature. **Page S5889**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 82 yeas to 6 nays (Vote No. 196), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the bill. **Page S5891**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill, post-cloture, at approximately 12 noon, on Wednesday, September 30, 2020; and that all time during the recess of the Senate and Leader remarks count post-cloture on the bill. **Page S5893**

**Healthcare Protections—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 4653, to protect the healthcare of hundreds of millions of people of the United States and

prevent efforts of the Department of Justice to advocate courts to strike down the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

**Pages S5890–93**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of H.R. 8337, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021.

**Page S5890**

**Nomination Received:** Senate received the following nomination:

Amy Coney Barrett, of Indiana, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

**Page S5898**

**Messages from the House:**

**Page S5894**

**Additional Cosponsors:**

**Pages S5895–97**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:**

**Page S5897**

**Amendments Submitted:**

**Page S5898**

**Record Votes:** One record vote was taken today. (Total—196) **Page S5891**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 3 p.m. and recessed at 7:13 p.m., until 12 noon on Wednesday, September 30, 2020. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5893.)

## ***Committee Meetings***

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

No committee meetings were held.

# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 37 public bills, H.R. 8406–8442; and 7 resolutions, H.J. Res. 96–97 and H. Res. 1155–1159 were introduced.

Pages H5051–52

**Additional Cosponsors:**

Pages H5053–55

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 8132, to require the Federal Trade Commission and the Secretary of Commerce to conduct studies and submit reports on the impact of artificial intelligence and other technologies on United States businesses conducting interstate commerce, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 116–539);

H.R. 3539, to amend the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop best practices for the establishment and use of behavioral intervention teams at schools, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–540);

H.R. 1289, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for a moratorium on number reassignment after a disaster declaration, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–541);

H.R. 7293, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide best practices on student suicide awareness and prevention training and condition State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and tribal educational agencies receiving funds under section 520A of such Act to establish and implement a school-based student suicide awareness and prevention training policy, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–542);

H.R. 4861, to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a program to improve the identification, assessment, and treatment of patients in the emergency department who are at risk of suicide, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 116–543);

H.R. 2519, to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Center for Mental Health Services of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, to award grants to implement innovative approaches to securing prompt access to appropriate follow-on care for individuals who experience an acute mental health episode and present for care in an emergency department, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–544);

H.R. 8128, to direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to establish a pilot program to explore the use of artificial intelligence in support of the

consumer product safety mission of the Commission, with amendments (H. Rept. 116–545);

H.R. 7948, to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the collection and availability of health data with respect to Indian Tribes, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–546);

H.R. 5572, to establish a grant program for family community organizations that provide support for individuals struggling with substance use disorder and their families, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–547);

H.R. 5373, to reauthorize the United States Anti-Doping Agency, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–548);

H.R. 4764, to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 116–549);

H.R. 3131, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for research and improvement of cardiovascular health among the South Asian population of the United States, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–550);

H.R. 4439, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to make permanent the authority of the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue priority review vouchers to encourage treatments for rare pediatric diseases, with amendments (H. Rept. 116–551);

H.R. 5469, to address mental health issues for youth, particularly youth of color, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–552);

H.R. 1109, to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend projects relating to children and to provide access to school-based comprehensive mental health programs, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–553);

H.R. 1754, to improve the integrity and safety of horseracing by requiring a uniform anti-doping and medication control program to be developed and enforced by an independent Horseracing Anti-Doping and Medication Control Authority, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–554); and

H.R. 8161, to authorize implementation grants to community-based nonprofits to operate one-stop reentry centers, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–555).

Page H5050

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Cleaver to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H4965

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

**Energy Emergency Leadership Act:** H.R. 362, amended, to amend the Department of Energy Organization Act with respect to functions assigned to Assistant Secretaries; **Pages H4966–68**

**Cyber Sense Act:** H.R. 360, amended, to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a voluntary Cyber Sense program to test the cybersecurity of products and technologies intended for use in the bulk-power system; **Pages H4968–69**

**Enhancing Grid Security through Public-Private Partnerships Act:** H.R. 359, amended, to provide for certain programs and developments in the Department of Energy concerning the cybersecurity and vulnerabilities of, and physical threats to, the electric grid; **Pages H4969–71**

**Preserving Home and Office Numbers in Emergencies Act:** H.R. 1289, amended, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for a moratorium on number reassignment after a disaster declaration; **Pages H4971–73**

**Horseracing Integrity Act:** H.R. 1754, amended, to improve the integrity and safety of horseracing by requiring a uniform anti-doping and medication control program to be developed and enforced by an independent Horseracing Anti-Doping and Medication Control Authority; **Pages H4973–83**

**Consumer Product Safety Inspection Enhancement Act:** H.R. 8134, amended, to support the Consumer Product Safety Commission's capability to protect consumers from unsafe consumer products; **Pages H4983–88**

**AI for Consumer Product Safety Act:** H.R. 8128, amended, to direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to establish a pilot program to explore the use of artificial intelligence in support of the consumer product safety mission of the Commission; **Pages H4988–90**

**Agreed to amend the title so as to read:** “To direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to establish a pilot program to explore the use of artificial intelligence in support of the mission of the Commission and direct the Secretary of Commerce and the Federal Trade Commission to study and report on the use of blockchain technology and digital tokens, respectively.”; **Page H4990**

**American Competitiveness Of a More Productive Emerging Tech Economy Act:** H.R. 8132, amended, to require the Federal Trade Commission and the Secretary of Commerce to conduct studies and submit reports on the impact of artificial intelligence and other technologies on United States businesses conducting interstate commerce; **Pages H4990–96**

**United States Anti-Doping Agency Reauthorization Act:** H.R. 5373, amended, to reauthorize the United States Anti-Doping Agency; **Pages H4998–99**

**EARLY Act Reauthorization:** H.R. 4078, amended, to reauthorize the Young Women's Breast Health Education and Awareness Requires Learning Young Act of 2009; **Pages H4999–H5000**

**Helping Medicaid Offer Maternity Services Act:** H.R. 4996, amended, to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide for a State option under the Medicaid program to provide for and extend continuous coverage for certain individuals; **Pages H5000–03**

**South Asian Heart Health Awareness and Research Act:** H.R. 3131, amended, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for research and improvement of cardiovascular health among the South Asian population of the United States; **Pages H5003–04**

**School-Based Allergies and Asthma Management Program Act:** H.R. 2468, amended, to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the preference given, in awarding certain allergies and asthma-related grants, to States that require certain public schools to have allergies and asthma management programs; **Pages H5004–06**

**School-Based Health Centers Reauthorization Act:** H.R. 2075, amended, to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize school-based health centers; **Pages H5008–10**

**Tribal Health Data Improvement Act of 2020:** H.R. 7948, amended, to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the collection and availability of health data with respect to Indian Tribes; **Pages H5010–12**

**Pursuing Equity in Mental Health Act:** H.R. 5469, amended, to address mental health issues for youth, particularly youth of color; **Pages H5012–14**

**Mental Health Services for Students Act:** H.R. 1109, amended, to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend projects relating to children and to provide access to school-based comprehensive mental health programs; **Pages H5014–16**

**Improving Mental Health Access from the Emergency Department Act:** H.R. 2519, amended, to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Center for Mental Health Services of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, to award grants to implement innovative approaches to securing prompt access to appropriate follow-on care for individuals

who experience an acute mental health episode and present for care in an emergency department;

Pages H5016–17

**Effective Suicide Screening and Assessment in the Emergency Department Act:** H.R. 4861, amended, to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a program to improve the identification, assessment, and treatment of patients in the emergency department who are at risk of suicide; **Pages H5017–19**

**Suicide Training and Awareness Nationally Delivered for Universal Prevention Act of 2020:** H.R. 7293, amended, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide best practices on student suicide awareness and prevention training and condition State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and tribal educational agencies receiving funds under section 520A of such Act to establish and implement a school-based student suicide awareness and prevention training policy; **Pages H5019–21**

**Behavioral Intervention Guidelines Act:** H.R. 3539, amended, to amend the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop best practices for the establishment and use of behavioral intervention teams at schools; **Pages H5021–23**

**Creating Hope Reauthorization Act:** H.R. 4439, amended, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to make permanent the authority of the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue priority review vouchers to encourage treatments for rare pediatric diseases; **Pages H5023–25**

*Agreed to amend the title so as to read:* “To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to extend the authority of the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue priority review vouchers to encourage treatments for rare pediatric diseases.”; **Page H5025**

**Grid Security Research and Development Act:** H.R. 5760, amended, to provide for a comprehensive interdisciplinary research, development, and demonstration initiative to strengthen the capacity of the energy sector to prepare for and withstand cyber and physical attacks; and **Pages H5025–30**

**Reaffirming the House of Representatives' commitment to the orderly and peaceful transfer of power called for in the Constitution of the United States:** H. Res. 1155, reaffirming the House of Representatives' commitment to the orderly and peaceful transfer of power called for in the Constitution of the United States, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 397 yeas to 5 nays, Roll No. 208. **Pages H5030–35, H5037**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 5:42 p.m. and reconvened at 6:25 p.m. **Page H5035**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 7:28 p.m. and reconvened at 7:34 p.m. **Page H5036**

**Question of Privilege:** Representative Gohmert rose to a question of the privileges of the House and submitted a resolution. Upon examination of the resolution, the Chair determined that the resolution qualified. Subsequently, the House agreed to the Clyburn motion to table H. Res. 1148, raising a question of the privileges of the House, by a yea-and-nay vote of 223 yeas to 176 nays, Roll No. 207.

Pages H5035–36

**Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed:** The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

**Timely ReAuthorization of Necessary Stem-cell Programs Lends Access to Needed Therapies Act:** H.R. 4764, amended, to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005; and

Pages H4996–98

**Family Support Services for Addiction Act of 2020:** H.R. 5572, amended, to establish a grant program for family community organizations that provide support for individuals struggling with substance use disorder and their families. **Pages H5006–08**

**Senate Referral:** S. 2693 was held at the desk.

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate today appears on page 5008.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H5036 and H5037.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 12 noon and adjourned at 9:46 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

**LICENSE TO BANK: EXAMINING THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK GOVERNING WHO CAN LEND AND PROCESS PAYMENTS IN THE FINTECH AGE**

**Committee on Financial Services:** Task Force on Financial Technology held a hearing entitled “License to Bank: Examining the Legal Framework Governing Who Can Lend and Process Payments in the Fintech Age”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

**Committee on the Judiciary:** Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 7370, the “Protecting Employees and Retirees in Business Bankruptcies Act of 2020”; H.R. 2648, the “Student Borrower Bankruptcy Relief Act of 2019”; H.R. 8366, the “Protecting Homeowners in Bankruptcy Act of 2020”; and H.R. 8354, the “Servicemembers and Veterans Initiative Act of 2020”. H.R. 7370, H.R. 2648, and H.R.

8366 were ordered reported, as amended. H.R. 8354 was ordered reported, without amendment.

### POLICE CAMERAS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR: INCONSISTENCIES, FAILURES, AND CONSEQUENCES

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Police Cameras at the Department of the Interior: Inconsistencies, Failures, and Consequences”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### CONFRONTING VIOLENT WHITE SUPREMACY (PART IV): WHITE SUPREMACY IN BLUE—THE INFILTRATION OF LOCAL POLICE DEPARTMENTS

*Committee on Oversight and Reform:* Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties held a hearing entitled “Confronting Violent White Supremacy (Part IV): White Supremacy in Blue—The Infiltration of Local Police Departments”. Testimony was heard from Mark Napier, Sheriff, Pima County, Arizona; and public witnesses.

### Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

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### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

#### Senate

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* to hold hearings to examine NASA missions and programs, focusing on update and future plans, 10 a.m., SR-253.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* business meeting to consider the nomination of Chad F. Wolf, of Virginia, to be Secretary of Homeland Security, 10 a.m., SD-342.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Crossfire Hurricane Investigation, 10 a.m., SD-G50.

#### House

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled “Indian Country COVID-19 Response and Update”, 1 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

*Committee on Armed Services:* Full Committee, hearing entitled ‘U.S. Defense Posture Changes in the European Theater’, 12 p.m., CVC-200 and Webex.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Pathway to a Vaccine: Ensuring a Safe and Effective Vaccine People Will Trust”, 11:30 a.m., Webex.

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International

Organizations, hearing entitled “Democratic Backsliding in Sub-Saharan Africa”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Subcommittee on Border Security Facilitation, and Operations, hearing entitled “Examining DHS’ Management of Trusted Traveler Programs”, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon and Webex.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Full Committee, hearing entitled “Copyright and the Internet in 2020: Reactions to the Copyright Office’s Report on the Efficacy of 17 U.S.C. § 512 After Two Decades”, 12 p.m., 2141 Rayburn and Webex.

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Full Committee, markup on H.R. 244, the “Advancing Conservation and Education Act”; H.R. 733, the “Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Reservation Restoration Act”; H.R. 970, the “Robert E. Lee Statue Removal Act”; H.R. 1248 the “York River Wild and Scenic River Act of 2019”; H.R. 1964, the “Lumbee Recognition Act”; H.R. 3225, the “Restoring Community Input and Public Protections in Oil and Gas Leasing Act of 2019”; H.R. 3651, to facilitate the use of certain land in Nebraska for public outdoor recreational opportunities, and for other purposes; H.R. 4135, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to remove the statue to the memory and in honor of Albert Pike erected near Judiciary Square in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; H.R. 4139, to provide for the boundary of the Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Park to be adjusted, to authorize the donation of land to the United States for addition to that historic park, and for other purposes; H.R. 4840, the “Casa Grande Ruins National Monument Boundary Modification Act of 2019”; H.R. 5153, the “Indian Buffalo Management Act”; H.R. 5458, the “Rocky Mountain National Park Boundary Modification Act”; H.R. 5459, the “Rocky Mountain National Park Ownership Correction Act”; H.R. 5472, the “Jimmy Carter National Historical Park Redesignation Act”; H.R. 5598, the “Boundary Waters Wilderness Protection and Pollution Prevention Act”; H.R. 5852, the “Weir Farm National Historical Park Redesignation Act”; H.R. 7098, the “Saguaro National Park Boundary Expansion and Study Act of 2020”; H.R. 7099, to provide for the conveyance of a small parcel of Coconino National Forest land in the State of Arizona; and S. 212, the “Indian Community Economic Enhancement Act of 2019”, 12 p.m., Webex.

*Committee on Oversight and Reform:* Full Committee, hearing entitled “Unsustainable Drug Prices: Testimony from the CEOs”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn and Webex.

*Committee on Rules:* Full Committee, hearing on Senate Amendments to H.R. 925, the “America’s Conservation Enhancement Act” [The Heroes Act], 9 a.m., Webex.

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:* Subcommittee on Environment, hearing entitled “Coping with Compound Crises: Extreme Weather, Social Injustice, and a Global Pandemic”, 11:30 a.m., Webex.

*Committee on Small Business:* Full Committee, hearing entitled “How COVID-19 is Impacting Small Businesses Across the Food System”, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn and Webex.

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure*, Full Committee, markup on legislation on the Aircraft Certification Reform and Accountability Act; H.R. 8266, the “FEMA Assistance Relief Act of 2020”; H.R. 4358, the “Preliminary Damage Assessment Improvement Act of 2019”; H.R. 8326, the “CED Act”; H.R. 4611, the “Ocean Pollution Reduction Act II”; H.R. 7705, the “River Basin Commission Transfer Act”; H.R. 5919, the “National Children’s Museum Act”; and General Service Administration’s Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Webex.

*Committee on Veterans’ Affairs*, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “MISSION Critical: Assessing Community Care Wait Times”, 10 a.m., HVC-210 and Webex.

Subcommittee on Technology Modernization, hearing entitled “Examining VA’s Ongoing Efforts in the Electronic Health Record Modernization Program”, 2:30 p.m., HVC-210 and Webex.

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence*, Full Committee, business meeting on approval of the China Deep Dive Report and the STAR Emerging Technologies Report, 10 a.m., HVC-304. This meeting is closed.

## CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of September 30 through October 2, 2020

### Senate Chamber

On Wednesday, Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 8337, Continuing Appropriations Act and Other Extensions Act, post-cloture, and vote on passage of the bill at a time to be determined.

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 Armed Services*: October 1, Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, to hold hearings to examine supply chain integrity, 9:15 a.m., SD-G50.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation*: September 30, to hold hearings to examine NASA missions and programs, focusing on update and future plans, 10 a.m., SR-253.

October 1, Full Committee, business meeting to consider an authorization to subpoena the attendance of a witness for purpose of a hearing to Jack Dorsey, Chief Executive Officer, Twitter; an authorization to subpoena the attendance of a witness for purpose of a hearing to Sundar Pichai, Chief Executive Officer, Alphabet Inc., Google; and an authorization to subpoena the attendance of a witness for purpose of a hearing to Mark Zuckerberg, Chief Executive Officer, Facebook, 10 a.m., SD-106.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs*: September 30, business meeting to consider the nomination of Chad F. Wolf, of Virginia, to be Secretary of Homeland Security, 10 a.m., SD-342.

*Committee on the Judiciary*: September 30, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Crossfire Hurricane Investigation, 10 a.m., SD-G50.

October 1, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 4632, to amend title 17, United States Code, to establish an alternative dispute resolution program for copyright small claims, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to modify the scope of protection from civil liability for “good Samaritan” blocking and screening of offensive material, and the nominations of Benjamin Joel Beaton, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Kentucky, Kristi Haskins Johnson, and Taylor B. McNeel, both to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of Mississippi, Kathryn Kimball Mizelle, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, and Thompson Michael Dietz, of New Jersey, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, 10 a.m., SR-325.

### House Committees

*Committee on Agriculture*, October 1, Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry, hearing entitled “Challenges and Successes of Conservation Programs in 2020”, 10 a.m., CVC Auditorium and Webex.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce*, October 1, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled “Generating Equity: Improving Clean Energy Access and Affordability”, 10 a.m., Webex.

*Committee on Foreign Affairs*, October 1, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 6986, the “Protecting Human Rights During Pandemic Act”; H.R. 7990, the “FENTANYL Results Act”; H.R. 7673, the “Represent America Abroad Act”; H. Res. 1012, recognizing the 70th anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean war and the transformation of the United States—Korea alliance into a mutually beneficial, global partnership; H. Res. 697, recognizing the significance of the genuine autonomy of Tibet and the Tibetan people and the work His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama has done to promote global peace, harmony, and understanding; H. Res. 1100, reaffirming the strategic partnership between the United States and Mongolia and observing the 30th anniversary of democracy in Mongolia; H. Res. 751, reaffirming the partnership between the United States and the African Union and recognizing the importance of diplomatic, security, and trade relations; H. Res. 1077, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives on the continued importance of the United States—Lebanon relationship; legislation on the Department of State Student Internship Program Act; H. Res. 672, expressing support of the Three Seas Initiative in its efforts to increase energy independence and infrastructure connectivity thereby strengthening the United States and European national security; H. Res. 17, expressing concern over the detention of Austin Tice, and for other purposes; H.R. 4507, the “Protection of Saudi Dissidents Act”; H. Res. 823, 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; H. Res. 996, expressing the sense of Congress that the activities of Russian national Yevgeniy Prigozhin and his affiliated entities pose a threat to the national interests and security of the United States and of its allies and partners; H. Res. 958, condemning the practice of politically

motivated imprisonment and calling for the immediate release of political prisoners in the Russian Federation and urging action by the United States Government to impose sanctions with respect to persons responsible for that form of human rights abuse; legislation on the Hong Kong People's Freedom and Choice Act of 2020; H.R. 8405, the "American Values and Security in International Athletics Act"; H.R. 8259, to prohibit Russian participation in the G7, and for other purposes; H. Res. 825, recognizing the importance of entry into force of the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT); H.R. 4636, the "Partnering and Leveraging Assistance to Stop Trash for International Cleaner Seas Act"; H. Res. 1121, urging the Government of Burma to hold free, fair, inclusive, transparent, participatory, and credible elections on November 8, 2020; H. Res. 1115, calling for the immediate release of Trevor Reed, a United States citizen who was unjustly sentenced to 9 years in a Russian prison; H. Res. 768, calling on African governments to protect and promote human rights through internet freedom and digital integration for all citizens across the continent of Africa; H. Res. 1150, urging the Government of Côte d'Ivoire, opposition leaders, and all citizens to respect democratic principles, refrain from violence, and hold free, fair, transparent, and peaceful elections in October 2020; H. Res. 1145, condemning the poisoning of Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny and calling for a robust United States and international response; H.R. 4326, the "Sex Trafficking Demand Reduction Act"; H.R. 7954, the "Tropical Forest and Coral Reef Conservation Reauthorization Act of 2020"; and legislation to reauthorize the Belarus Democracy Act of 2004, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.

October 2, Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and Nonproliferation; and Subcommittee on Intelligence and Emerging Threats and Capabilities of the House Committee on Armed Services, joint hearing entitled "Strengthening Biological Security: Traditional Threats

and Emerging Challenges", 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.

*Committee on the Judiciary*, October 1, Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law, hearing entitled "Proposals to Strengthen the Antitrust Laws and Restore Competition Online", 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn and Webex.

*Committee on Natural Resources*, October 1, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 5986, the "Environmental Justice for All Act", 12 p.m., Webex.

*Committee on Oversight and Reform*, October 1, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Unsustainable Drug Prices: Testimony from the CEOs, Part II", 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn and Webex.

October 2, Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis, hearing entitled "Hybrid Hearing with Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex M. Azar II", 9 a.m., 2154 Rayburn and Webex.

*Committee on Rules*, October 1, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Members' Day Hearing on Proposed Rules Changes for the 117th Congress" [Original Jurisdiction Hearing], 1 p.m., Webex.

*Committee on Small Business*, October 1, Subcommittee on Investigations, Oversight, and Regulations, hearing entitled "Preventing Fraud and Abuse of PPP and EIDL: An Update with the SBA Office of Inspector General and Government Accountability Office", 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn and Webex.

*Select Committee on the Climate Crisis*, October 1, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Creating a Climate Resilient America: Strengthening the U.S. Financial System and Expanding Economic Opportunity", 1:30 p.m., Webex.

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence*, October 2, Full Committee, hearing entitled "DHS Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis Joseph B. Maher", 10 a.m., CVC Auditorium and HVC-304 Hearing Room. This hearing is closed.

## Next Meeting of the SENATE

12 noon, Wednesday, September 30

## Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Wednesday, September 30

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Wednesday:** Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 8337, Continuing Appropriations Act and Other Extensions Act, post-cloture, and vote on passage of the bill at a time to be determined.

## House Chamber

**Program for Wednesday:** Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

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