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No. 218

House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Lord of all creation, thank You for giving us another day.

We come before You again, O Lord, to implore Your blessing upon a nation seeing continually high rates of infection with COVID-19. Our hospitals are near breaking point in the availability of beds for those who are stricken.

Thank You again for those men and women of science who have developed the vaccines now beginning to be distributed. This is a great sign of hope in the midst of so much suffering and fear. Lord, have mercy.

Bless the Members of this House, and of the Senate, as the omnibus and the coronavirus relief bills are presented and considered today. Give them wisdom and generosity; increase their trust that Your people in this Nation will use the assistance coming their way to fuel a struggling economy.

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

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. JACKSON LEE 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.

COVID VACCINE

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I join in the prayer of the Chaplain this morning. I believe it is important to open this day of lifesaving relief with a prayer to ask that our Congress comes together and stands in the face with help on the way to dying Americans from COVID-19, the families of those who have died and those who are on the front lines fighting against this virus.

It is important that we help our schoolchildren with educational dollars and, as well, make sure that the vaccines are going as fast as they can to the sites across America.

I spoke to hospitals in my district, smaller hospitals and community hospitals that are still waiting for their vaccine. We know that they want their frontline medical professionals to keep saving and serving the public.

So this is going to be a historic and important day. We know it is not what we want in complete, but we know we will be working into the new year to be able to respond to the needs of the American people helping our local governments and, as well, making sure that those children who will be returning to school and those teachers, as well, will be protected after they have the opportunity—the teachers, in particular—to have the vaccine. This is a historic day. Let us work together.

RELIEF FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

(Ms. PELOSI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I associate myself with your comments and those of our Chaplain, Father Conroy, that it is appropriate to start today with a prayer, and every day, but especially a day when we are seeing over

300,000—and the number getting higher—Americans who are dying from the coronavirus.

We have hope because there is a vaccine. We have hope because we have a President who recognizes science and, again, the need for us to distribute the vaccine in the most equitable, fair, and free way. By that President, I mean one who will take office 1 month from now, Joe Biden.

I do want to speak to the bill that will be on the floor shortly. It is a good, bipartisan bill. As different from bills that had been proposed on the Senate side by the Republican leader, it does things that his bill never did, and that is that it addresses the food needs of the American people. Maybe 15 million children are food insecure in our country, and adults as well.

Millions of families are on the verge of eviction, and this legislation addresses the rental needs and the short-term moratorium. We can accept a short-term because we will have a new President during the length of that moratorium to extend it further if necessary.

We also have in the legislation direct payments, which were not in the Republican bill, to America's working families. I would like them to have been bigger, but they are significant, and they will be going out soon.

The President may insist on having his name on the check, but make no mistake, those checks are from the American people. The American people's name should be on that check, no individual, because that is the source of the resources for those checks—tax-paying Americans.

In addition to that, the list goes on of some of the very positive things that are on the bill—quite frankly, some of them did not come to agreement until yesterday—whether we are talking about WRDA, the Water Resources Development Act; a big jobs bill had bipartisan support but some disagreement over language, but by the time

□ 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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that was resolved, it pushed the bill from coming to the floor later.

We didn't have, at the start of the day, sick leave. That is in the bill, almost \$2 billion for sick leave.

It didn't have the EITC, the earned income tax credit, for working poor people to have that boost, as well as the child tax credit. It did not have the employment retention tax credit—bipartisan support on WRDA and on that.

Then we came to agreement not only on the language, but where that initiative would be placed in that. So many of these things need to be precisely written and assembled in order for a bill to come to the floor, which we anticipate will be pretty soon this morning.

One of the things, though, that is disappointing because, for a long time now, House Democrats and the Senate have been saying we want to crush the virus and put money in the pockets of the American people. The title of our bill before was about honoring our heroes, our State and local workers who are on the front line.

We talk about those on the front lines who are our heroes. They are necessary in meeting and crushing this virus. We are talking about healthcare workers in cities, counties, and States. We are talking about first responders, police and fire, some who are the first on the scene to help someone with the coronavirus.

We are talking about our teachers, our teachers, our teachers, who are the custodians of our children for a large part of the day. We are talking about our transportation, sanitation, and food workers and those who make our lives possible.

I think it would be interesting to point out that, as enthusiastic as we are about the PPP provisions in this bill, and we all support them in a bipartisan way, it is important to note that small businesses—I always say there is nothing more optimistic than starting a small business, maybe getting married—but the optimism, the hope, and the dream that people have is completely, shall we say, darkened by the assault of this virus, and that is why we had to start by crushing the virus.

We couldn't pass legislation until now because the administration simply did not believe in testing, tracing, treatment, wearing masks, sanitation, separation, and the rest—the scientific approach. It has become clear to us now that they believed in herd immunity, a quackery springing right from the Oval Office and not denied sufficiently by some in the CDC and the rest.

Now we have a vaccine, and that gives us hope, a vaccine that springs from science.

People say around here sometimes: I am faith oriented, so I don't believe in science.

I say: Well, you can do both. Science is an answer to our prayers, and our prayers have been answered with a vaccine.

In this legislation, we have a provision for it to be developed, purchased, and distributed in a way, again, that is fair, equitable, and free.

What we couldn't get ever—even with the previous legislation just on top, testing, et cetera—was the adequate language to recognize that this coronavirus has taken a horrible toll on our whole country, more so among people of color. People of color have died from the coronavirus.

A child who was Hispanic had eight times more of a chance of going to the hospital with the coronavirus than a White child. If you are African American, there is five times more of a chance of going to the hospital because of the coronavirus. So now we have a vaccine we hope will reach everyone as soon as possible.

One item that I am heartbroken about in this bill, though, is that, while we make an attempt to crush the virus, we don't do it adequately enough in terms of recognizing the toll on people of color; but we will have to do that in the public sentiment of it, in the demand that we make on Governors and others who are in charge of the distribution.

We put money in the pockets of the American people. We want to do more, but, nonetheless, we are meeting the deadline of December 26 for unemployment insurance, which was vital.

But the third thing, honoring our heroes, as I said earlier, healthcare workers, our first responders, police and fire, sanitation, transportation, food workers, teachers, teachers, teachers, we just decided that, while they are on the front line, while they are risking their lives to save lives—many of the healthcare workers, the police and fire, et cetera, many of them have lost their jobs. Many of them have already lost their lives. Many have lost their jobs.

So why is it that this Congress and this White House refuses to recognize the value, the contribution, and the sacrifice of our, again, heroes, our people on the front line?

It is interesting, I think, to note that, when we passed a number of bills in a bipartisan way—and we will pass this one today—in the course of that, with the CARES Act and the followup on the PPP bill and this bill now, we are approaching \$1 trillion that we are putting out for PPP.

□ 0915

If that is what is needed and is spent effectively, that is a worthy expenditure. Almost \$1 trillion—well over \$750,000. This bill alone, over \$300 billion. So we have PPP.

Now, in order for the private sector to function, in order for us to live our lives, we need to have the public sector: public transportation, public schools, public health, the list goes on.

So it is not about public/private. It is about people, people who are doing their jobs, again, risking their lives to save lives and lose their life and may lose their jobs. Many have lost their

lives. Many more, of course, have lost their jobs.

Madam Speaker, we have approaching \$1 trillion for the PPP; small business, which I support all the way; and \$150 billion or \$160 billion for State and local government, which enables the private sector to function, which enables us to crush the virus, which enables us to meet the needs of people.

Madam Speaker, \$150 billion to \$160 billion versus well over \$800 billion already. How could that be right? Except the Republicans insist on saying: We don't want to give money to blue States where the coronavirus is.

It is in red States, too. It knows no borders and it knows no party, this vicious virus. But somehow, other Republicans have said to our heroes, our healthcare workers, our teachers, our transportation, our police and fire, and the rest—sanitation workers, so important; food, food, food—you are not worthy of support because perhaps you are in a blue State, predominantly, and, therefore, we undervalue your contribution to our society, to our economy, and especially now, as we try to minister to the needs of people in this coronavirus crisis.

How do you think these vaccines come into a State? They go from a lab to your arm magically? No. They have to be received, distributed, administered, and done so fairly, equitably, and free.

Who do you think is going to do those jobs if you don't respect the role of State and local government in all of this? But don't think of it as government. Think of it as people. Think of it as yourself needing all of that.

So I would hope that, as we see the need for what we have done in this nearly \$900 billion legislation that we will vote on today, that everyone understands it is a first step. It is the first step, as President-elect Biden has said. It is the first step. And we will need to do more to get more virus assistance to crush the virus, but also more money to buy more vaccines.

We need to have the Defense Production Act in play to hasten the manufacture of these vaccines, and we need to be able, as I said, to get the job done, and that takes people.

People need to be respected. Their worth needs to be valued, and the entities under whose auspices they work, public hospitals, all the rest, and education, so important.

And yet, many of our teachers have lost their jobs. We need more teachers because we need more space to separate, to, again, protect our children.

We have always said, if we want the economy to open up and we want our schools to open up, you must crush the virus, at least take the precautions so that people are not in jeopardy if they go to work or when they go to school.

Schools should be the safest places in America for our children, and they can be if science is respected and the mask-wearing, distancing, and the rest. But you need more space; you need better

ventilation, as BOBBY SCOTT tells us over and over; and we need more teachers.

This is a big mistake. The Republicans said you can get a small amount, not even approaching in any way, the PPP—again, no resentment there; we support that. But the recognition that that is important should also recognize that the sector of our economy that supports the private sector be recognized.

So, on that score, you come to a situation where, how could it be that we only have \$160 billion for State and local, where we have approaching \$1 trillion dollars for PPP, not recognizing that the private sector is connected to the public sector?

Now, one more point on that.

They said: You can have some money for State and local—we will decide how it will be distributed—if you do surrender the rights of workers.

In other words, just in case anybody doesn't know, there are essential workers who are required to go to work. If they don't because they are concerned about danger to their health and the health of their families because the workplace is not safe, they cannot go on unemployment insurance. And if they go to work and contract the virus, they have no recourse, because that is the way the Republicans want it.

That is the way the Republicans want it: antiworker.

Madam Speaker, just for good measure, they have thrown in certain aspects of the Civil Rights Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, OSHA—the list goes on—in section 42 of their heinous liability bill of all of the actions that cannot be taken.

And I asked one of the Republican Senators: What does preventing the ADA, American with Disabilities Act, to honor its responsibility?

They said: Why not have the Chamber of Commerce call you and tell you.

I said: Why don't you not waste my time or the Chambers' time about why the ADA should not be enforced because of the virus?

This is coronavirus-centric. We said that we can find a compromise on liability for the time of the virus and in a way that is fair to those employers who want to protect their workers and to the workers. They decided they would turn it into some massive, long-term, ever-encompassing liability—just so wrong to work with. That is not what our system is about.

But, nonetheless, I still thought we could try to find a compromise. We couldn't. They were absolute: Just call the Chamber of Commerce. They will tell you why they can't meet the needs of their workers.

Madam Speaker, heading back to the money, nearly \$1 trillion PPP.

\$160 billion—and not even giving the States and localities the flexibility to use the funds for both addressing the COVID needs, the health needs, but also the revenue lost. Even the Repub-

lican Governors wanted that flexibility, but they wouldn't give it to us then, and they wouldn't give it to us now for fear that some blue State Governor or city or mayor or county executive might take advantage of that.

We have never done enough for localities. That is a pitch we have made. That is what we have in the Heroes Act. But there was no market for that on the Republican side of the aisle.

So when we say it is a first step, that is basic. Let us thank God CHUCK SCHUMER was able to dismantle, in part, the Toomey resolution that would tie the hands of a President to meet the needs of the American people and our economy by exercising section 13(3) of the Federal Reserve Board.

Madam Speaker, we got past that, which took a long time. I felt Wednesday night we were finished. This monstrosity reared his head the next morning. Leader SCHUMER effectively was able to fix it—it still should not even have been initiated, but, nonetheless, fix it—in a way that enabled us to go forward. And that is why it has taken this long to get here in these last few days.

Madam Speaker, again, I look forward to NITA LOWEY bringing the legislation to the floor. As the chair of the Committee on Appropriations, this will be her last bill on the floor. In fact, it is the last bill for many of us here, but hers as chair of the Committee on Appropriations. She and her staff—Shalanda and Chris and so many others—and all of our chairs did such a remarkable job, and their staffs deserve so much credit for all of this.

Again, we will do some good with this legislation, but we must recognize that more needs to be done to crush the virus, to put more money in the pockets of the American people—from the American people to the American people—and, again, to fill in the gap that has been purposefully left to honor our heroes with all that.

As we review policy and legislation and negotiation and all that, just always have in our hearts every single one of the people who have died from the coronavirus. It can be stopped. It can be crushed. But that is a decision, it is a decision, and a decision to recognize where it is hurting people the most.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to a strong bipartisan vote today on this legislation, respecting it for what it does, not judging it for what it does not, but recognizing that more needs to be done.

Again, with high praise for all of our chairs, and, again, special recognition of Madam Chair NITA LOWEY for her last bill on the floor, again, I say congratulations to all the staff who worked so hard.

But it all comes back to families who lost their loved ones, those millions and millions of people who were infected, some more seriously than others. We don't know the after-effects it may have, but we do know that we have hope.

We have a vaccine, and we have a President coming into office who believes in science and cares about people and values the work that our first responders and our healthcare workers, et cetera, do for us.

Madam Chair, prayerfully, as you and our chaplain began, prayerfully, I close my remarks, assuring, for whatever it is worth, that many of us who serve in this body and represent the American people have had a death in the family, because so many people have lost their loved ones, whom we have all lost.

CORONAVIRUS RELIEF AID

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

Mr. SUOZZI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of our bipartisan legislation to both fund the government and for the COVID relief package. As Speaker PELOSI just noted, this bill is far from perfect, but we can't let the perfect be the enemy of the good.

Madam Speaker, today, is the darkest day of the year. It is a fitting symbol of the misery and suffering that so many people are facing in our country right now. The effects of this pandemic have been cruelly uneven.

Some people have remained relatively unscathed. Some people can work remotely, still have their jobs, no one around them has gotten sick or died within their immediate circle, while others are awash in misery: unable to return to work, unable to pay their rent, to pay their utilities; people around them have gotten sick.

People have lost their lifesavings in their small business, and many hundreds of thousands have died, including my 92-year-old father-in-law, who, in April, was diagnosed with the coronavirus and died within 48 hours.

Today's relief package—and that is what it is relief—will provide much-needed help for millions of Americans.

So while today is the darkest day of the year, every day will get a little brighter, and spring will surely follow our dark winter. But we must remember that, while spring is on its way, there is so much more that needs to be done.

Our State and local governments must have relief from their massive loss of revenues. Without our help, police officers, teachers, and other heroes on the front line will face layoffs.

Madam Speaker, we need to continue today's spirit of bipartisanship.

□ 0930

IN SUPPORT OF COVID RELIEF MEASURE

(Ms. LEE of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this desperately needed omnibus measure.

The COVID-19 pandemic is devastating our communities, especially, disproportionately, African-American, Latinx, Asian-American, and Indigenous people, who are suffering the worst of this pandemic. Eight million people have slipped into poverty since the start of this pandemic, and one in four adults are suffering from hunger during COVID-19.

I am pleased that we were able to come to this agreement.

I want to thank our Speaker, NANCY PELOSI, who has worked day and night for what some of us are calling a survival package. It is a lifeline payment until we can do something and do justice by the American people.

I also want to just thank Chairman PALLONE, Congresswoman DELAURO, Chairwoman NITA LOWEY, and all of our staffs for the amazing work that they have done to put in so many of our priorities on a wide range of issues.

This bill sets aside \$2.8 billion to ensure that minority communities hit hardest by COVID get the testing and vaccine support they need.

I look forward to working with my Tri-Caucus and Native American colleagues to see that this funding is used to engage local community organizations and trusted messengers in the community so people can get the information that they need to keep themselves and their families safe.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. JACKSON LEE) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 20, 2020.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 20, 2020, at 12:54 p.m.:

That the Senate agrees to the House amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 52.

That the Senate agrees to the House amendments to the bill S. 2174.

That the Senate passed S. 2353.

That the Senate passed S. 2800.

That the Senate passed S. 4079.

That the Senate passed S. 4222.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1966.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5023.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 6237.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 8906.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following commu-

nication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 20, 2020.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 20, 2020, at 2:30 p.m.:

That the Senate agrees to the House amendments to the bill S. 1694.

That the Senate agrees to the House amendment to the bill S. 2683.

That the Senate agrees to the House amendment to the bill S. 3989.

That the Senate passed S. 2204.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5459.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 7898.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 20, 2020.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 20, 2020, at 9:55 p.m.:

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H.J. Res. 110.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

GLORIA J. LETT,
Deputy Clerk.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled joint resolution was signed by the Speaker on Sunday, December 20, 2020:

H.J. Res. 110, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes.

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 9 o'clock and 35 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1604

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro

tempore (Ms. JACKSON LEE) at 4 o'clock and 4 minutes p.m.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SERGEANT AT ARMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE SERGEANT AT ARMS,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 21, 2020.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I, Paul D. Irving, have been served with a subpoena for testimony issued by the Queen Anne's County Circuit Court.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is not consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

PAUL D. IRVING,
Sergeant at Arms.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 133, UNITED STATES-MEXICO ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP ACT; PROVIDING FOR DISPOSITION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1520, PURPLE BOOK CONTINUITY ACT OF 2019; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Ms. SHALALA, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116-679) on the resolution (H. Res. 1271) providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 133) to promote economic partnership and cooperation between the United States and Mexico; providing for disposition of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 1520) to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the publication of a list of licensed biological products, and for other purposes; and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 133, UNITED STATES-MEXICO ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP ACT; PROVIDING FOR DISPOSITION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1520, PURPLE BOOK CONTINUITY ACT OF 2019; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1271 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1271

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 133) to promote economic partnership and cooperation between the United States and Mexico, with

the Senate amendment thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order, a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or her designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment with an amendment consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 116-68. The Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. The motion shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion. The question of adoption of the motion shall be divided for a separate vote on the matter proposed to be inserted as divisions B, C, E, and F, and the Chair shall first put the question on such portion of the divided question. If either portion of the divided question fails of adoption, then the motion shall immediately be considered to have failed of adoption.

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall be considered to have taken from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 1520) to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the publication of a list of licensed biological products, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto, and to have concurred in the Senate amendment with an amendment consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 116-69.

SEC. 3. The Clerk shall be authorized to make necessary technical and conforming changes in the engrossment of the House amendments specified in the first two sections of this resolution, to include corrections in spelling, punctuation, section numbering, and cross-references.

SEC. 4. If a veto message is laid before the House on H.R. 6395, then after the message is read and the objections of the President are spread at large upon the Journal, further consideration of the veto message and the bill shall be postponed until the legislative day of Monday, December 28, 2020; and on that legislative day, the House shall proceed to the constitutional question of reconsideration and dispose of such question without intervening motion.

SEC. 5. The chair of the Committee on Appropriations and the chair of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence may insert in the Congressional Record not later than December 28, 2020, such material as they may deem explanatory of the Senate amendment and the motion specified in the first section of this resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. SHALALA) is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, today the Rules Committee met and reported a rule, House Resolution 1271,

providing for a motion to concur with the Senate amendment to H.R. 133 with a House amendment.

The rule provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. It provides that the question on adoption of the motion shall be divided for a separate vote on the matter proposed to be inserted as divisions B, C, E, and F.

The rule provides that upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall be considered to have concurred in the Senate amendment to H.R. 1520 with a House amendment. The rule also provides that the chairs of the Committee on Appropriations and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence may insert explanatory materials in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD not later than December 28 and authorizes the Clerk to make technical corrections to the bill.

Finally, the rule allows for consideration of a possible veto message on the conference report to H.R. 6395 on December 28, 2020.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of the bill in this rule. This COVID bill has taken far too long. We started these negotiations before the first day of summer in June, the longest day of the year, and here we are now headed into the darkest day of the year, the first day of winter.

I also want to acknowledge the hard work of our Appropriations chair, NITA LOWEY, and Ranking Member GRANGER.

But this didn't have to happen. The pain that has been inflicted on the American people did not come just from the novel virus that has spread like wildfire across this Nation, but also from the elected leaders sent to Washington to help people and to help this great Nation.

Our failure to reach an agreement until today only added fuel to this wildfire. It meant that not only did people get the coronavirus, but when they did, their families often went hungry, their bills went unpaid, and they faced possible eviction or foreclosure.

Madam Speaker, for 8 years, I worked in the Hubert H. Humphrey Building not very far from here. Inscribed in the lobby of that building is a quote from Hubert Humphrey: "The moral test of government is how the government treats those who are in the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the elderly; and those who are in the shadows of life, the sick, the needy, and the handicapped."

Madam Speaker, we have failed that moral test. We have no right to make children go hungry in this country.

While this bill will certainly bring us closer to passing that moral test, it is too late for too many people, and it will be too little for others. Nonetheless, we should pass this bill immediately.

There are a number of things that I am pleased to see included in this bill: a long-fought and negotiated bipartisan and bicameral compromise to

protect patients by ending surprise billing; multiple-year funding for community health centers, the backbone of our Nation's primary care system for the most vulnerable; and an added boost in weekly unemployment benefits and relief checks for people who have been waiting for months for help.

There will be more than \$300 billion for small businesses and money to help schools, for hospitals, and for vaccine distribution. It will also provide food assistance to hungry children and their families.

This package will be bigger than the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. It is the biggest package we have passed since the CARES Act in March.

□ 1615

But there is still more to do. I hope when the 117th Congress convenes in January, that they will not forget the American people who will still be suffering and will need more. I hope that they will remember the people in my district, a district heavily dependent on travel, on tourism, and the service economy.

Madam Speaker, I hope that the families in my community in Miami, which have been devastated by the last 9 months—and so much more must be done to help them.

But, today, we must pass this bill. It is time to be done with this, and we can wait not a moment longer.

Simply put, with this bill, we are attempting to right our moral compass and fulfill our obligation to those suffering across our country and to help guide us out of this dark winter.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. SHALALA), my good friend, for yielding me the customary 30 minutes.

Madam Speaker, we are here today to consider a rule that provides for consideration of a package of items that are of great importance to the country.

The House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 133 includes not only a bipartisan omnibus appropriations bill covering the remainder of fiscal year 2021, but also a \$900 billion bipartisan pandemic relief package to provide help to millions of Americans who have suffered as a result of the pandemic.

It also includes a bipartisan compromise addressing surprise medical bills, something that has been a priority for both parties.

Finally, it includes a number of end-of-the-year tax and healthcare-related extenders that are critical to those they serve, especially during a pandemic.

While I know that we are all thrilled to be here today to bring these items to the floor, I am frustrated that it has taken this long to reach this deal, and I know the American people share that frustration.

The reality is that we could have had this deal months ago on a pandemic relief package, and we could have had this deal. Individual components could have been passed across the floor in July of this year. Instead, Americans were left to suffer. All the while, jobs were being lost and businesses being closed; all the while, small businesses across the country were forced to make difficult decisions about which employees to keep and which staff to let go; all the while, a deal was available here in Congress that could have extended unemployment insurance and extended the Paycheck Protection Program, a program which Democrats in the House rejected extending 41 times.

These two key backstops could have helped millions of Americans. Instead, Democrats chose to play politics and chose not to take yes for an answer. But now that the election is over and the end of the year is at hand, suddenly there is room for a deal, a very bipartisan deal that was on the table all along and that could have been passed into law months ago.

Madam Speaker, for today, we will look past that. Though this overall bill is massive, I think it is easiest to digest if you consider it in three separate sections:

Section 1 is the bipartisan, bicameral omnibus appropriations bill, which will include our appropriations work for fiscal year 2021. The appropriations process works best when it is bipartisan, and with today's bill, we have accomplished that end.

Once we step past the partisanship, we are able to work together and reach a deal that will fully fund the government for the fiscal year. Our constituents deserve no less.

Madam Speaker, the deal before us covers all 12 spending bills and it ensures that taxpayer dollars will go where they are needed most. In particular, I am pleased that this bill includes key provisions supporting our response to the pandemic, like \$20 billion for coronavirus vaccines, an increase in funding for the National Institutes of Health, and a further \$3 billion to rebuild the Strategic National Stockpile of medical supplies and personal protective equipment. It fully funds our defense needs and ensures a 3 percent pay raise for all military personnel. It continues to fund needed improvements for border security. And, perhaps most importantly, it maintains all pro-life protections, as has been the case in previous years. And the harmful, partisan riders that appeared in Democratic partisan appropriations bills from earlier this year have been removed.

Madam Speaker, I think it is worth noting that this bill came about as a result of regular order. The Committee on Appropriations produced each of the 12 appropriations bills from a regular committee process. Members were given the opportunity to amend, question, and fully examine most of the bills on the floor, and the House and

Senate met together to conference the bills into a final product. This demonstrates how powerful and effective regular order can be.

Madam Speaker, the second piece of this bill is the \$900 billion pandemic relief package. For all of 2020, Americans—and indeed the world—have lived under the specter of this pandemic. It has touched every American's life in some way or another, but many Americans have been hit harder than others.

Millions have caught this disease, and hundreds of thousands have died. Millions more have lost their jobs, and millions have seen their wages or earnings cut. This has been a crisis that touches us on so many levels. A health crisis is bad enough, but adding an economic crisis on top of it makes this year the toughest that many of us can remember.

The coronavirus relief package before us will do several things to ease the burden on all Americans. It will extend the Paycheck Protection Program and will ensure that many small businesses will be able to keep their employees on the payroll. It will extend expanded unemployment insurance, thus providing more funds to unemployed workers to help make them closer to whole. And it will provide economic impact payments of \$600 to almost every American, except those with high incomes.

Though I expect this may not be the last time Congress responds to the COVID pandemic, I hope that in the future the Speaker will embark on a different path of resolution. A relief package like this one may not have been everything that both parties wanted, but a compromise deal that provides real help to American workers is better than no deal at all. And that compromise could have and should have been reached months ago. I hope the majority will remember that going forward.

Madam Speaker, the third section of today's package is a number of miscellaneous bipartisan items, including a bill intended to address the problems of surprise medical billing. This is a problem that is known far too well by many Americans.

You see a doctor or you visit an emergency room, and only learn after the fact that a medical professional you saw during your treatment is outside your insurance network. This can lead to a wildly expensive bill for the patient, who may not have had any choice in the matter.

The bipartisan bill before us today will help solve this problem. It will ensure that the patients will only be responsible for covering the portion not covered by their health insurance at in-network rates when they don't have the ability to choose an in-network doctor, like in emergency situations. The bill also will make pricing more open and transparent and will require insurers to notify patients in advance if they are going to receive out-of-network care.

These reforms will give patients and consumers more choice and will make

sure that they are not subjected to massive, surprise bills, ones that patients frequently have not planned for.

Madam Speaker, I applaud my friends on the Committee on Ways and Means, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the Committee on Education and Labor for coming to this important compromise, and I look forward to supporting its passage in law.

Madam Speaker, finally, I take a moment to acknowledge my very dear friend, Representative DONNA SHALALA, who is managing her final rule on the floor today. I have always enjoyed my interactions with my friend and it has always been a pleasure serving with her on the Committee on Rules. She has been a helpful ally when we have agreed and a worthy opponent when we have not.

Much more importantly, she has always been, first and foremost, a public servant. She was a public servant before she arrived in Congress. I have no doubt she will continue to be a public servant when she leaves. We have all benefitted from her leadership at the Department of Health and Human Services during the Clinton years, from her many years as a leader in educational institutions, from her tireless participations on countless boards and commissions and committees, all of which were rendering important service to our country.

Madam Speaker, I am going to miss my friend on the Committee on Rules. This Congress is going to miss her, but I know the country is going to continue to have the benefit of her splendid service and insight.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I thank my distinguished colleague for his very kind words. I will say that I have enjoyed working with him. I have deep respect for his leadership in this Congress.

Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Rules.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding to me.

Madam Speaker, across America, people are dealing with a loss of a job, a business, or even a loved one. People are hurting, and they are hurting badly not only from this pandemic, but also from the incompetence, the callousness, and the negligence of the current occupant of the White House.

When I talk about people hurting, I don't mean big corporations or Fortune 500 companies. I am talking about our workers, our middle class, those on the edge of the middle class, and those struggling in poverty. That is where our focus should be. And thanks to the bipartisan efforts of Members on both sides of the Capitol, we are acting right now—not next year or during the next administration, as some have suggested—but right now.

This deal is not everything I want—not by a long shot—but the choice before us is simple. It is about whether

we help families or not. It is about whether we help small businesses and restaurants or not. It is about whether we boost SNAP benefits and strengthen antihunger programs or not. And it is about whether we help those dealing with a job loss or not.

To me, this is not a tough call. We need to pass this, and then we need to prepare to build on it in the next Congress, hopefully, in a bipartisan fashion and with an administration that actually gives a damn about the American people.

Madam Speaker, before I conclude, I also join the gentleman from Oklahoma in recognizing the service of Congresswoman SHALALA. Over the years, she has had many titles: Doctor, treasurer, college president, chancellor, assistant secretary, secretary, congresswoman—and I could go on.

Often, DONNA has done it first: She was among the very first Peace Corps volunteers. She was the first woman to lead a Big 10 Conference college. She was only the second woman to lead a major research university. And DONNA was the first Lebanese American to serve in a President's Cabinet.

Madam Speaker, there is a saying in Arabic, which in English is: "Do good and throw it into the sea."

It means this: The reward is doing good. Not the praise or recognition. Just simply an act of doing good.

And DONNA SHALALA does good, period. I know she will continue to do good.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. LESKO), my good friend and distinguished colleague on the Committee on Rules.

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, I am glad that we finally have a bipartisan deal for COVID relief, but the process has been absolutely terrible.

I have to tell you that we have, what, 6,000 pages? And what did we get?

We got it, like, maybe 2 hours ago, the text of it. We were waiting all night.

In fact, Speaker PELOSI had called Members back last week. We thought we were going to be doing this last Wednesday. Instead, we were doing all these suspension bills. People had to fly from all over the country—all the Congress Members—in crowded airports, crowded planes; not really good for mitigating COVID, if you ask me.

Madam Speaker, I will say, though, that I am glad that, finally, after months and months of Republicans asking for a bipartisan COVID relief bill that could actually get signed into law, we are actually here today, even if it is a couple days before Christmas. And it is a bill that will help small businesses and their workers, will help the airline industry, will be a solution to Americans who are struggling with surprise medical bills.

□ 1630

For those who are unemployed because of the coronavirus, because the governments have shut down the businesses, it will give unemployment insurance relief. But there will be protections in there to make sure that the people are really unemployed and that they will accept a reasonable offer for a job.

Also good in the bill is that there is not only money for vaccine procurement but for distribution of the vaccines.

On that note, I want to applaud President Trump for his action in Operation Warp Speed and for working with the private sector to get vaccines done and out the door in record time. This has never been done before in history. Normally, it takes years and years for vaccines to be done.

Thank you, President Trump, for your hard work for the American people.

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, first, let me thank Chairman MCGOVERN for his very kind words. I have enjoyed serving under his leadership.

Let me say to my colleague, Mrs. LESKO, years of bipartisan investments in NIH have, in fact, led to Operation Warp Speed. Decades of investments in training the world's best scientists have led to a very fast-paced development of a vaccine. So, it is not just the present President; it is Presidents before that who believed that we should have world-class science in this country.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN).

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, this bill will not end all the suffering. However, it will ease the pain for many who are suffering, with \$25 billion for eviction prevention, \$13 billion for food in the form of SNAP, and \$600 cash in pocket. It won't end all the suffering, but it will ease much of the pain.

For this, I thank Chairman MCGOVERN, Mr. COLE, and Ms. SHALALA. Of course, I am always honored to serve in the Congress of the United States of America under the leadership of the Honorable MAXINE WATERS, and I thank her for her \$25 billion in rental assistance.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT), my very good friend and the distinguished ranking Republican member of the Small Business Committee.

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Oklahoma for his leadership on this issue and so many other issues over the years.

Madam Speaker, for months now, our Nation's entrepreneurs and small business owners have been pleading for additional help from Congress. I have been hearing this from small businesses back in my district in the great-

er Cincinnati area. I know that my colleagues on both sides of the aisle have been hearing the same thing from their constituents.

While I am relieved that Congress is finally acting on those cries for help, I am dismayed that it has taken this long. I introduced a bill back in September, 3 months ago, that could have been brought to the floor and helped those small businesses that so desperately needed that help back then.

That bill included many of the same provisions that we are voting on today. Instead, this House, under Democratic control, considered bills about marijuana and online conspiracy theories, for example. It is an embarrassment that it has taken this long because every moment of delay put more small businesses at risk of permanent closure.

These small businesses, restaurants, shops, and manufacturers employ nearly half of this country's workers and form the backbone of communities all across the country. Fortunately, the provisions in today's relief package will bring critical assistance to these workers and their families.

The Paycheck Protection Program, which has supported over 50 million employees, will be reopened for new and second-time applicants. Funds will be reserved for very small businesses and community lenders. The list of eligible expenses will be expanded so that small business owners can purchase PPE, for example, to keep employees and their loved ones safe.

There are many more details in the package, too many to go into here. But the bottom line is this: These provisions will bring meaningful help to millions of Americans.

Just in my district in Cincinnati and the surrounding area, a PPP loan helped keep 140 employees on the payroll at the Silver Spring House restaurant. A PPP loan enabled HomeWell Care Services, an assisted living facility, to continue their important work for our community's elderly population. And the folks at Neyer Plumbing used PPP funding to carry on as an essential business.

These are real people with real families to support and bills to pay. That is why it is so important that we pass this package without additional delay.

Small businesses and their employees are tough; they are resilient. Across the country, we hear stories about small businesses giving back to their communities, even when they are struggling themselves.

It is time for Congress to meet the moment and get further help in the hands of working Americans. As a matter of fact, it is far overdue.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this long-overdue legislation.

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. PANETTA).

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the COVID temporary

relief package in this rule. We did it before. We must do it again.

Our past COVID legislation kept the economy afloat and our poverty rate flat. However, as Democrats passed more bills, the Senate and the President put a pause on those efforts.

Now, the pandemic is raging, hospitals are bursting, and our economy is hurting. That is why we must play our part with Federal funding to combat this disease and carry on through the locally mandated shutdowns.

This relief package will allow us to avoid calamity and aid our recovery by providing small businesses with PPP, laid-off employees with unemployment insurance, families with checks, farmworkers with PPE, renters with direct relief, and the ailing with the HOS-PICE Act.

To help State and local governments, there is funding for broadband, food, healthcare, education, and transportation.

Look, this package should have been bigger. It should have been done quicker. It is not entirely what we want. But it is what we need to be that bridge to a vaccine-fueled revival in 2021. If we do that, we will further the faith in what we do here in Congress for the future of our democracy.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS), my very good friend and a distinguished member of the Energy and Commerce Committee and the Rules Committee.

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, hearing some of the earlier discussion, just for a data point, this is December 21, the longest night of the year, as they say.

On August 21, the former Vice President, in accepting the Democratic Party nomination for President, in his acceptance speech, said: Look, let's be clear. No miracle is coming.

Well, here we are, 4 months later, with not one but two vaccines, each in excess of 90 percent effective; absolutely phenomenal.

As another data point, in August 2014, the Ebola crisis was raging in Western Africa. A vaccine was out of phase 1 trials. It took 5½ years to deliver that vaccine. This one was delivered in 10 months. It is absolutely incredible.

Look, in the bill before us today, there are some high points, and there are some low points. A couple of things I do want to point out.

The Independence at Home Act that I introduced with Congresswoman DINGELL several years ago was continued and expanded.

One of the biggest deals for me is coverage for immunosuppressive drugs after a renal transplant. I have been working on this for 10 years. Now, we have provided additional protection for people who are recipients of renal transplants so that they can continue to get their immunosuppressive drugs.

Some flexibility has been provided in the bill to allow for value-based care.

The alternative payment model threshold is frozen for 2 years. That is important.

Project ECHO, which allows for primary care doctors in remote areas to be able to consult with specialists, has been continued. That is a big deal.

The out-of-network billing has been tough, and it has been tough in a year that has been tough on our Nation's frontline healthcare personnel. The out-of-network billing language has improved dramatically over the last 18 months. I cannot say that it is perfect, but some of the more recent improvements, such as the prevention of putting payment data from public payers in the independent dispute resolution process, are pretty big wins for our physicians.

I will also add that it is an unusual time that they should have to be facing additional cuts when our doctors have been on the front lines of providing care for America's patients during this pandemic. Faced with out-of-network payment reductions from the insurance companies and with reductions through the evaluation and management codes, the E and M codes, it is a funny way to go about rewarding those that we would refer to as our Nation's heroes.

Still, Mr. Speaker, the American people do need the relief that is provided in this coronavirus package.

Ms. SHALALA. I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, help is on the way. Help cannot come faster. Help is desperately needed.

Seventeen million Americans are infected by COVID-19. Almost 320,000 are dead, and the numbers keep growing. Hospital beds are overutilized. Cities across America are getting refrigerated trucks. Help is on the way.

People are being evicted, and this legislation helps us stop the evictions. It provides for cash disbursements, up to \$2,400 for a family of four and \$300 extra in weekly unemployment payments.

For hungry families, 54 million hungry families in America, including our young military personnel, help is on the way.

This bill is a bill we wrote months ago. It is downsized, but it is the very language that we have written. So we know, in the new year, we will come back again to save lives.

Let's get this done in unity. We know how it was blocked. We know the other House did not move forward. We know we did not get leadership on this bill.

But as I close, let me thank Secretary Shalala, Congresswoman SHALALA, for what she brought to this Congress, what insight, what specialness, and what kindness.

We wish you the very best, and I look forward to working with you in the future.

Mr. Speaker, help is on the way.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support for the Rule that the House is debating to provide for the consideration of the Fiscal Year

appropriations for the federal government and urgently needed COVID-19 relief funding.

Chairman MCGOVERN, and Ranking Member COLE, thank you for your work to bring this Rule before the House so that Members can debate and vote for urgently needed aid to communities across the nation and the funding needed to keep the federal government operational through the remainder of Fiscal Year 2021.

As a senior member of the Committees on the Judiciary, on Homeland Security, and on the Budget, and the representative of the 18th Congressional District of Texas, an epicenter for COVID-19 infections, I recognize the urgency of providing assistance now, but I also recognize that the assistance is insufficient to the needs of our state and local governments, our hospitals, or the people of our great nation.

I support this rule that will facilitate passage of this interim package, while also saying that more is needed.

Before the Rules Committee also was the omnibus appropriations bill providing funding to continue the operations of the federal government through September 30, 2021, thus avoiding a wasteful and irresponsible shutdown.

I am relieved that at long last, agreement has been reached between the bicameral leadership to provide needed and long overdue relief to the tens of millions of Americans whose lives and livelihoods have been devastated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

I am grateful that efficacious vaccines have been discovered and are on their way to providing much needed protection and relief, but this is just a down payment on the relief and support needed for our country to recover from the pandemic and build back better.

Over the course of the 116th Congress the House Rules Committee has done its job and provided expert guidance on the progress of nearly 600 bills that have passed the House and gone to the Senate.

These bills included legislation to lower health care and prescription drug prices, raise wages, advance economic and retirement security, end gun violence, act on the climate crisis, protect Dreamers, and strengthen voting rights.

For example, in this Congress the House has passed and sent to the Senate the following major legislative bills:

H.R. 1, For the People Act;
H.R. 2, Moving Forward Act;
H.R. 3, The Elijah E. Cummings Lower Drug Costs Now Act;
H.R. 4, Voting Rights Advancement Act;
H.R. 5, Equality Act;
H.R. 6, The American Dream & Promise Act;
H.R. 7, Paycheck Fairness Act;
H.R. 8, Bipartisan Background Checks Act;
H.R. 9, Climate Action Now Act;
H.R. 582, Raise the Wage Act;
H.R. 1425, Patient Protection and Affordable Care Enhancement Act;
H.R. 1585, Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act; and
H.R. 7120, George Floyd Justice in Policing Act.

Also among the bills passed by the House was H.R. 3710, the Cybersecurity Vulnerability Remediation Act, legislation that increases the responsibilities of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) with respect to cybersecurity vulnerabilities.

The National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center of DHS under this bill is directed to disseminate protocols to counter cybersecurity vulnerabilities, including in circumstances in which such vulnerabilities exist because software or hardware is no longer supported by a vendor.

This bill would also provide the Science and Technology Directorate the flexibility to establish a competition to develop remedies for cybersecurity vulnerabilities.

Today, our nation is still attempting to understand the scope and breath of the latest Russia sourced attack on federal government cyber assets.

In this moment we must address the crisis created by COVID-19, and the Cybersecurity threat that is ongoing.

There are consequences for the Senate's failure to take up House bills once they are received in the Senate.

In truth the Republican-controlled Senate has been missing in action for much of the 116th Congress.

Whether it is the urgent need to fortify our election systems from confirmed foreign interference, notably from Vladimir Putin's Russia, or lower prescription drugs prices and expanding and protecting the right of all Americans to affordable, accessible, high quality health care, fixing our broken immigration system, or hold a wayward Executive to account, the other body has failed the American people in its basic duty to promote the general welfare and provide for the common defense.

The consequences of its complete disregard for the work of the House is now more apparent than ever and is illustrated perfectly by the Senate's failure to take up and vote on the HEROES Act passed by the House in March of this year to address the devastating budgetary and fiscal impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic which the President exacerbated by his incompetent response to the crisis.

The numbers are heartbreaking.

My thoughts and prayers are with the over 315,000 families who have lost loved ones and the tens of thousand who are sick, and the many others who will struggle with the effects of COVID-19 over the coming days, weeks, months, and years.

We owe a special debt to first responders who are the lifelines for those who are very ill or who will need medical care to overcome this coronavirus.

The need to begin work on the next aid package is evident in the economic impact of COVID-19.

Congress and the Executive Branch must be able to manage more than one crisis at a time, while avoiding crisis management decision making when possible.

The Obama Administration exemplified what a President and a Congress working in concert can accomplish.

The first two years of Obama's Administration had Democrats in charge of the House and Senate, which made it possible for the Legislative and Executive Branches to work in concert to attack and repel the economic disaster the nation faced from the housing value collapse; and addressing health care disparities by passing the Affordable Care Act both of which saved millions from economic disaster and saved tens of thousands of lives.

The Obama Administration had a flu pandemic in 2009 and Ebola that threatened to become endemic in 2013.

Both of these global health emergencies were expertly managed and because of this most Americans cannot recall the threat.

President Obama had to deal with an ecological disaster in the form of the Deep Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico that threatened the environment and delicate hatcheries for sea turtles and the tourism industry long the coast.

Both the turtles and tourism were saved, and as with the flu pandemic and Ebola crisis most Americans cannot recall the incident, because their lives were not overly disrupted and the problems were addressed effectively.

That is the sign of a good president because he kept American safe.

When President Obama left office on January 20, 2017, unemployment was at 4.7 percent; but today, due to the mismanagement of the COVID-19 pandemic by President Trump and Republicans, unemployment skyrocketed to 8.4 percent and currently stands at 6.7 percent.

When Trump took office in January 2017, there were 241,000 initial unemployment insurance (UI) claims for the week ending January 28, 2017 and at the beginning of the 116th Congress in January 2019, there were 236,000 initial UI claims.

Today, due to the mismanagement of the COVID-19 pandemic by President Trump and Republicans, there were 885,000 initial UI claims for the week ending December 12, 2020.

Approximately 30 million Americans have lost the job they had earlier this year because of this Administration's ineptitude and cavalier regard for the well-being of the American people.

During President Obama's last full year in office in 2016, the national debt was \$20.02 trillion but due to the misguided economic policies and utter mismanagement of the COVID-19 pandemic, the national debt has increased by \$6.7 trillion and is projected to reach an all-time high of \$29.6 trillion by the end of the FY2021 fiscal year.

The annual deficit had been cut to \$585 billion (3.2 percent of GDP) in the last year of the Obama Administration but under the mismanagement of the current Administration, we have seen the deficit balloon nearly seven-fold to \$3.1 trillion or 15.2 percent GDP, the largest since 1945 relative to the size of the economy.

Continuing this Administration's unbroken chain of woe, in 2019, after repeated attempts by Republicans to undermine and sabotage the Affordable Care Act, there were 33.2 million uninsured Americans, 5 million more than when President Obama left office.

It has been estimated by reputable experts that from February 2020 through May 2020 alone, an estimated 5.4 million Americans became uninsured because of unprecedented job loss caused by the Republican mismanagement of this pandemic.

Given the wreckage to the economy and the damage to the lives and livelihoods of the American people, it is unconscionable that this Administration is pursuing a lawsuit to strike down the Affordable Care Act, which would take health care coverage away from 20 million Americans and take away protections for 132 million persons who have pre-existing conditions.

I strongly support this legislation and urge members of the Rules Committee to join me

by voting for a rule to bring the bill to the floor today.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON), my very good friend.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I think it was Winston Churchill who said you can always count on Americans to do the right thing after they have exhausted all other options.

You know, Congress looks that way to me from time to time. This is not the process or the timeline or the structure I have argued for. This COVID-19 package doesn't have all the provisions that I have asked for. It is clearly not a perfect bill.

Yet, it is the targeted and focused relief that our country needs. It follows the framework that a bipartisan group of eight Senators and eight House Members, including myself, unveiled a few weeks ago.

We knew then that it was not a perfect bill, but we knew it was the way forward. I am proud of the role that I have played and that the Problem Solvers Caucus has played in breaking this gridlock. I am proud of the role that we have played in making sure that our economy and our schools can stay open and that our testing and our vaccine deployment can be ramped up.

Madam Speaker, this has been a messy week, but this is a good day for America.

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, thank you for your kind words.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. CROW).

□ 1645

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, I grew up knowing what it felt like to struggle financially, that fear and anxiety of not knowing where your next rent check would come from, working a shift at Arby's or a 14-hour day on the construction site and still not making ends meet. That is why I am voting for this bill.

As imperfect as it is—and there are plenty of things that are not in this bill that should be—it will provide immediate relief for millions of families and small businesses that simply can't wait any longer, including those that are left out of prior rounds of relief.

For example, my district is one of the most diverse districts in the Nation and home to thousands of refugees and immigrants. That is why I have been fighting hard to get payments to mixed-status ITIN families in this bill. We have been successful in doing that.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to working with the Biden administration to provide more relief in the coming months so that we can tackle this crisis together.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR).

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of long-delayed legislation to deliver more resources to the

American people to defeat the COVID-19 virus and provide much-needed relief from government-imposed lockdowns of the economy.

Ultimately, no amount of government spending can substitute for a fully functioning, open economy free of government lockdowns. But I am confident this relief package, which provides over \$284 billion to reload and strengthen the Paycheck Protection Program, will help bridge the gap until COVID-19 vaccines are widely distributed. It does so in a fiscally responsible way by rescinding and reallocating \$429 billion in Federal Reserve emergency lending authority, and it repurposes unused PPP funds.

Importantly, this bill provides effective, targeted relief, with a net price tag of approximately \$325 billion in new outlays. It does not include the liberal wish list that was the centerpiece of the Speaker's originally \$3.4 trillion Heroes Act, a fiscally reckless proposal that needlessly delayed this reasonable bipartisan compromise.

For months, I have called on Congress and the administration to simplify the PPP forgiveness application for small businesses to ease their burdens and ensure lender participation. Today, that goal becomes a reality.

I also support the bill's extension of troubled debt restructuring relief, which allows lenders to work with their borrowers to modify loans. And I strongly support its provision to ensure small businesses can deduct expenses covered by PPP loans.

While it has taken far too long to get to this point, the bill we are passing today will bring much-needed help to American workers, families, and small businesses, without putting more massive amounts of debt on the American people.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this bill.

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON).

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation.

To be clear, this package is nowhere near enough. House Democrats passed three times more relief in May; our Republican colleagues did nothing. We passed more than double this 2 months ago; our Republican colleagues did nothing.

This package is not commensurate to the magnitude of the crisis we face. We need to do more, including vital aid to State and local governments and help for our restaurant industry, but this is a start.

This legislation includes important funding for vaccine distribution, schools, small businesses, and a desperately needed extension of unemployment insurance.

I am pleased that this legislation also extends clean energy tax credits, provides disaster tax assistance, helps prevent tragic flame jetting accidents, and provides help for the hardworking

men and women in my district and across this country.

Madam Speaker, this is not enough, but it is a start. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes."

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

Madam Speaker, I just want to quickly respond to my friend from California. It is just, frankly, not accurate to say Republicans did nothing.

The reality is Democrats in the Senate did nothing. They were offered a bill about the size of this bill. Actually, it was a little bit larger—as I recall, it was about a trillion dollars—than this bill, and they wouldn't allow it to come to the floor to be heard.

This deal has been on the table since July. My friends chose to hold it up, for whatever reason—be it political or in hopes of getting a better deal—and they prolonged the suffering of the American people, and I regret that.

But we are here today. We have worked together. We have got all the appropriations bills done. I am proud of that. We have got a good relief package here. I am proud of that. We have taken care of some important issues.

I see my friend, the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means. He had a lot to do with that, on surprise medical billing. That is a bipartisan accomplishment and achievement.

So let's build on the things that we have and see what we need to do in the next Congress.

But, again, for one side to point fingers at the other here is just simply, in my view, not appropriate.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. NEAL), the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, let me proceed with acknowledging that this legislation had many crucial elements that were developed and constructed by the Committee on Ways and Means on a bipartisan basis.

We expanded on unemployment insurance. We provided an additional supplement of \$300 a week. We expanded the retention tax credit, which was very important. We maintained and expanded the EITC and the child credit.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank DONNA SHALALA, because perhaps one of the most important elements in this successful piece of legislation was addressing surprise medical billing. She supported my position on this from day one, and she couldn't have been more earnest. She has been a terrific Member of this House.

We provide direct payments. We provide assistance in terms of tax extenders. We add a really good job on the renewable tax credits as well, and we expand eligibility for a round of checks to include people in mixed-status families.

Many of these pieces of legislation people said couldn't happen and, indeed, they did.

We addressed those who are most vulnerable.

And, the truth is, we also give Joe Biden a chance after January 20, because of the duration of this legislation, to provide what we all know is going to be a plan for additional assistance to members of the American family.

Madam Speaker, there are 20 million Americans collecting unemployment insurance right now in America. For people at the lower end of the economic spectrum, this has been cruel and callous. We need to come to their assistance.

People with white-collar jobs, they have held on and their unemployment rate is significantly less. But we know how stubborn this problem is, and until we defeat the virus, it is hard to see how we get to a full economic recovery.

I hope that the argument will not be, once Mr. Biden takes the oath, that we need to proceed to austerity. What we do in this legislation with these checks is we provide additional liquidity, which then provides additional demand for people at the lower end of the economic spectrum.

This is a very good piece of legislation. I am very proud of what the Committee on Ways and Means did to help get us to this day.

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

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT).

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the rule and the underlying COVID relief package:

Another \$284 billion for PPP loans for small businesses that have been hurting for so long, particularly restaurants that are struggling. Finally, Main Street will get some help. We bailed out Wall Street a long time ago and all the big guys; now we have got to bail out Main Street.

\$20 billion in EIDL grants for small businesses; another \$600 in stimulus checks for individuals and children. It should have been \$1,200, but we will take the \$600 now, and we will be back after January 20.

\$300 for unemployment benefits. It should have been a little bit more. You can't live on \$300.

\$13 billion for SNAP. People are starving, the lines are longer, made up of families and children.

\$14 billion for public transit, in addition to \$4 billion for the MTA. The MTA has a \$12 billion gap. We will be back for the rest of that money.

\$68 billion for purchasing vaccines, and \$20 billion for distributing them.

Broadband.

And, finally, Madam Speaker, \$4 billion for Gavi, an international vaccine distribution alliance, because it is not an epidemic; it is a pandemic.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. JACKSON LEE). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. We will not be free of COVID unless the rest of the world is.

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

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. CLARK).

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, House Democrats took the necessary action to defeat this virus and restore the economy in May, but MITCH MCCONNELL said let's hit the pause button. So Americans have waited 7 long months for the GOP to take action to end their suffering.

As over 300,000 Americans lost their lives, they said more testing was not necessary.

As veterans and children waited in lines at food banks, they proposed a tax credit for business lunches.

As 8 million more Americans fell into poverty, they proposed cutting unemployment benefits.

As one out of four women have lost their jobs and have left the workforce, they fought to limit paid leave and access to childcare.

As 40 million Americans teeter on the verge of homelessness, they fought to shield corporations from negligence and deny workers basic safety protections.

This bill is too little too late, but it is a lifesaving bridge to a better time and a new President who will focus on restoring Americans' jobs and their health.

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

Madam Speaker, I beg to differ with my good friend from Massachusetts. It wasn't Republicans who did nothing; it was Democrats who did nothing.

The Senate actually offered a trillion-dollar package in July. We are here approving a \$900 billion package today.

The President of the United States offered a \$1.8 trillion package at one point. We are approving a \$900 billion package today.

Now, we may do more later, but the reality is my friends drug this out all summer long. We could have had a package very similar to what we had many months ago. That would have helped unemployed Americans. It would have helped Americans with small businesses. It would have reassured the economy. My friends chose not to do that.

I am glad, since the election, they have decided to bargain in good faith. We have bargained in good faith. We have what we think is a good product in front of us. But if we want to write history, we have a considerably different version of it than has been portrayed on the floor here today, put in front of the American people.

Madam Speaker, I also just want to add for the record that, while we are busy bashing the President, I haven't heard too many people thank the President of the United States for Operation Warp Speed, unprecedented triumphs to actually deliver a vaccine in less than a year. All the critics said, not possible. The President deserves

credit for that, and so does his administration.

That is something that all of us, regardless of party and partisanship, should be proud of; and, frankly, it is something we owe the President a great deal of gratitude for.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, let me remind my distinguished colleague from Oklahoma that we sent the Heroes Act in May.

And while I agree that the administration should get some credit for Operation Warp Speed, as I have pointed out, it has been decades of investment in the science that led to Operation Warp Speed.

Many of us would have appreciated, and we would have saved lives, if we had made the same kind of investments in testing so that we had an instant test, and we would have ended up saving lives.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GOTTHEIMER).

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Madam Speaker, they said it couldn't be done, that Democrats and Republicans could actually come together, not only in the House, but in the Senate, too, and pass a COVID-19 emergency relief package. But, finally, after 9 months, it is about to happen. We are about to cross the finish line. This is as close to a Christmas miracle as you can find in a normally polarized Washington.

□ 1700

With the virus raging across the Nation, the 50-Member strong bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus put country over party and helped craft a package that will help put food on the table, distribute vaccines to our communities, save our struggling small businesses, put money in the pockets of American families, and help keep families in their homes.

This emergency relief package wouldn't have happened without the weeks of hard work from the Problem Solvers Caucus and a bipartisan group of Senators who put country ahead of party to help our families, small businesses, and communities. This was truly a model for how we should govern in Washington.

This marks a critical downpayment in our ongoing fight against COVID. If you look in New Jersey, where 1 in 500 have lost their lives, and 30 percent of small businesses are out, we clearly have more work to do.

Madam Speaker, I urge support for this bipartisan, bicameral legislation, which is a critical step forward.

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

I want to agree with the distinguished gentlewoman from Florida, my good friend, about the investments in NIH. I want to remind her that it was Newt Gingrich and John Porter who doubled the NIH during the Clinton years, who actually put more money in

there than the administration requested.

I will also remind my good friend that when I was chairman, we put more money in than the Obama administration requested; and we continued to do more money than the Trump administration requested, which actually requested some cuts.

So the reality is that Congress—on a bipartisan basis, I must say, because I had the support of my ranking member, now our distinguished chairwoman of the Labor, Health, and Human Services Subcommittee, ROSA DELAUNO, in those decisions—Congress, but particularly Republicans, have made those investments over the years.

And I think the country—I agree with my friend—has reaped enormous benefits from that. I hope we continue down that road in the next Congress with the next administration. I am looking forward to that possibility. But I simply wanted to let the record reflect what the contribution from our side of the aisle has been in that regard.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I don't disagree with my colleague, but it was bipartisan, and I think that is the important thing about those investments over the years.

My point was it was those investments that made it possible for Operation Warp Speed. I never suggested that it was one party versus another that made that bipartisan investment. It has been decades of bipartisan investments that have made a difference.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY).

Mrs. BEATTY. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida for yielding.

I rise today to support this legislation because my constituents desperately need the unemployment benefits, the stimulus checks, the food assistance, the eviction moratoriums, the small business Minority Development Institution funds and the CDFI assistance funds, and other protections in this bill.

Seven months after the House passed the Heroes Act, Republicans have finally relented to allow more support to the American people who are struggling through the three pandemics: COVID-19, economic hardships, and social injustices.

So let me be clear: The GOP has had a knee on Americans' necks by holding this bill up, and it still falls short of what we need to get through this crisis.

But I will continue to stand up for my constituents of the Third Congressional District and for people across this Nation and my colleagues to work with the Biden administration to get people the support they need to build back better.

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

I want to remind my friends who engage in revisionist history, we haven't

held anything up. The Senate put a \$1 trillion offer on the table back in July. My friends didn't think that was good enough. The President put a \$1.8 trillion deal on the table. They didn't think that was good enough.

We are here now with a bipartisan, good bill. We may need to do more later. We will see. But the reality is our friends held unrealistic positions with a lot of policy riders on them that they knew were never going to be accepted, and they did that throughout the election season.

Fine. The election is over. All of a sudden we are back and we are able to compromise after the election. It would have been better for the American people had we done that back in July. My friends chose a different path, but I am glad they have changed their mind since the election. I am glad we have something in front of us that is genuinely bipartisan. We will pass it on a bipartisan basis today.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. AGUILAR).

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

The agreement before us today recognizes that to get our economy moving again, to return to something that feels like normalcy, we must get this virus under control.

In this agreement, Democrats secured billions to rapidly distribute a free and safe vaccine and to invest in nationwide testing and tracing measures that will save lives.

It isn't perfect, and more action is required to address the challenges that Americans are facing, but it is everything we can do right now with this Senate and this President.

With this bill, we have averted a sudden end to unemployment benefits that millions would have faced and added \$300 per week to the benefit.

We funded a new round of survival checks and emergency rental assistance, included an eviction moratorium, and boosted SNAP and child nutrition benefits.

And for the small businesses struggling to keep the lights on, this bill provides billions in economic assistance to forgivable loans.

Across this country, people in communities like mine are hurting. Frankly, they have been hurting for far too long.

We are going to work with the Biden-Harris administration to build on this progress and deliver for the American people, and I am confident that brighter days are ahead.

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

Madam Speaker, I begin by saying what a privilege it has been to serve with my good friend from Florida these last 2 years, not only in Congress, but most especially on the Rules Committee. And what a particular pleasure it is for me to have the opportunity to

manage and work with her on her very last rule on the floor.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I thank all my colleagues for their consideration of this bipartisan package. Though it has taken us a long time to get to this particular point, it is a real bipartisan compromise. And I think, at the end of the day, it will pass with a substantial bipartisan vote and it will benefit every American.

The package today will fully fund the government through September 30th of 2021, and will ensure that taxpayer dollars are spent where they are needed most. I think that is an important point because, lost in all of this, the appropriations process has actually done what it was supposed to do.

I compliment my friends on the Appropriations Committee; particularly our distinguished chair, Mrs. LOWEY, and our distinguished ranking member, Ms. GRANGER. They brought all 12 bills through the committee. They got a full committee process. They were reported out of committee. Ten of those bills came to the floor. On the floor, those bills got full consideration. We sat and bargained with our friends in the United States Senate, and now I have brought these bills back. That is the way Congress ought to work. I am proud the Appropriations Committee worked that way.

We also will be taking up in this particular bill a pandemic relief bill, ensuring extensions for programs like unemployment insurance and the Paycheck Protection Program, which will protect millions of Americans who have lost their jobs and lost income as a result of this pandemic.

The package is a very important package. And we have some disagreements on it. We have had some back and forth on it in the last several months, but still, at the end of the day, we have come together, we have done something important, and I think we have set the stage for perhaps something later in the next Congress. We will see. But this is an important relief measure for the American people, and I certainly urge all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support it.

Finally, the package also includes a bipartisan compromise on surprise medical billing and a number of issues to provide targeted tax relief to people who have suffered through the coronavirus crisis and particular industries. I think that is appropriate. I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle and multiple committees that have been part of that particular compromise.

Madam Speaker, it is often said on this floor that it is not a perfect bill, but a \$900 billion relief package that is badly needed to the American people close to Christmas Eve is something that every Member on this floor ought to be proud of, and I hope every Member in this Chamber will see fit to support.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on the rule and,

most importantly, to vote "yes" on the underlying measure.

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

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I thank my colleague, Mr. COLE, for his generous remarks. I agree with him, this is a bipartisan bill that is not perfect. I don't think anyone in this Chamber believes that it is perfect.

Madam Speaker, the time to pass this bill was yesterday. It was 6 months ago. We pray that most Americans will be able to get a vaccine to stop this killer. But it is not just Americans. To be safe, people around the world must get the vaccine.

There will be a lot of darkness before enough Americans and people around the world have the vaccine to bring our lives back to normal. Before that time, the government must help.

By the way, it is not our money. It is the people in our communities who have been paying taxes for years. We are taking the resources back to them. We have to help the unemployed, the shuttered small businesses, the strained hospitals, and, most importantly, the hungry child.

Madam Speaker, I strongly urge a "yes" vote on the rule and the previous question.

Mr. HALL. Madam Speaker, I rise today during a critical time in the history of the nation.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, 315,000 Americans have died, as a result of the Administration's mismanagement of the federal response to COVID-19.

It has especially impacted the African American community and other communities of color.

Millions of jobs have been lost, countless small businesses have closed, and many others hospitalized.

For the sake of controlling the virus we have all quarantined, as we eagerly await a vaccine.

It is against this backdrop that we fashion a relief bill.

Scripture teaches that which you do for the least of these you do for Him.

I am proud to fight for the least of these during these critical times and support this bipartisan solution for COVID and the budget.

I want to commend all leaders who helped make this deal possible, especially Speaker NANCY PELOSI, Leader STENY HOYER and Democratic Caucus Chairman HAKEEM JEFFRIES.

This bill is critical as it helps all those impacted by COVID, especially the black people and other communities of color that have been disproportionately impacted by this pandemic.

I am proud to support this bill, which provides \$900 billion for COVID relief.

This is important as the agreement outlined provides another round of \$600 in economic stimulus checks and another \$300 per-week in unemployment benefits, and it supports small businesses, which are the engines of our economy.

It also provides funds to support local school districts and provides much-needed funds for coronavirus testing and vaccine distribution.

I am also proud to help secure this legislation because it supports paid sick leave, provides 25 billion in rent relief and an extension of the eviction moratorium.

This relief bill is going in the right direction but make no mistake, this is not enough and must only be a down-payment.

The \$1,200 stimulus checks in the CARES Act from earlier this year was an important factor in controlling the economic fallout from the initial onset of the coronavirus, and I am disappointed that tonight that this Congress will not now act as we did in the Spring.

The situation is more dire now and calls for more—not less—economic stimulus.

And, I am especially proud that the disbursements from this relief bill starts on the first day of Kwanzaa, December 26.

And, critically, this legislation supports Community Development Financial Institutions and Minority Depository Institutions by as much as \$12 billion:

The agreement includes dedicated PPP set-asides for very small businesses and lending through community-based lenders like Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) and Minority Depository Institutions (MDIs); \$9 billion in emergency U.S. Treasury capital investments in CDFIs and MDIs to support lending in low-income and underserved communities, including persistent poverty counties, that may be disproportionately impacted by the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; and \$3 billion in emergency support for CDFIs through the CDFI Fund to respond to the economic impact of the pandemic on underserved low-income and minority communities.

The legislation we will pass today also includes 4.2 billion for mental health and substance abuse help and another \$7 billion for broadband.

This bill includes SBA grants, not just loans so it is critical for all applicants that they complete paperwork accurately so that there is no delay in submitting paperwork.

I encourage all constituents to reach out to my office if they need help.

And the legislation we will pass today also allocates \$1.4 trillion for the budget which is why we must consider the COVID relief bill today together with the budget bill.

This bill also helps secure \$10 billion for assistance in child-care to help get parents back to work so we can be ready to return to some semblance of normalcy.

I am also proud to support this bill because this legislation supports paid sick leave, provides tens of billions in rent relief and an extension of the eviction moratorium, another \$14 billion in SNAP benefits and \$80 billion in funding for our colleges and universities."

It is often said that our budget is a blueprint of our values and with the budget we pass today, Madam Speaker, is an affirmation of the Gospel of Matthew.

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on adoption of the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. COLE. 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.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 227, nays 180, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 249]

YEAS—227

Adams	Golden	Norcross
Aguilar	Gomez	O'Halleran
Allred	Gonzalez (TX)	Pallone
Axne	Gottheimer	Panetta
Barragán	Green, Al (TX)	Pappas
Bass	Grijalva	Pascrell
Beatty	Haaland	Payne
Bera	Hall	Perlmutter
Beyer	Harder (CA)	Peters
Bishop (GA)	Hastings	Peterson
Blumenauer	Hayes	Phillips
Blunt Rochester	Heck	Pingree
Bonamici	Higgins (NY)	Pocan
Boyle, Brendan F.	Himes	Porter
Brindisi	Horn, Kendra S.	Price (NC)
Brown (MD)	Houlahan	Quigley
Brownley (CA)	Hoyer	Raskin
Bustos	Huffman	Rice (NY)
Butterfield	Jackson Lee	Richmond
Carbajal	Jayapal	Rose (NY)
Cárdenas	Jeffries	Rouda
Carson (IN)	Johnson (GA)	Roybal-Allard
Cartwright	Johnson (TX)	Ruiz
Case	Kaptur	Ruppersberger
Casten (IL)	Keating	Rush
Castor (FL)	Kelly (IL)	Ryan
Castro (TX)	Kennedy	Sánchez
Chu, Judy	Khanna	Sarbanes
Ciциlline	Kildee	Scanlon
Cisneros	Kilmer	Schakowsky
Clark (MA)	Kim	Schiff
Clarke (NY)	Kind	Schneider
Clay	Kirkpatrick	Schrader
Cleaver	Krishnamoorthi	Schrier
Clyburn	Kuster (NH)	Scott (VA)
Cohen	Lamb	Scott, David
Connolly	Langevin	Serrano
Cooper	Larsen (WA)	Sewell (AL)
Correa	Larson (CT)	Shalala
Costa	Lawrence	Sherman
Courtney	Lawson (FL)	Sherrill
Cox (CA)	Lee (CA)	Sires
Craig	Lee (NV)	Slotkin
Crist	Levin (CA)	Smith (WA)
Crow	Levin (MI)	Soto
Cuellar	Lieu, Ted	Spanberger
Cunningham	Lipinski	Speier
Davids (KS)	Loeb sack	Stanton
Davis (CA)	Lofgren	Stevens
Davis, Danny K.	Lowenthal	Suozzi
Dean	Lowe y	Swalwell (CA)
DeFazio	Luján	Takano
DeGette	Luria	Thompson (CA)
DeLauro	Lynch	Thompson (MS)
DelBene	Malinowski	Titus
Delgado	Maloney,	Tonko
Demings	Carolyn B.	Torres (CA)
DeSaulnier	Maloney, Sean	Torres Small
Deutch	Matsui	(NM)
Dingell	McAdams	Trahan
Doggett	McBath	Trone
Doyle, Michael F.	McCollum	Underwood
Engel	McEachin	Vargas
Escobar	McGovern	Veasey
Eshoo	McNerney	Vela
Españillat	Meeks	Velázquez
Evans	Meng	Visclosky
Finkenauer	Mfume	Wasserman
Fletcher	Mitchell	Schultz
Foster	Moore	Waters
Frankel	Morelle	Watson Coleman
Fudge	Moulton	Welch
Gallego	Mucarsel-Powell	Wexton
Garamendi	Murphy (FL)	Wild
García (IL)	Nadler	Wilson (FL)
García (TX)	Napolitano	Yarmuth
	Neal	
	Neguse	

NAYS—180

Aderholt	Baird	Bost
Allen	Balderson	Brady
Amash	Banks	Brooks (AL)
Amodei	Barr	Buchanan
Armstrong	Bergman	Buck
Arrington	Biggs	Bucshon
Babin	Bilirakis	Budd
Bacon	Bishop (NC)	Burchett

Burgess	Hollingsworth	Reschenthaler
Byrne	Hudson	Rice (SC)
Calvert	Huizenga	Riggleman
Carter (GA)	Hurd (TX)	Roby
Chabot	Jacobs	Rodgers (WA)
Cline	Johnson (LA)	Roe, David P.
Cloud	Johnson (OH)	Rogers (KY)
Cole	Johnson (SD)	Rose, John W.
Collins (GA)	Jordan	Rouzer
Comer	Joyce (OH)	Roy
Conaway	Joyce (PA)	Rutherford
Crawford	Katko	Scalise
Crenshaw	Keller	Schweikert
Curtis	Kelly (MS)	Scott, Austin
Davidson (OH)	Kelly (PA)	Sensenbrenner
Davis, Rodney	King (NY)	Shimkus
DesJarlais	Kininger	Simpson
Diaz-Balart	Kustoff (TN)	Smith (MO)
Emmer	LaHood	Smith (NE)
Estes	LaMalfa	Smith (NJ)
Ferguson	Lamborn	Smucker
Fitzpatrick	Latta	Staubert
Fleischmann	Lesko	Stefanik
Flores	Long	Steil
Fortenberry	Lucas	Steube
Fox (NC)	Luetkemeyer	Stewart
Fulcher	Marshall	Stivers
Gabbard	Massie	Taylor
Gaetz	Mast	Thompson (PA)
Gallagher	McCarthy	Thornberry
Garcia (CA)	McCaul	Tiffany
Gibbs	McClintock	Timmons
Gohmert	McHenry	Tipton
Gonzalez (OH)	McKinley	Tlaib
Gooden	Meuser	Turner
Gosar	Miller	Upton
Granger	Moolenaar	Van Drew
Graves (LA)	Mooney (WV)	Wagner
Graves (MO)	Mullin	Walberg
Green (TN)	Newhouse	Walden
Griffith	Norman	Walorski
Grothman	Nunes	Waltz
Guest	Ocasio-Cortez	Watkins
Guthrie	Olson	Weber (TX)
Hagedorn	Omar	Wenstrup
Harris	Palazzo	Westerman
Hartzler	Palmer	Williams
Hern, Kevin	Pence	Wittman
Herrera Beutler	Perry	Womack
Hice (GA)	Posey	Woodall
Higgins (LA)	Pressley	Young
Hill (AR)	Reed	Zeldin

NOT VOTING—22

Abraham	Holding	Spano
Bishop (UT)	Horsford	Walker
Brooks (IN)	King (IA)	Webster (FL)
Carter (TX)	Loudermilk	Wilson (SC)
Cheney	Marchant	Wright
Duncan	Murphy (NC)	Yoho
Dunn	Rogers (AL)	
Gianforte	Rooney (FL)	

□ 1807

Messrs. SCHWEIKERT, KING of New York, EMMER, RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, BILIRAKIS, and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

So the resolution 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

Allred (Wexton)	Carson (IN)	DeGette (Blunt)
Axne (Davids (KS))	(Butterfield)	Rochester)
	Case	DelBene
Barragán (Beyer)	(Cartwright)	(Ciциlline)
Bera (Aguilar)	Castor (FL)	DeSaulnier
Bishop (GA)	(Demings)	(Matsui)
(Butterfield)	Cisneros	Deutch (Rice)
Blumenauer	(Carbajal)	(NY))
(Beyer)	Clay	Doggett (Raskin)
Bonamici (Clark (MA))	(Butterfield)	Escobar (Garcia (TX))
Boyle, Brendan F. (Jeffries)	Cleaver (Davids (KS))	Eshoo
Brownley (CA)	Cohen (Beyer)	(Thompson (CA))
(Clark (MA))	Costa (Correa)	Finkenauer
Bustos (Kuster (NH))	Davis (CA)	(Underwood)
Cárdenas	(Scanlon)	Fletcher
(Carbajal)	Dean (Scanlon)	(Raskin)
	DeFazio (Davids (KS))	

Frankel (Clark (MA))	Lofgren (Jeffries)	Richmond (Butterfield)
Garamendi (Sherman)	Lowenthal (Beyer)	Rouda (Aguilar)
Gonzalez (TX) (Gomez)	McEachin (Wexton)	Roybal-Allard (Garcia (TX))
Grijalva (Garcia (IL))	McNerney (Raskin)	Ruiz (Dingell)
Haaland (Davids (KS))	Meng (Clark (MA))	Rush (Underwood)
Hastings (Wasserman)	Mitchell (Spanberger)	Ryan (Kildee)
Schultz (Heck (Kildee))	Moore (Beyer)	Schakowsky (Underwood)
Jayapal (Raskin)	Moulton (McGovern)	Schneider (Casten (IL))
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)	Mucarsel-Powell (Wasserman)	Schrier (Spanberger)
Kelly (IL) (Clarke (NY))	Schultz (Nadler (Jeffries))	Serrano (Jeffries)
Kennedy (McGovern)	Napolitano (Sewell (AL))	Sewell (AL) (Cicilline)
Khanna (Sherman)	Neal (Lynch)	Shimkus (Pallone)
Kilmer (Kildee)	Neguse (Perlmutter)	Sires (Pallone)
Kim (Davids (KS))	Pascarell (Pallone)	Smith (WA) (Courtney)
Kirkpatrick (Stanton)	Payne (Wasserman)	Speier (Scanlon)
Lamb (Sherrill)	Schultz (Schultz)	Thompson (MS) (Fudge)
Langevin (Lynch)	Peters (Kildee)	Titus (Connolly)
Lawrence (Kildee)	Peterson (Vargas (Correa))	Vargas (Correa)
Lawson (FL) (Demings)	Price (NC) (Butterfield)	Veasey (Beyer)
Lieu, Ted (Beyer)		Velázquez (Clarke (NY))
Lipinski (Schrader)		Watson Coleman (Pallone)
		Welch (McGovern)
		Wilson (FL) (Hayes)

PURPLE BOOK CONTINUITY ACT OF 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the adoption of House Resolution 1271, the Senate amendment to H.R. 1520 is considered as agreed to with an amendment consisting of the text of the Rules Committee Print 116-69.

Senate amendment:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

The Act may be cited as the "Purple Book Continuity Act of 2020".

SEC. 2. BIOLOGICAL PRODUCT PATENT TRANSPARENCY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 351(k) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 262(k)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(9) PUBLIC LISTING.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—

"(i) INITIAL PUBLICATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Purple Book Continuity Act of 2020, the Secretary shall publish and make available to the public in a searchable, electronic format—

"(I) a list of each biological product, by non-proprietary name (proper name), for which, as of such date of enactment, a biologics license under subsection (a) or this subsection is in effect, or that, as of such date of enactment, is deemed to be licensed under this section pursuant to section 7002(e)(4) of the Biologics Price Competition and Innovation Act of 2009;

"(II) the date of licensure of the marketing application and the application number; and

"(III) with respect to each biological product described in subclause (I), the licensure status, and, as available, the marketing status.

"(ii) REVISIONS.—Every 30 days after the publication of the first list under clause (i), the Secretary shall revise the list to include each biological product which has been licensed under subsection (a) or this subsection during the 30-day period or deemed licensed under this section pursuant to section 7002(e)(4) of the Biologics Price Competition and Innovation Act of 2009.

"(iii) PATENT INFORMATION.—Not later than 30 days after a list of patents under subsection

(l)(3)(A), or a supplement to such list under subsection (l)(7), has been provided by the reference product sponsor to the subsection (k) applicant respecting a biological product included on the list published under this subparagraph, the reference product sponsor shall provide such list of patents (or supplement thereto) and their corresponding expiry dates to the Secretary, and the Secretary shall, in revisions made under clause (ii), include such information for such biological product. Within 30 days of providing any subsequent or supplemental list of patents to any subsequent subsection (k) applicant under subsection (l)(3)(A) or (l)(7), the reference product sponsor shall update the information provided to the Secretary under this clause with any additional patents from such subsequent or supplemental list and their corresponding expiry dates.

"(iv) LISTING OF EXCLUSIVITIES.—For each biological product included on the list published under this subparagraph, the Secretary shall specify each exclusivity period under paragraph (6) or paragraph (7) for which the Secretary has determined such biological product to be eligible and that has not concluded.

"(B) REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF LICENSE.—If the license of a biological product is determined by the Secretary to have been revoked or suspended for safety, purity, or potency reasons, it may not be published in the list under subparagraph (A). If such revocation or suspension occurred after inclusion of such biological product in the list published under subparagraph (A), the reference product sponsor shall notify the Secretary that—

"(i) the biological product shall be immediately removed from such list for the same period as the revocation or suspension; and

"(ii) a notice of the removal shall be published in the Federal Register."

(b) REVIEW AND REPORT ON TYPES OF INFORMATION TO BE LISTED.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall—

(1) solicit public comment regarding the type of information, if any, that should be added to or removed from the list required by paragraph (9) of section 351(k) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 262(k)), as added by subsection (a); and

(2) transmit to Congress an evaluation of such comments, including any recommendations about the types of information that should be added to or removed from the list.

The text of the House amendment to the Senate amendment is as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by the Senate, insert the following:

That the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021 (division A of Public Law 116-159) is further amended by striking the date specified in section 106(3) and inserting "December 28, 2020".

This Act may be cited as the "Further Extension of Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021".

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 371. An act to provide regulatory relief to charitable organizations that provide housing assistance, and for other purposes.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BROWN of Maryland) laid before the

House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 21, 2020.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 21, 2020, at 1:24 p.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 2346.
That the Senate passed S. 2716.
That the Senate passed S. 2827.
That the Senate passed S. 3099.
That the Senate passed S. 3100.
That the Senate passed S. 3948.
That the Senate passed S. 3952.
That the Senate passed S. 4556.
That the Senate passed S. 5076.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1240.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 4031.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5458.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5852.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 6535.
That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 7460.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

DIRECTING THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO MAKE A CORRECTION IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 133

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I send to the desk a concurrent resolution and ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 127

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That, in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 133 the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall make the following correction:

Amend the title so as to read: "Making consolidated appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, providing coronavirus emergency response and relief, and for other purposes."

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DIRECTING THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO MAKE A CORRECTION IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 1520

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I send to the desk a concurrent resolution and ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 128

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That, in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 1520 the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall make the following correction:

Amend the title so as to read: "Making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes."

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUBMISSION OF MATERIAL EXPLANATORY OF THE AMENDMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE AMENDMENT OF THE SENATE TO H.R. 133

Pursuant to section 5 of House Resolution 1271, the chair of the Committee on Appropriations submitted explanatory material relating to the amendment of the House of Representatives to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 133. The contents of this submission will be published in Books III and IV of this RECORD.

UNITED STATES-MEXICO ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP ACT

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1271, I call up the bill (H.R. 133) to promote economic partnership and cooperation between the United States and Mexico, with the Senate amendment thereto, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the Senate amendment.

Senate amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "United States-Mexico Economic Partnership Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The United States and Mexico have benefited from a bilateral, mutually beneficial partnership focused on advancing the economic interests of both countries.

(2) In 2013, Mexico adopted major energy reforms that opened its energy sector to private investment, increasing energy cooperation between Mexico and the United States and opening new opportunities for United States energy engagement.

(3) On January 18, 2018, the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs at the Department of State stated, "Our exchange programs build enduring relationships and networks to advance U.S. national interests and foreign policy goals . . . The role of our exchanges . . . in advancing U.S. national security and economic interests

enjoys broad bipartisan support from Congress and other stakeholders, and provides a strong return on investment."

(4) According to the Institute of International Education, in the 2015–2016 academic year, more than 56,000 United States students studied in other countries in the Western Hemisphere region while more than 84,000 non-United States students from the region studied in the United States, but only 5,000 of those United States students studied in Mexico and only 16,000 of those non-United States students were from Mexico.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to continue deepening economic cooperation between the United States and Mexico;

(2) to seek to prioritize and expand educational and professional exchange programs with Mexico, including through frameworks such as the 100,000 Strong in the Americas Initiative, the Young Leaders of the Americas Initiative, Jóvenes en Acción (Youth in Action), the Fulbright Foreign Student Program, and the Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program; and

(3) to promote positive cross-border relations as a priority for advancing United States foreign policy and programs.

SEC. 4. STRATEGY TO PRIORITIZE AND EXPAND EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS WITH MEXICO.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall develop a strategy to carry out the policy described in section 3, to include prioritizing and expanding educational and professional exchange programs with Mexico through frameworks such as those referred to in section 3(2).

(b) ELEMENTS.—The strategy required under subsection (a) shall—

(1) encourage more academic exchanges between the United States and Mexico at the secondary, post-secondary, and post-graduate levels;

(2) encourage United States and Mexican academic institutions and businesses to collaborate to assist prospective and developing entrepreneurs in strengthening their business skills and promoting cooperation and joint business initiatives across the United States and Mexico;

(3) promote energy infrastructure coordination and cooperation through support of vocational-level education, internships, and exchanges between the United States and Mexico; and

(4) assess the feasibility of fostering partnerships between universities in the United States and medical school and nursing programs in Mexico to ensure that medical school and nursing programs in Mexico have comparable accreditation standards as medical school and nursing programs in the United States by the Accreditation and Standards in Foreign Medical Education, in addition to the Accreditation Commission For Education in Nursing, so that medical students can pass medical licensing board exams, and nursing students can pass nursing licensing exams, in the United States.

(c) BRIEFING.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall brief the appropriate congressional committees regarding the strategy required under subsection (a).

SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act, the term "appropriate congressional committees" means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 6. SUNSET PROVISION.

This Act shall remain in effect until December 31, 2023.

MOTION TO CONCUR

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the motion.

The text of the motion is as follows:

Mrs. LOWEY moves that the House concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 133 with an amendment consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 116-68.

(For text of the House amendment to the Senate amendment, see Book II of this RECORD.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1271, the motion shall be debatable for one hour, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations.

The gentleman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) and the gentleman from Texas (Ms. GRANGER) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

□ 1815

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. LOWEY. 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 House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 133.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to present legislation that comprises all 12 fiscal year 2021 appropriations bills, a number of items agreed to on a bipartisan basis between authorizing committees, and a coronavirus relief package.

The 12 appropriations bills include a strong increase in nondefense discretionary funding, allowing Congress to make important investments for the people.

I am particularly proud that we have been able to fund better education for our students; more affordable housing; food security initiatives; safer communities, with funding to address America's gun violence epidemic; clean air and water; action on the climate crisis; and care for our veterans, with a special emphasis on suicide prevention and gender-specific care.

As chairwoman of the Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, I am also proud that this legislation bolsters international security and stability. In particular, the Middle East Partnership for Peace fund will support people-to-people exchanges and economic partnerships between Israelis and Palestinians.

Turning to the coronavirus relief portion of the legislation, the bill provides \$892 billion to confront the pandemic.

While Republican intransigence means the legislation doesn't include the State and local relief that is desperately needed, the amounts it provides for education, public health, and transportation will greatly benefit our local communities.

Of particular importance to me, the \$4 billion for GAVI will help children

across the world receive the coronavirus vaccine, though far greater investments are needed to support international COVID-19 response.

President-elect Biden has spoken about the dark winter that we face because of this pandemic. It is my hope that this bill will be a source of light as we face that winter.

I am proud that, through the careful use of Federal funds, the appropriations in this bill will help set our Nation on a course to build back better.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this bill that will provide funding for the Federal Government through the end of the fiscal year as well as provide another round of desperately needed relief for those affected by the coronavirus pandemic.

The appropriations package we will consider today is critical because it will allow us to prevent an unnecessary government shutdown and avoid a wasteful continuing resolution that simply straight-lines funding until the end of next year.

The bill makes us safer by ensuring we have the funding and the tools necessary to both discourage our enemies and defend ourselves against them.

The funds provided in this bill are also critical to continue the fight against public health threats both at home and abroad.

The bill ensures that longstanding provisions to protect life, reduce burdensome regulation, and preserve our way of life are retained.

I would like to highlight some specific programs in the appropriations package.

This bill supports another significant increase for the National Institutes of Health, including funding for vital research on Alzheimer's disease and to find cures for cancer.

It provides more than half a billion dollars for NASA, to help maintain our superiority in space. We will need to continue to do more in future years to establish a sustainable presence on the Moon.

The bill also funds the U.S. Space Force so the United States has a leading edge against China and Russia.

The bill keeps us safe by providing the same level of funding as last year for the border wall. It also rolls back attempts to limit the President's authority to provide additional funds, if needed.

The bill continues to rebuild our military, modernize our nuclear weapons stockpile, and strengthen our allies, such as Israel. This bill strongly supports our veterans and our troops by increasing pay for our military; addressing the healthcare needs of our brave warfighters and their families, as well as those who previously served; and ensuring that the United States military has cutting-edge equipment, such as the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter

and the V-22 Osprey, so that they can discourage and take on any fight against our enemies.

The bill retains longstanding Second Amendment and pro-life protections that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle wanted to eliminate. In fact, it secures the largest pro-life victory in a generation by maintaining the Trump administration's Title X Family Planning regulations.

It drops the dangerous policy provisions my colleagues on the other side of the aisle included in the House bills, including riders aimed at defunding the police.

Billions of dollars of unnecessary emergency spending that the majority included in their bills is stripped away in this package. Many of these provisions are considered poison pills that were opposed by Republicans and the White House.

Also before us today is another round of coronavirus relief. Specifically, our package will: ensure the timely distribution of vaccines across the country; help small businesses affected by the economic downturn; and provide much-needed relief for airports and the airline industry, which is so important for thousands of hardworking Texans in and around my district.

I am glad we were able to come together on this agreement today, and I want to thank my colleagues, Mrs. LOWEY, Senator SHELBY, and Senator LEAHY, for working together in good faith.

Plain and simple, this package is good for our economic security and our national security because it addresses the most pressing threats we face as a country. I hope it will be supported.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting in favor of this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR), the distinguished chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, America is grateful for Mrs. LOWEY's years of honorable, dedicated, and enlightened service. We will so miss her leadership, bright smile, and affable nature.

I would also like to thank Ranking Member SIMPSON, who has been a constant and truly valued partner, as well as our wonderful subcommittee staff: Jaime Shimek, Scott McKee, Mark Arnone, Farouk Ophaso, and Mike Brain, who have labored tirelessly to produce this bill.

The Energy and Water division of this bill captures the American spirit of ingenuity and national energy independence. It provides the foundation of critical investments to meet the challenge of climate change, to which \$12 billion, or 24 percent of our overall bill, is dedicated. Without question, our Energy and Water bill is this year's most important climate change legislation, with our overall bill dedicated to sustaining life on Earth.

Instead of the President's shortsighted and devastating cuts, our bill

invests in the future to meet serious national priorities: real jobs, as we achieve building back better by providing \$7.8 billion for the tremendous Army Corps of Engineers, \$145 million above 2020; real innovation to invest into the future in partnership with our universities and private-sector innovators; providing \$39.6 billion for the Department of Energy, \$1 billion above 2020; real security within the Department of Energy, as we responsibly fund a nuclear deterrent while boosting nonproliferation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR).

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, we achieve real impact, as our bill increases the Department's Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy program, ARPA-E, Advanced Energy Research, and the Office of Science.

In sum, the Energy and Water division of this bill invests in innovative programs to yield future opportunities for new-age jobs.

I don't support the cuts in the ATVM program related to advanced technology for vehicles, but I will say that I support the legislation overall and believe that our bill is needed more than ever to heal our Nation and advance our leadership globally.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS), the former chairman of the full committee and ranking member of the Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill, but I want to first congratulate our committee's chair and ranking member for their great work on putting together this enormous and enormously important bill.

First, I want to say how rare this day really is in another way. It is the first time that we have had a ranking member who is a female, Ms. GRANGER, and the first female chairman of the committee, NITA LOWEY. We will miss her enormously on this committee and in the Chamber.

This bill is enormous. It is not perfect, but it reflects a fair compromise that includes funding for many important priorities at home and abroad and vital assistance for all those negatively impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.

As ranking member of the Committee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, I want to tell you, this bill provides critical funding for our national security. This includes \$3.3 billion in Foreign Military Financing for Israel and robust support to combat transnational crime and the flow of illegal drugs.

The bill is also tough on China, as it commits serious resources behind our Indo-Pacific strategy. This includes exposing the censorship and propaganda wielded by the Chinese Communist

Party and countering Beijing's debt-trap diplomacy through well-funded, open, and transparent U.S. development by the Development Finance Corporation and the Countering Chinese Influence Fund.

This bill also protects our core values. It maintains all pro-life protections from last year and rejects efforts to undo the President's historic policies that protect the sanctity of life.

This bill is also great for my district in Kentucky, if I can be parochial. It provides the resources we need to continue to fight the opioid epidemic, which is now more important than ever.

It fully funds my AML pilot program, which is truly breathing life back into my southern and eastern Kentucky communities. It helps our small businesses and so many Kentuckians who are fighting tooth and nail to survive the coronavirus pandemic.

This package does not have everything that we wanted, but it is a good bill, and I think a fair compromise.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues' support.

Mr. Speaker, I want to wish everyone a merry Christmas.

□ 1830

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN), the distinguished majority whip.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, while today's vote to provide relief to families who are suffering due to circumstances far beyond their control is welcome, it is long overdue and insufficient to fully meet their needs.

Democrats put forth our priorities last May to bring relief to those who are sick, unemployed, homeless, and hungry. Republicans instead chose to ignore and obfuscate the widespread suffering.

This short-term package will provide direct payments and unemployment benefits extension and some assistance to help families afford rent, food, water, and broadband. I applaud our Speaker for negotiating these critical provisions and my colleagues who came together in a bipartisan way to drive this compromise, but this package must be viewed only as a downpayment.

Most of us can hardly wait to begin the new year with renewed hope. Our resolve as we come into 2021 with a new Congress and a new administration is to provide the leadership and support Americans need and deserve to get us beyond this pandemic. There can be no greater pursuit in 2021.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON), the ranking member of the Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the fiscal year 2021 omnibus appropriations bill, and particularly the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

As ranking member of the subcommittee, I am pleased this bill is significantly improved from the House bill in many ways.

First and foremost, the bill strongly supports our national nuclear security programs, providing \$15.3 billion for the Weapons Activities account, an increase of \$2.9 billion above fiscal year 2020. This funding supports the maintenance and modernization of our nuclear weapons system, which will ensure a credible and reliable nuclear deterrent.

One of my personal priorities is promoting innovation and growth in nuclear energy. This bill provides almost \$1.4 billion for research, development, and demonstration activities, including increased funding for the Advanced Small Modular Reactors Program and the Advanced Reactors Demonstration Program, both programs focused on building the next generation of carbon-free technologies to be deployed here and abroad.

The bill also includes critical water storage projects in the drought-prone West, such as the Anderson Ranch Dam raise in my district in Idaho.

Mr. Speaker, before I yield back, I would like to thank the full committee ranking member, KAY GRANGER, who has so ably led our Republican Conference on appropriations matters all Congress long. And full committee Chairwoman LOWEY deserves our thanks for her many years of service in this committee and to the Nation. We will miss her.

Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies Chairwoman MARCY KAPTUR and I, again, worked well with our Senate partners, LAMAR ALEXANDER and DIANNE FEINSTEIN, to advance national and constituent interests throughout the programs that are funded in this bill.

Finally, I would like to thank staff on both sides of the aisle for their hard work—extremely hard work—particularly this last month, working to help bring this bill to completion.

Mr. Speaker, this appropriations package, which includes the Energy and Water division, is a strong bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKEY), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Defense, who has spent the last 35 years in the Congress.

Mr. Speaker, we all share his knowledge, which he shares with us so willingly, and we appreciate his service, not just to the committee, but to the Congress, to the country, and we wish him the very, very best. We thank him for his service in the Congress and on this committee.

(Mr. VISCLOSKEY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman for yielding and her kind remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues support H.R. 133.

The Defense portion of this bill continues to focus on the well-being and morale of those in uniform. For example, the bill provides an additional \$116 million for upgrades to childcare facilities and directs the military services to present innovative ideas to address the serious backlog for childcare.

However, I must also share my concerns over DOD and its lack of compliance with many congressionally directed reporting requirements. For example, last year, the committee directed the Department to submit a report on its contracts for advertising services with socially and economically disadvantaged small businesses. The report was 5 months late.

The Department has also habitually redirected funding in contravention of congressional intent. One DOD official referred to these transfers of billions of dollars as anomalies. I refer to them as habitual abuses. I hope in the future it will recognize Congress' constitutional prerogatives.

Mr. Speaker, finally, since it was mentioned, this will be my last floor statement after nearly 44 years of working in the House. I want to thank all of the wonderful staff who have made what successes we have enjoyed possible.

I also want to thank my parents, John and Helen Visclosky, and my sister, Annamarie Visclosky, who believed in me when I was an unemployed, young former staffer and made my incredible life journey possible.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT), the ranking member of the Defense Subcommittee.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation.

First, I want to thank Chairwoman LOWEY for her hard work and her dedication to this institution, and I wish her well in her retirement.

And I certainly want to thank our ranking member for her hard work and all the things that went into getting this bill together. I know it is difficult. We certainly appreciate it.

And, finally, Chairman PETE VISCLOSKEY, not only my chairman, but my close friend, who has worked hard on this bill, and he has done a wonderful job over the years and is certainly a patriot who deserves the credit in putting this Defense bill together.

The Constitution grants Congress the explicit and sacred responsibility to provide for our Nation's defense. This bill before us today does just that. It provides funding for many key programs consistent with the National Defense Strategy and its focus on great power competition with China and Russia.

The bill prioritizes and funds programs essential to our continued military dominance. It provides our combatant commanders with the resources and equipment they need to carry out their missions around the world.

We continue key investments in fifth-generation combat aircraft, ships,

and two Virginia-class submarines, while also continuing to invest in the essential research and development of new technologies essential to maintaining U.S. military superiority.

We continue to prioritize the health and welfare of our men and women in uniform. The funding in this bill reflects the longstanding concerns that so many of our Members have had with Defense health programs, sexual assault prevention, suicide prevention, and the long-awaited electronic health record, which we need to get fixed.

We must get this bill signed into law as soon as possible. According to the DOD comptroller, a continuing resolution wastes \$1.7 billion per month and stops many of the modernization priorities that are the cornerstone of maintaining our military's superiority over near-peer threats such as China and Russia.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that we were able to overcome politically charged issues to negotiate this final passage. I urge all the Members to vote for it.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to yield 1½ minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO), the chair of the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, and now the chair of the full committee, where I know she will serve with her great knowledge with distinction.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from New York, and I hope to fill her shoes in what she has done to promote the welfare of the lives of the people of this country. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support this bill.

We are at a critical moment. We are not just living through a public health crisis, but an economic one; two crises, which have magnified existing inequalities.

Tens of millions of workers are unemployed. Millions of families are facing hunger, many for the first time in their lives. Small businesses are going under, and over 300,000 Americans have lost their lives.

The COVID relief package that we are voting on today is a start, and I thank my colleagues in the House of Representatives for elevating it to provide important relief.

It brings back the enhanced Federal unemployment insurance, direct payments, a second round of PPP loans, \$13 billion in emergency food assistance, and a temporary boost to the monthly food stamp program. And, critically, it includes my Preventing Online Sales of E-Cigarettes Act.

Despite strong Republican opposition, it provides nearly \$2 billion to maintain the paid leave option. I will fight for paid sick days and paid family and medical leave in the new year so that no worker is left behind.

In the Labor-HHS provisions, we were able to secure \$155 billion in life-

or-death funding: \$73 billion for the Department of Health and Human Services and \$82 billion for the Department of Education.

However, it is only a start, and we must do so much more. We need aid to cities and States. We need a child tax credit and much more money for childcare.

Let us act and get the people the help they need.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE), the ranking member of the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to have the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies' bill included in this important appropriations package. As we have done every year since I have served on the subcommittee, we have been able to reach a compromise. I want to highlight a few of the many provisions in the Labor-HHS section of the bill.

The agreement boosts funding for the National Institutes of Health by \$1.25 billion. I am proud to say this increase represents the sixth straight year of sustained increases for the NIH, thanks to bipartisan and bicameral support.

And funding resources, expertise, and investments we have made over the past 6 years in biomedical research, along with public health planning through mechanisms like the Infectious Disease Rapid Response Reserve Fund, are helping us come out of this pandemic faster than predicted.

Make no mistake, this is not an accident. It is a result of years of quiet investment, planning, and scientific dedication. I am glad this conference agreement continues these investments in biomedical research. It will benefit the Nation.

Finally, the bill also funds the President's childhood cancer initiative and continues support to end the HIV epidemic.

This conference agreement before us today also increases funding for education and training programs, including \$52 million for an increase in career and technical education, a \$10 million increase for TRIO and GEAR UP. We have increased funds for Impact Aid and special education and provided funds for veterans to integrate back into the workforce.

Finally, the bill continues existing funding restrictions, including those important to the pro-life community, and drops new controversial language.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to conclude by thanking Ranking Member KAY GRANGER and Labor, Health and Human Services Chair ROSA DELAURO. Ms. GRANGER has been a valiant leader navigating our members through some difficult decisions to bring us here today.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to acknowledge the negotiating skills of the chair of the Labor-HHS Subcommittee, Ms.

DELAURO. I very much look forward to serving with her as both the chair of my subcommittee, as well as the chair of the full committee in the next Congress.

Last, but certainly not least, I also want to thank our full committee chair, Mrs. LOWEY, who has had an outstanding career and navigated us to this point.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to yield 1½ minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), the chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies.

□ 1845

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the combined fiscal year 2021 government spending and coronavirus relief package.

The package before us today does not have everything the American people need. It shortchanges key relief programs, like aid to our first responders and State and local governments.

But the American people are suffering and need immediate relief. Support from Congress is long overdue.

The package includes critical Democratic priorities we fought for, like money for small businesses, extended unemployment benefits, individual stimulus checks, and public health funding to eradicate the coronavirus.

It contains legislation I authored to reauthorize the EARLY Act, which educates young and at-risk women with breast cancer.

The appropriations bills in this package advance key priorities, like \$250 million for Everglades restoration, fighting child exploitation on the internet, and protecting migrants and holding DHS accountable.

As chair of the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee, we fund improved healthcare for veterans, modernize the VA electronic health record system, and improve military infrastructure to ensure readiness.

And we did not include funding to reimburse the President for his theft of military funds for the racist border wall.

The Democratic House passed our coronavirus relief bill in May and our appropriations bills in July. Republicans failed to do their job. They have showcased unprecedented incompetence and cruelty this year.

Why did Republicans block this relief package until now?

They thought we were too generous with the American people, and they wanted to protect corporations who put workers in harm's way, and then tried to shackle the Federal Reserve in a last-minute effort to make it harder for the Biden administration to help struggling small businesses.

Democrats will keep fighting for additional aid once President-elect Biden takes office. That cannot come soon enough.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MOOLENAAR), a member of the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. MOOLENAAR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I support the legislation finishing the appropriations process for 2021 because it funds important priorities for Michigan families. It includes funding for the construction of a new lock at the Soo Locks, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, rural broadband internet access, and NIH research into cures for cancer and Alzheimer's.

Of course, there is more work to do. Many communities have been affected by disasters this year, including my district, where two dams failed and communities were flooded.

Congress should do more to help all communities affected by natural disasters this year, and I will be doing everything I can to help those in my district apply to receive Federal assistance.

I am glad we have this bill done for the American people, and I look forward to working with my colleagues across the aisle to craft bipartisan legislation again in the new year.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Virginia, (Mr. SCOTT), the chairman of the Committee on Education and Labor.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding and for her long career helping working men and women throughout the Nation.

I rise in support of this historic legislation. Under this bill, we were able to secure expansion of Pell grants to make it easier for students to access aid by streamlining the free application for Federal student aid. We were able to eliminate the ban on Pell grants for incarcerated students. We were able to discharge debts for many historically Black colleges and universities. And we were able to invest \$82 billion in schools and colleges.

I am particularly proud that we were able to provide an end to the legal prohibition of the use of Federal funds in transportation to promote school integration. That is right. It is still illegal until this bill passes.

Finally, I want to praise the inclusion in this legislation of the fact that we are finally ending surprise medical bills and the problems along those lines.

Mr. Speaker, I hope we will pass the bill and do a lot for students and workers.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DIAZ-BALART), the ranking member of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding. I also thank the chair, Mrs. LOWEY, for her long career helping working men and women throughout the Nation.

I thank Chairman PRICE for working with me on the transportation and housing title of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, this bill includes \$230 million for port infrastructure programs, which is crucial to coastal States, but also, frankly, to our entire freight network.

I am particularly pleased that this bill includes \$390 million to the Maritime Academy Training Ship Program.

This bill also renews housing assistance for millions of Americans in need. It is our duty to meet this commitment, especially for our elderly; our disabled; and our heroes, our veterans.

I am also very pleased the bill provides \$3 billion for homeless assistance grants.

I have seen the results of those programs firsthand, as we effectively eliminated homelessness among veterans in Miami-Dade County.

As a final point on the THUD bill, I would note that this agreement drops the controversial riders, allowing us to move forward.

This omnibus itself continues strong investments also into our national defense. It funds Everglades restoration and prioritizes school safety initiatives.

Once again, Chairman LOWEY and Ranking Member GRANGER led the way through these very difficult times by working day and night and never giving up.

A final word to Chairwoman LOWEY as she manages her final bill. You know, you can agree or disagree with this honorable Member from New York, but she is always honorable, straightforward, a true gentlewoman, and she has been a huge asset to this institution and to our country. Godspeed, Madam Chairwoman.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE). We came to Congress together, and he is the chairman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

I rise in strong support of this final omnibus package that includes critical legislation from the Energy and Commerce Committee.

First, this agreement includes \$69 billion to crush the coronavirus by supporting the rapid and equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, as well as critical testing and contact tracing.

Second, this package finally ends surprise medical bills for American consumers. These surprise bills have burdened millions of patients with crushing medical debts. It saves money, which pays for a 3-year extension to fund community health centers and other vital healthcare programs.

Third, the bill phases down HFCs. This is a big win in the fight against climate change, along with the reauthorization of the Pipeline Safety Act, which reduces methane leaks.

And, fourth, we provide major assistance for struggling families to better afford their internet service.

These are just a few of the key provisions from the Energy and Commerce Committee.

But I want to end by thanking the chair, NITA LOWEY. As she mentioned, she and ELIOT ENGEL, myself, and Rich Neal are the last in our class. I hate to say it that way. She has been an outstanding legislator and a great friend. My only regret is that she is going to just leave Richie Neal and myself to carry on here. So I really wish she would not leave, but I know she wants to, and I wish her the best. I love you, Nita.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY), the ranking member of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding.

I also add my thanks to my good friend, Chair LOWEY, upon her retirement from Congress. Thank you so much for your grace-filled leadership all these years. I am very happy for you in this new phase of life.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman of the Agricultural, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee publicly here, Chair SANFORD BISHOP. He has such a professionalism and courtesy and a working, friendly bipartisan spirit. I really think it is important that America hears that.

Mr. Speaker, this bill underwrites the stabilization policies for our farmers and ranchers, the protection of our drug supply, and what I call the farm of the future.

Now, these elongated deliberations have created extra time for us here in Congress. I know you would probably prefer to be in Maryland. I certainly would prefer to be in Nebraska. But we have had important work to do here.

Given the extra amount of time, I took some liberties and I visited with a young farmer near here, Mr. Speaker. He lives in the Shenandoah Valley. And on a cold Virginia night, I actually sanitized my own shoes and walked with him in his poultry house, and we talked. We talked about costs, fertilizer reuse, mechanical versus digital monitors, and options for integrating renewable energy into his operations.

Checking his birds is a routine he dutifully performs. And that is what America's farmers are about: constancy, vigilance, hard work. And whether it is in the field or among livestock, the day in and day out life of the farmer in Nebraska or Virginia or Georgia is what keeps America strong and helps feed the world.

This bill supports our production agricultural system in many traditional ways, while we also witness an opportunity to expand the farm family. New forms of small-scale niche agriculture marry high-tech with high-touch, connecting the rural to the urban, the farmer to the family, and the farm to the table. This is the future of farming.

Of particular importance, the bill supports rural broadband, as well as protecting our drug supply. It is an important bill from the constructs of the most basic systems in America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Nebraska.

Mr. FORTENBERRY: Mr. Speaker, the bill supports rural broadband. And that is more than wires laid. It is about creating an ecosystem of livability so that the benefits of telehealth and tele-education and telework, along with precision agriculture, can be distributed equitably throughout the country.

The inspiring COVID vaccine approvals by the FDA have shown us what we can do together, and this bill also protects our drug supply while keeping unsafe drugs out.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that these provisions make it into law. That is why I am happy to support this bill.

Again, Chair LOWEY, thank you for your leadership.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS), the chairwoman of the Committee on Financial Services.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

The relief in this bill is desperately needed, as families struggle during the pandemic crisis. The negotiations were difficult. They were tough. I wish we could have done even more, but I am pleased we have done as well as we could have done to provide relief for so many in desperate need for their government to come to their aid.

As chairwoman of the Financial Services Committee, I am proud to have secured \$25 billion in emergency rental assistance. We need much more. We also got an extension of the eviction moratorium and \$12 billion in low-cost, long-term capital and grants to the minority depository institutions and the credit unions and the community development financial institutions.

I thank Ranking Member MCHENRY, Chairman CRAPO, and Ranking Member BROWN for working with me on these provisions.

I am so pleased that the legislation includes stimulus payments for families and individuals. Not enough, but I am pleased.

I am also pleased it includes new funding for unemployment insurance. Not enough, but I am pleased.

I am also pleased we have support for Los Angeles International Airport in my district and small business forgivable PPP loans. This bill will also expand the amount of PPP loans for which restaurants are eligible by a considerable amount.

Let me be clear: Much more is needed, but this bill is a most important first step, and I am very pleased that we are able to come to the aid of all of our constituents.

I thank NANCY PELOSI for the tremendous job that she did in negotiating to get us to this point.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. FLEISCHMANN), the ranking member of the Homeland Security Subcommittee.

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Before I begin, I wish to convey my warm thoughts and sentiments to Mrs. LOWEY from New York, who is chairman of this committee. It has been a privilege to work with you for almost a decade in my capacity, and I wish you the best in your future. And I thank you for your service to this great House.

□ 1900

Mr. Speaker, tonight, I rise in support of the bill we have before us, which is the result of months of negotiations on how best to manage our government's resources in fiscal year 2021 and respond to the COVID pandemic that has gripped so many of our communities.

Mr. Speaker, as the ranking member of the Homeland Security Subcommittee, I thank my full committee leader, Ms. GRANGER, for her great leadership in pulling this omnibus together. I also thank Subcommittee Chairwoman Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD from California, along with Senators CAPITO and TESTER across the hall, for their work and comity in resolving these difficult and challenging issues. It is a pleasure to have served with Chairwoman ROYBAL-ALLARD in this role.

Mr. Speaker, I think we have a very balanced agreement. We continue to provide \$1.375 billion for border security and funds flexibility for Immigration and Customs Enforcement to respond to detention needs.

Further, we have significant investments in many of our Nation's security components, including the great United States Coast Guard, cybersecurity and infrastructure, and FEMA grants to our States and localities to respond to disasters.

Further, the bill before us eliminates the riders and policy provisions contained in the House-reported bill that would have inhibited the Department of Homeland Security from fulfilling its law enforcement responsibilities at our borders and in the interior of our country.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote on this package. It is time for the fiscal year to get underway.

Mr. Speaker, I wish all a happy and healthy new year.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), a senior member of the Appropriations Committee.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, first, let me thank Chairwoman NITA LOWEY for once again doing such a phenomenal job. I am going to miss her tremendously.

Let me just say how much I support this survival bill, which provides a few

months of relief for those suffering from the severe impacts of COVID.

Mr. Speaker, I also thank Congresswoman Chair DELAURO and Chairman PALLONE for their work with our Tri-Caucus to include \$2.8 billion for testing and vaccine support in the communities of color hardest hit by COVID.

Mr. Speaker, I also thank our subcommittee chairs and staff for including so many of our priorities and for their diligent work on this.

It is really shameful that it has taken Republicans so long to realize that their constituents are desperate for help and need their government to give them a lifeline during this terrible time, also.

Eight million people have slipped into poverty since the start of this pandemic, and one in four adults are suffering from hunger during COVID-19. 318,000 people have died from the Trump administration's scandalous mismanagement.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentlewoman.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I support this bill. Let's give this lifeline to people. Let's move forward and build on this downpayment.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON).

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation to provide relief to our fellow Americans, accelerate our Nation's economic recovery, and ensure our great Nation comes back better, stronger, and healthier than ever.

I don't want to belabor my deep concerns with the process except to say, Mr. Speaker, that it is fundamentally broken and that it was unnecessarily prolonged for purely political reasons. The American people waited, and waited for months. They deserve better, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my dear friend, fellow Texan and ranking member, KAY GRANGER; our leader, KEVIN MCCARTHY; KEVIN BRADY; and many others who helped finalize this agreement.

It is far from perfect. I haven't met perfect legislation since coming to Washington. But it does a good job of supporting our struggling families, small businesses, healthcare professionals, teachers, and other frontline workers at a time when many desperately need it, and all of this at a fraction of Speaker PELOSI's \$3.3 trillion bailout bonanza, which included cash for illegals, legalizing marijuana, and a host of other unnecessary and irresponsible provisions.

Mr. Speaker, it is no small feat to keep our annual spending below the budget cap, and I commend my colleagues, including Chairwoman LOWEY, for that.

To do that and prevail in protecting troops and including their pay raise, funding for the border wall, preserving

the sacred protections for our unborn, I have got to tell you, that is pretty darn good.

It is hard for me to stand for some of this stuff in this bill, this omnibus. But on balance, it is good for the country, and I am standing with Chairwoman LOWEY, and I am standing with my fellow Texan, KAY GRANGER.

God bless America.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), my friend for 32 years in the House, the outstanding Speaker of the House.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for bringing this important legislation to the floor. I thank her and Ranking Member KAY GRANGER for bringing this in a very strong bipartisan way.

I spoke this morning at some length, so it is on the record as to my attitude here. I salute the legislation that is here and urge passage, but I do want to take a minute to thank the Madam Chair.

She has served in the Congress for a long time. We have sat side by side over the years with ROSA DELAULO, STENY HOYER, and Mr. CLYBURN as appropriators. I have seen her writings-based astute political knowledge, her strategic thinking, her encyclopedic knowledge of the legislation produce the results, understanding what the process will bear and what the country needs first and foremost.

So, Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairwoman LOWEY. I don't know how many more times we will thank her, but hopefully, when the coronavirus goes away, we can all join in embracing her great leadership and expressing gratitude.

Mr. Speaker, I want to just again take a moment in recognition of the other chairs who worked to make this legislation so, so effective with direct payments through the employee retention tax credit, the unemployment insurance, to name a few.

Congresswoman VELÁZQUEZ with Small Business, under her leadership and working in a bipartisan way, small businesses, which are the heart of our economy, have received almost \$1 trillion in these coronavirus bills, almost \$1 trillion. We support that, but I also would hope there would be some commensurate recognition of the jobs of small business, the jobs of State and local government. They have received only \$160 billion in all of these bills, \$160 billion.

Does that sound familiar? That is exactly the amount of money that the Republicans put in the CARES bill to give to the wealthiest in our country, yet for all the States and localities, and it was retroactive, having nothing to do with coronavirus, \$160 billion. They thought that was commensurate with the responsibilities of our healthcare workers, our State and local police and fire, first responders, transportation, sanitation, food workers, our teachers, our teachers, our teachers.

So, yes, there is more work to do, and it will cost some money, but it will protect jobs. Most importantly, it will meet the needs of the American people to crush the virus and to do so in a way that brings us all into the future in a very safe way.

I thank Congresswoman VELÁZQUEZ for her extraordinary leadership in that regard.

Mr. Speaker, I thank MAXINE WATERS for coming to the need of people, renters, landlords, et cetera, with her important legislation—of course, we want more, but for now, this will see us through—her Community Development Financial Institutions legislation, her MDIs, making all that available in the small business piece, available to so many more people.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. SCOTT from Virginia. Student loans, childcare, I thank him for making it right.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. PALLONE for his leadership again and again. Vaccines, the vaccine issue is so important, how it is delivered, how it is produced, distributed. Going from vaccine to vaccination, from lab to arm, so much is required, and much of it is in this bill. Testing and tracing are still needed. We still need to provide a relief fund that goes along with that. I thank him for the personal interest he took in broadband.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. DEFAZIO on transportation and WRDA. Yesterday morning, we didn't even have WRDA in the bill. That is why this all has taken longer to do. So, I thank him for the important role that he played. We all know about the airlines and the rest, but there is so much more.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. PETERSON for his work on nutrition. People are hungry in our country, and we had to fight for nutrition money, but I thank him for his persistence.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. MCGOVERN for his advocacy in the Congress for children and hunger, as well as ROSA DELAULO. But Mr. MCGOVERN has gone on hunger strikes and the rest. He really values what is in this bill on nutrition to feed the hungry in our country.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mrs. MALONEY for saving our Postal Service.

Just a brief reference to say thank you. This has been a long, difficult negotiation. These chairs, their members of the committees, and their staffs have been invaluable. Shalanda and Chris, I thank them so much for making all this happen.

Mr. Speaker, I reference the statement I made this morning about one thing and another, about the attitude we have to this and the need for us to recognize this as a first step and the need for us to address the important contribution of our health workers, police and fire first responders, sanitation, transportation, food workers, our teachers, our teachers, our teachers.

If we are going to safely reenter the economy and our schools, we must crush the virus.

I have hope to crush the virus. That is why we could support this bill. It

doesn't go all the way, but it takes us down the path, a first step.

I have hope of crushing the virus, and I have hope because of the election of Joe Biden as President of the United States, a President who will follow science. He will follow science, and he will recognize that we have to meet the needs of all the American people wherever they live in our country, especially addressing BARBARA LEE's concerns about the communities of color that have been underserved in so much of what we have done.

Mr. Speaker, I have great appreciation for Madam Chair NITA LOWEY.

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

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the majority leader.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank Madam Chair for yielding, and I thank Ranking Member KAY GRANGER for her work.

Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity to do a video, as we all are communicating with one another virtually, about my colleague and friend with whom I have served for over three decades, NITA LOWEY.

I went to school in NITA LOWEY's district many, many years ago. When she came here, we became friends. Shortly thereafter, she came on the Appropriations Committee, and we served together, as Speaker PELOSI said, on the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee. I served on that committee for 23 years. I have great affection for that committee.

We served under a gentleman named Bill Natcher from the State of Kentucky. He used to stand when he presented that bill to the floor and say: "This is the people's bill."

Mr. Speaker, this is the people's bill.

□ 1915

This is a bill that must pass. They say that good things come to those who wait. They have waited too long, had too much pain, physically; too many deaths; too much psychological damage; too many lost jobs. This is, however, a good thing that will come to those who need it so badly.

I want to thank Chairwoman LOWEY, who has performed such extraordinary service on the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies for a long time; and the Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs for a long time; and for the Appropriations Committee.

I want to thank my friend, KAY GRANGER. We are perceived as being awfully partisan, and this has been a partisan project as well. It took us from May 15 until today to get this done. We passed, in the interim, October 1, another bill of substantially lesser sum than the one we passed in May, and a little more than what we are passing—actually, twice what we are passing today. All of it was needed.

The American people have been waiting and watching and hoping that Congress would not only be able to avert a shutdown but also to provide much-needed COVID-19 relief.

Mr. Speaker, we now have a bipartisan agreement, and the legislation will achieve both of those aims.

KAY GRANGER, as I said, is somebody who was a mayor in Texas, and mayors know they have to get things done, and Congresswoman GRANGER has been somebody who wants to get things done. She and NITA LOWEY have been a team in getting things done. I thank both of them.

This bill completes the appropriations process by investing in the American people, in our national defense, in economic opportunity, in strengthening safety net programs that keep Americans out of poverty.

As I said, I thank both NITA LOWEY and KAY GRANGER.

I particularly want to thank an extraordinary Member of this body. She is not called a Congresswoman. She is not a Member of this body, but she is a person without whom we would not be nearly as successful as we have been over this last year. She has made this year less painful for millions and millions and millions of Americans.

Her name is Shalanda Young. She sits right behind me, an extraordinary talent whose leadership makes seminal contributions to all the sections of this bill and to previous bills dealing with appropriations and the COVID-19 pandemic.

She is, in many ways, an indispensable person when we come to dealing with bills of this magnitude. She works for Mrs. LOWEY, as does Chris Bigelow. Both have done extraordinary service.

Shalanda Young, Mr. Speaker, represents the best of us. I say that because she represents a lot of the staff we have here. She is extraordinarily talented, extraordinarily patriotic, and extraordinarily dedicated to the work of the American people, and extraordinarily underpaid.

Members are going to be underpaid in this bill, too. We beat our chest, and we have money in there that says we don't get a COLA one more time. Aren't we so courageous. I am disgusted by that, Mr. Speaker, and I want all of America to know; I want all of my constituents to know. Every Member in this place, whether I agree with them or not, is worth a COLA, at least trying to keep them even with the cost of living in this country. We struck it one more time, as we pretend that we think the COLA is unjust.

However, that is de minimis to this bill, but, certainly, will not dissuade me or ought not to dissuade anybody from voting enthusiastically, energetically, and proudly for this bill.

As a result of this omnibus, the next President will be able to start his administration focusing on immediate challenges instead of trying to finish the previous year's work.

I want to say something on that one more time. I have talked to Ms.

GRANGER, who is going to be here. There is no reason, Mr. Speaker, why we can't pass appropriation bills by September 30, the ending of the fiscal year, October 1 being the beginning of the new fiscal year.

I am frustrated, as the majority leader who is supposed to be able to make things work here, with my colleagues. We did make it work here, but our Senate colleagues did not pass a single bill prior to the election, so here we are.

In addition, this end-of-the-year package includes critical clean-energy legislation passed by the House earlier this year that makes important progress toward addressing the climate crisis while ensuring that America can create good jobs by leading the clean-energy economy.

We were also able, in this bill, Mr. Speaker, to include legislation that protects patients from surprise bills by removing them from the fight between insurers and providers and implementing a fairer process for resolving disputes.

On COVID-19 relief, while we were unable to secure agreement on every priority that Democrats and some Republicans wanted—we don't always get everything we want. So be it. That is the process.

We were able, however, to include many of the provisions we included in previous bills on May 15 and October 1, which I referred to earlier, for which Democrats have been fighting for months and that Americans desperately need.

These include resumption of expanded unemployment benefits, another round of direct payments, relief for renters, and assistance to make sure that Americans can put food on the table. In the richest country on the face of the Earth, we have people in food lines who can't feed themselves. That is not only wrong, but it is immoral and inconsistent with my faith and, I think, the faith of most.

There is additional help for small business—appropriate—and resources to help schools reopen safely.

In addition, we secured another \$3.36 billion for GAVI, and I thank the chair. It is a small program, relatively speaking, but it is about keeping people healthy around the world.

We are a shrinking globe, and this COVID crisis came from abroad—wherever it came from, Europe, contrary to the President saying it came only from China. It came from Europe; it came from China. We have a moral responsibility to make sure that it doesn't keep coming and that we help our brothers and sisters abroad as well so that we, too, can be healthy.

In the new year, we will continue to work to ensure that our country can meet the challenges of COVID-19, including help for State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments that are on the front line. Who is delivering the shot in the arm? States and local governments.

No compromise is perfect, of course, and this is not perfect. So many people

have said that, but that goes without saying. We don't do perfect. We are human beings. If we do the right thing, we do the best we can. It is essential that we move forward and do our jobs for the American people.

That is why the House did its job by passing the Heroes Act in May and again in October and why we passed appropriation bills to fund nearly all of government by July 26.

It is disappointing, as I have said, that the Senate waited until November to begin serious consideration of appropriation bills. I don't mean the subcommittees didn't work; they just didn't report anything out.

Thankfully, though, we are taking action together. America, we are taking action together. And you can be pleased when you see the board light up, mostly overwhelmingly green.

I urge the President to sign this legislation without delay, just, Mr. Speaker, as I urge him to sign the National Defense Authorization Act in which you played such a critical role, Mr. Speaker, and we passed earlier this month. I fear that he will veto this bill for an unrelated, totally nongermane issue, and we may be back here on the 28th.

If we are not here on the 28th, again, NITA LOWEY, I want to say to you: Thank you. How much we appreciate your contribution, and how much we appreciate the contribution of all of those who might be leaving either voluntarily or involuntarily. We thank them for their service.

Mr. Speaker, let's finish the work of the 116th Congress.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BRADY), the ranking member on the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. BRADY. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Ranking Member GRANGER for her terrific leadership on this bill and throughout this session.

This agreement is a big, important win for American workers, healthcare providers, Main Street businesses, and families.

In this agreement, we have Republican tax relief for American families. We permanently make it easier to deduct high medical costs and lifetime learning costs. We extend for 5 years the tax credit for paid family and medical leave, plus we take it one step further by helping businesses pay off student loans for workers.

We have big wins for patients and families together. We end surprise medical bills when you visit the ER or have scheduled medical procedures. We require that patients be given a true and honest bill ahead of a scheduled procedure, and we make it easier to find in-network doctors and providers.

In addition to helping patients, we also help our doctors. We increase their pay and stop two-thirds of planned Medicare cuts for certain providers. We also increase doctor pay by over \$3 billion and add 1,000 new graduate medical education slots to help train more doctors.

We took needed action to improve healthcare in rural areas.

It also contains strong antifraud safeguards for unemployment.

We offer crucial tax help for millions of Americans and small businesses with another round of stimulus checks, more funds and flexibility for PPP loans.

We also include important technical corrections to the new U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement, which will help our economy rebuild from this pandemic.

Maybe most importantly, we have big wins in this package to help us defeat the virus once and for all with billions more in funding for vaccines, testing, distribution, and more.

This bipartisan solution is so important to the American people. This is a strong and needed package. Its benefits will be felt for years to come.

I also want to finish by thanking our committee chairman, RICHIE NEAL, who worked so closely with me and all of our committee members on these wins for the American people. It has been an honor to work with him this Congress.

I am also very proud of the work and leadership that Republicans have exemplified throughout this Congress, especially among the Ways and Means Committee. I will gladly and strongly vote in support of this bill, and I encourage all of my colleagues to do the same.

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

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

Before I close, I want to take a moment to recognize my good friend and our full committee chairman, NITA LOWEY, as this will be the last bill that she will take to the floor.

She is the first woman to hold the gavel of the Appropriations Committee, and her retirement is a huge loss to our country, to our committee, and to me personally.

When I was named as ranking member and she was named as chair, she called me into her office. We really had never worked together. We were on different committees. I will never forget what she said. She said: We are going to do it on time and on budget, and we will become best friends.

□ 1930

I wasn't sure she wasn't crazy, but I said: I will do that.

We became good friends, and we did things on time and on budget. Everything was a joy working with her because she always knew what she wanted and what she wanted to do. She was inclusive, and we did turn and have a friendship that I will always cherish.

So I wanted to make sure that you knew that I realized I had a unique opportunity in working with you. I learned a lot, and we had a good time, didn't we?

I also want to take a minute to thank the members of our committee and our staff for their hard work this

year. This really is a must-pass bill that I look forward to getting signed into law.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting in favor of these bills, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time, and I rise to address this House for the final time.

For 32 years, it has been my privilege to serve as United States Representative from New York; and in the 116th Congress, it has been my distinct honor to be the first chairwoman of the House Appropriations Committee.

By wielding the power of the purse, this bill will make a profound difference in the lives of millions of Americans and people around the world.

I am proud to have worked with so many of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to assemble this bill and other legislative successes. You have challenged and inspired me, and I treasure the friendships that we have made.

My dear friend, KAY GRANGER, it has been such an honor getting to know you. Texas values, New York values, no matter what they say, we became good friends and worked so well together. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

I would be remiss if I did not thank the talented staff who have worked so hard to put this bill together, led by Clerk and Staff Director Shalanda Young, the extraordinary Shalanda Young, who is way back there.

Thank you, Shalanda Young.

And also the extraordinary deputy staff director, Chris Bigelow. What a team. They manage. No matter how much paper and no matter what the challenge, they seem to be able to put it all together and get it right.

Shalanda and Chris, I thank you—and always with an assist by my chief of staff, Elizabeth Stanley.

I do want to thank the staff director of the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee, which I chair, Steve Marchese.

There is one principle that has guided my 32 years in public service: When you see a problem, whether it is here or in the district or in another community, do something about it.

Too many people see a problem. They are good people, but they will all go off to this personal activity or another personal activity. Members of Congress know, when they see a problem, we have a responsibility to address it and do something about it to make life better for our community, the Nation, and the world. This bill does something to crush this virus and set us on the course for a strong and equitable recovery.

Mr. Speaker, for the last time and with a deep sense of gratitude for the honor of serving in this House, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 that funds our government and

provides desperately needed relief to American families. I'm proud to support many of the provisions in this legislation, understanding that no compromise is perfect. Frontline workers, including public health workers, firefighters, and other essential workers employed by state and local governments continue to need our support.

The bill before us today provides a lifeline to those who are struggling from the COVID-19 pandemic and the recession it has caused. It extends critical programs first authorized by the CARES Act including \$300 per week in additional unemployment benefits, a second round of direct payments of up to \$600, \$284 billion for additional small business loans under the Paycheck Protection Program, and \$13 billion in nutrition assistance for Americans facing hunger. It also provides \$25 billion to help renters pay their rent and stay in their homes. I'm deeply disappointed that the Administration and the Senate Majority Leader would not allow restaurants and their workers to receive our help. With over 300 bipartisan cosponsors on the RESTAURANT Act, these businesses and their workers should have been in this legislation.

In addition to pandemic relief, the bill funds the government through the remainder of the fiscal year, avoiding a costly government shutdown before the holidays, and invests in critical priorities, including clean energy, affordable housing, public schools, and broadband. I'm proud to have secured \$100 million for the electrification of Caltrain, \$8.9 million for environmental conservation of the San Francisco Bay, \$33 million for construction of the Linac Coherent Light Source upgrade (LCLS-II) at SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, and \$85.2 million for the Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA) at NASA Ames.

Our country is in the midst of the worst public health crisis in a century, and I'm proud to say that the Democrats on the Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee, which I have had the privilege to lead, have stepped up to the challenge by securing provisions that include the following:

Provide billions to ensure the free, timely, and equitable distribution of safe, effective vaccines and more resources for a national testing strategy;

End surprise medical billing. No patient will face an unexpected, expensive bill just because they are caught in a web of providers.

Assist doctors and public and rural hospitals survive the pandemic by stopping planned Medicare and Medicaid cuts.

Provide three years of funding for critical public health programs including Community Health Centers, Teaching Health Centers, the National Health Service Corps, and the special diabetes programs.

Restore Medicaid coverage for the citizens of the freely associated states living in the U.S., to whom America has for too long abandoned its commitments to.

Improve Medicare coverage for beneficiaries across the country by simplifying Part B enrollment; permanently authorizing the use of telehealth for mental health care; eliminating cost-sharing for colorectal cancer screenings; and extending coverage for immunosuppressive drugs for kidney transplant patients. I'm especially proud to have co-led and championed the immunosuppressive drug coverage legislation to correct a short-sighted coverage policy

which will save 375 kidney transplants each year. This provision appears in Section 402 of Division CC and is based on H.R. 5534, the Comprehensive Immunosuppressive Drug Coverage for Kidney Transplant Patients Act of 2019.

Improve the Medicaid program by expanding access to certified community behavioral health clinics; eliminate spousal impoverishment for partners of Medicaid beneficiaries receiving home and community-based services; and continuing the Money Follows the Person rebalancing demonstration which makes it possible for people on Medicaid to transition to a safer home or community-based environment and still maintain Medicaid funding.

Lower health care costs by strengthening parity in mental health and substance use disorder benefits; removing gag clauses on health price and quality information; ending a loophole that allowed drugs for opioid use disorder to benefit from the orphan drug designation; and making it easier for biosimilar products to come to market by increasing patent and exclusivity transparency. This final provision appears in Section 325 of Division BB, and it is a bill I'm proud to have sponsored, H.R. 1520, the Purple Book Continuity Act. It requires patent information for biologics to be submitted to the FDA and published in the publicly-available "Purple Book." By creating a single, searchable list of licensed biologics, manufacturers will be able to plan a pipeline of lower-cost biosimilar products for years to come.

I'm also proud to have several health appropriations which I requested included in today's agreement. These items represent the critical advancement of life-saving research and care, including: \$15 million for the Pancreatic Cancer Research Program at the DOD, which I've long championed and which comes as the world continues to mourn the deaths this year of several iconic Americans from this very aggressive cancer, including Congressman John Lewis and Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg; \$42.9 billion for the NIH for forward thinking investments in medical research; \$597 million for critical biodefense and public health emergency preparedness at BARDA, which my legislation created. Another \$19.7 billion is in the COVID-19 relief agreement for BARDA to manufacture and procure vaccines; \$350 million for the Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education Program to support pediatric medical residents' training; and \$5.4 million for research on Chronic Fatigue Syndrome at the CDC to better understand this terrible disease.

There's still so much more the American people need. We must increase federal funding for the Medicaid program during this health and economic crisis, including home-and-community-based services, improve infection control and quality in our nation's nursing homes, and address the public health crises that continue during the COVID-19 pandemic, such as America's unacceptable rates of maternal mortality, suicides, and overdoses. I'm proud of what we've accomplished in the Health Subcommittee this year and energized to continue the fight in 2021.

Today's agreement includes important clean energy provisions, including my legislation, H.R. 1420, the Energy Efficient Government Technology Act, which appears as Sections 1003 and 1004 of Division Z. The bill requires government agencies to develop plans to im-

plement best practices for energy management, purchase more energy efficient information and communications technologies, and submit to periodic evaluation of their data centers for energy efficiency.

Data centers are a critical part of our national infrastructure and are found in nearly every sector of our economy. The federal government alone has more than 2,000 data centers which store everything from Social Security and tax records, toe-books at the Library of Congress. Despite their importance to our government and our economy, many are extremely inefficient when it comes to energy use.

The good news is many data centers can significantly reduce their energy use using existing technology and best practices. This will reduce not only the government's carbon footprint but also its energy bills. My bipartisan legislation has the potential to save taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars in reduced energy costs in the future, while setting an example for the private sector to reduce energy usage at data centers.

We must ensure students in need can continue their studies during the pandemic as colleges begin another semester of remote learning, and I'm proud that our agreement includes funding for these students. Section 902 of Division N is modeled on H.R. 6814, the Supporting Connectivity for Higher Education Students in Need Act, bicameral legislation I introduced on May 13, 2020.

The provision provides \$285 million to expand connectivity for historically Black colleges and universities, Tribal colleges and universities, Hispanic-serving institutions and other minority-serving institutions, their students, and minority-owned businesses near those colleges. The funding can be used to purchase routers, modems, wi-fi hotspots, tablets, and laptops. Funding recipients must prioritize low-income students. The legislation also establishes the Office of Minority Broadband Initiatives within the NTIA to carry out programs expand access to broadband at and in communities around HBCUs, TCUs, HSIs and other MSIs.

Between 2012 and 2018, over \$1.2 billion in 9-1-1 fees were diverted to uses other than 9-1-1. While most states curtailed this horrific practice, four states continue diverting 9-1-1 fees: New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Nevada. I first co-lead the bipartisan 9-1-1 Fee Integrity Act to require by statute that 9-1-1 fees can only be used for 9-1-1 purposes on September 14, 2018. I'm pleased that the legislation appears in Section 902 of Division FF.

I'm pleased that today's agreement includes funding for AI R&D. The Joint Explanatory Statement for Division B includes direction for AI R&D to expand at NSF and NIST, including with a focus on increasing AI workforce diversity and developing a framework for ethical and safe AI. I've twice written to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies requesting robust AI R&D funding, and I thank them for their leadership in taking an important step to increase AI funding.

I'm pleased that this legislation includes funding for several technology and telecommunications matters that are priorities for me and for our country, including \$3.2 billion for a \$50 per month emergency broadband benefit for low income families, Pell Grant re-

cipients, students eligible for free or reduced lunch, and recently unemployed individuals; \$1.9 billion to 'rip and replace' telecommunications equipment made by insecure suppliers, like Huawei and ZTE, which I first asked the FCC to investigate in 2010; \$250 million for the FCC's COVID-19 Telehealth Program; and \$65 million to develop reliable broadband maps which are critical for the federal government and all states to know where broadband support funding would be most effective.

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise to emphasize the appropriate application and interpretation of Section 404 of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, which has been included as Division W of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021.

Section 404 was authored by Chairman BENNIE THOMPSON of the Committee on Homeland Security. Its essence is to establish a specialized fellowship program related to cybersecurity and intelligence within the Department of Homeland Security. The program is meant for certain undergraduate students from diverse racial, ethnic, cultural, and other backgrounds. And the Secretary of Homeland Security—who shall administer Section 404—also will have authority to hire successful fellowship participants as Department employees, and into positions involving cyber or intelligence.

The broader and most compelling goal being, of course, to ensure that the Department and the Federal government are doing their utmost to recruit, hire and retain a highly diverse workforce. The language of Section 404 must be interpreted and implemented by the Department broadly, with a mind towards attainment of this lawful objective; under no circumstances should it be read in an inappropriately narrow or needlessly restrictive fashion.

Although Section 404 does not require that students attend Historically Black Colleges or Universities or Minority-Serving Institutions in order to participate in the fellowship program, the Secretary of Homeland Security—who will administer this authority—should make extensive efforts to promote the fellowship among students from HBCUs and MSIs.

Together with the other Members of the Homeland Security and Intelligence Committees, I will look forward to receiving the report required by Section 404, which will permit Congress to confirm that, in fact, the Department is conducting the necessary outreach to HBCUs, MSIs, and other Institutions of Higher Education; and, consistent with the approach I have set forth here, reading and applying Section 404's language in a manner that fulfills the initiative's overarching goal.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to lend my support of this fiscal year 2021 appropriations package.

I thank the Chair of the Appropriations Committee, Mrs. LOWEY, and my friend, Chairman SERRANO, as they prepare to retire for their many years of dedication and hard work to this institution and I wish them both well.

I also want to thank Ranking Member GRANGER for her outstanding leadership this year.

I'm pleased that this bill supports the Trump Administration's Moon to Mars Artemis initiative and rejects radical demands to defund the police. It also restores long-standing Second Amendment protections that have enjoyed historical, bipartisan support yet were excluded

from the House-passed Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Act.

I am also pleased that this bill rejects issues which previously held up a COVID relief agreement. This bill provides individuals, families, health care providers, and businesses the assistance which we can agree on, to help everyone get through this pandemic. It also looks to the future by providing additional funding to expand internet access in rural areas.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, The House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 133, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, includes many important provisions. Among them is Section 203 of Title II, Division BB, based on H.R. 7539, the Strengthening Behavioral Health Parity Act—an important step forward in improving the effective enforcement of mental health parity laws that govern group and individual health plans and coverage. I am pleased to see this legislation advance as part of our continuing efforts to ensure the promise of parity is realized for all.

As Chairman of the Committee on Education and Labor, which has legislative jurisdiction over employee health benefit plans (including provisions of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act or ERISA) as well as oversight jurisdiction over the United States Department of Labor, I would like to provide additional clarification for the record regarding the interactions between this legislation and existing enforcement and compliance efforts by the Secretary of Labor.

First, no provision of Section 203 in any way restricts, alters, or otherwise interferes with the existing enforcement and oversight authority of the Secretary of Labor, including the Secretary's authority to investigate, audit, and seek equitable or other relief to enforce any requirements of federal law. The requirement that the Secretary examine the comparative analyses of at least 20 plans annually serves as a floor, not a ceiling, on the Department's enforcement actions, and the Department remains authorized to continue to utilize its broad authority under Sections 502, 504, 506 of ERISA and other laws to enforce all requirements of this bill, Part 7 of ERISA, and any other requirements of federal law.

Second, no provision of Section 203 in any way restricts, alters, or otherwise interferes with the rights of group health plan participants to bring an action to enforce their rights under Section 502 of ERISA, nor does it impact judicial review of any statutory violations. This bill also should not be interpreted to create any additional presumption in favor of health plans and issuers during judicial review of nonquantitative treatment limitation (NQL) determinations, and the Secretary remains authorized to seek equitable or other relief, including relief regarding the re-adjudication of claims. All provisions should be interpreted to ensure the broadest access to relief for plan participants.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the 900 billion dollar economic relief package which has been agreed to by Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle. While this package is far from what is actually needed, it is necessary to act right now and we do not have any additional time to wait. This bill will direct billions of dollars in aid to unemployed individuals who are suffering with no other hope or help in sight.

It will provide up to \$600 in stimulus checks, it will extend unemployment benefit checks, extend a moratorium on evictions for 1 month, 325 billion for business relief with 275 billion going to paycheck protection, 82 billion for schools, 20 billion for vaccine distribution. While this is not quite exactly what I was looking for, it will hold us until President Biden takes the reins and leads us on.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, the American people are incredibly frustrated, and rightly so. This relief package, while a step forward, should have been passed months ago. House Democrats first passed the Heroes Act in May; at the same time, Majority Leader MITCH MCCONNELL called for a 'pause' and Senate Republicans refused to act until now.

More than 315,000 Americans have died from COVID-19. Experts have said if we had made a larger investment in testing and tracing, many of these deaths could have been prevented. Millions of Americans are unemployed and many are facing food insecurity. Our state and local governments, including first responders, have been on the frontlines of this pandemic but are being left out of this relief package. We can and we must do more.

As I have said before, we cannot get the economy up and running until we conquer the virus.

Today's relief package makes significant investments in testing and tracing efforts, vaccines, therapeutics, and medical supplies and funding for underserved communities, all of which are critical to crushing this pandemic.

This package provides help for the millions of Americans who are struggling right now. It strengthens critical programs for those who are unemployed by extending and enhancing unemployment insurance and rental assistance. It also offers \$600 in direct payments to low- and moderate-income Americans and includes a \$13 billion increase in food assistance programs to help the millions of families facing food insecurity.

This bill also includes vital funding for small businesses, including specific funding for arts and cultural programs and smaller businesses who weren't able to access the initial relief funding.

These are welcome steps forward, but they are just a down payment on what needs to be done.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, which includes my bipartisan Water Power Research and Development Act.

As we work to mitigate the climate crisis and transition to a 100 percent clean energy economy, we cannot ignore our ocean. It covers more than 70 percent of the surface of our planet, and we can capture the power of its waves, currents, and tides to power our homes, buildings, and communities.

Marine energy has tremendous potential as one of the last untapped renewable energy sources, and federal investment can help unlock it. Earlier this year, I was pleased to work with my House Oceans Caucus CoChair, Congressman DON YOUNG, and another marine energy enthusiast from the east coast, Congressman TED DEUTCH, to introduce the bipartisan Water Power Research and Development Act. The bill would reauthorize funding for research, development, demonstration, and commercialization of marine energy within the Department of Energy's Water Power Tech-

nologies Office. Importantly, the bill authorizes funding for existing and new National Marine Energy Centers, including the Pacific Marine Energy Center—operated by Oregon State University, the University of Washington, and the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Researchers at Oregon State University are leading the way on this innovative work. Through the Pacific Marine Energy Center, OSU is currently in the process of developing PacWave, the first of its kind wave energy test facility off the Oregon Coast. Their leadership scaling up the PacWave testing facility will catalyze this nascent industry. Additionally, we are fortunate to have the advanced manufacturing capacity of companies like Vigor, which recently constructed an 826-ton wave energy device that was deployed off the shores of Hawaii. It was not until I visited Vigor to see the device that I grasped the scale of this resource and what we can gain from it.

I appreciate the support of Chairwoman JOHNSON in helping to secure the inclusion of the Water Power Research and Development Act in today's comprehensive energy package and end of year spending bill, and I am thrilled that it will soon be signed into law. I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill, which is an important step forward in advancing ocean climate action.

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this relief bill because the American people cannot wait another day.

Over 315,000 Americans are dead. Three out of every 4 small businesses have seen their revenues fall, and thousands have shut their doors for good.

Food insecurity has doubled for families with children, and millions of Americans are turning to food banks for the first time.

In most states, 1 in 5 households are behind on rent. More than 10 million people are unemployed.

But it's been over six months since the House passed the Heroes Act, comprehensive legislation to address these issues months ago.

And all this time, Republicans have refused to lift a finger to provide relief to struggling families. It is shameful that it took this long for my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to come to the table.

And let me be clear—\$600 in direct payments and an additional \$300 per week in unemployment is not enough—in fact, it's just half of the aid that we passed in the CARES Act.

So, while I am disappointed in my Republican colleagues and recognize this bill is not ideal or as comprehensive as the Heroes Act—it will provide some much-needed relief to the American people until we can pass a more robust stimulus under the Biden Administration.

I'd particularly like to thank all the staff from member offices, to committee offices, to leadership and floor staff, who worked long hours and through the weekend to help put this package together.

For small businesses, this bill takes action to authorize a second round of PPP loans to the hardest hit businesses. Importantly, it will set aside funding reserved for small businesses with 10 or fewer employees and those in underserved communities. It also utilizes small banks and mission-based community lenders to guarantee fair access to small employers.

And finally, this bill provides for what we have been hearing on the ground from small

businesses—the need for cash infusions through grants. By establishing new guardrails and allocating \$20 billion to the EIDL grant program, we are targeting the hardest hit small businesses to receive these grants.

Meanwhile, as shuttered entertainment venues, including our cultural institutions and movie theaters, that depend on large crowds to survive have been closed by the pandemic and faced difficulties accessing PPP and other SBA programs, this bill creates a new \$15 billion dollar grant program to target these establishments that have experienced a dramatic decline in revenue.

But our efforts do not end here. We will continue to seek more assistance next year because Main Street, especially our independent restaurants, and working families deserve for us to come back to the table to provide a lifeline while we await vaccine distributions.

So today, I'm voting yes but I urge my fellow members, let's not stop here. Let's come back in January and pass more relief for the American people.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to one of the many important provisions of today's legislation. In particular, I rise to discuss Section 1109 of Title XI of Division FF, relating to aquatic ecosystem protection, which comes from the FUTURE Western Water Infrastructure and Drought Resiliency title that I authored in H.R. 2 earlier this year.

Today's provision is an improved version of that legislation, and it is the result of the ongoing bicameral water infrastructure negotiations between the committees of jurisdiction. I am grateful for the work done on both sides of the Capitol and both sides of the aisle to bring this to fruition. This aquatic ecosystem protection provision is designed to fund broadly-supported fish passage projects in the western states, and the specific intent is to help projects like the one in the Eel and Russian River basins in California, where we have a chance to significantly improve fish passage and habitat on the Eel River while providing long term certainty and reliability for Russian River water users.

The Potter Valley Project Ad Hoc Committee has been refining this effort for several years, and we now have a Two-Basin Partnership that is taking the next steps. The intent of this new aquatic ecosystem protection statute is to support the important work of the Two-Basin Partnership, as well as other community-supported restoration projects like it around the west.

I am including in the RECORD letters of support from the Round Valley Indian Tribes, Humboldt County, Sonoma County Water Agency, Mendocino County Inland Water and Power Commission, and California Trout—collectively known as the Two-Basin Partnership—as well as from the Nature Conservancy, Trout Unlimited, and California Trout—collectively known as the California Salmon and Steelhead Coalition.

I thank my colleagues for working with me to bring this legislation to fruition, and thank the staff in both the House and Senate who have helped in this effort, especially Matthew Muirragui from the House Natural Resources Committee and John Driscoll, Logan Ferree, and Ben Miller on my personal staff. I look forward to working with the next administration to support this win-win outcome for the North Coast and North Bay.

DEAR CHAIRMAN HUFFMAN: The Round Valley Indian Tribes, Humboldt County,

Sonoma County Water Agency, Mendocino County Inland Water and Power Commission, and California Trout, collectively known as the Two-Basin Partnership, write in strong support of the aquatic ecosystem restoration provision included in H.R. 2, which we understand you and your staff have negotiated for inclusion in the omnibus appropriations bill.

The Potter Valley Project is a hydroelectric facility that, in addition to generating a small amount of electricity, diverts water from the Eel River into the Russian River basin. The Project's main facilities include two dams on the Eel River, a diversion tunnel and a hydroelectric plant. Citing economic concerns, current Project owner Pacific Gas & Electric announced in January 2019 that it would not seek a new license from Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to continue operating the facilities. PG&E's decision to not re-license the Project left an uncertain future for both Eel and Russian River interests. Instead of leaving it up to the utility and federal regulators to determine the region's water future, local leaders decided to work together to protect the interests of both river basins. The Two-Basin Partnership is a direct outgrowth of that collaborative effort, which brought together diverse stakeholders to develop a compromise solution for the future of this aging and non-economically viable hydroelectric project.

The Partners have joined together as the applicant for the Project, with the collective goal of restoring 288 linear river miles of spawning habitat at the headwaters of the Eel through the removal of Scott Dam, while ensuring water supply reliability on the Russian River. Additional components of the proposed Project Plan include improving a water diversion infrastructure at Cape Horn Dam and developing infrastructure to provide water to meet summer irrigation needs for farmers and ranchers in Potter Valley.

As you know, this legislation would directly support the Two-Basin Solution's shared objectives, which include: minimizing or avoiding adverse impacts to water supply reliability, fisheries, water quality and recreation in the Russian River and Eel River basins; improving fish passage and habitat on the Eel River sufficient to support recovery of naturally reproducing, self-sustaining and harvestable native anadromous fish populations including migratory access upstream and downstream at current project dam locations; and protecting tribal cultural, economic, and other interests in both the Eel and Russian River basins.

On behalf of the Two-Basin Partners, we strongly support this inclusion and your continued support of our efforts on the Eel and Russian Rivers.

Sincerely,

KATHLEEN WILLITS,
Councilmember, Round Valley Indian Tribes.

GRANT DAVIS,
General Manager, Sonoma Water.

HANK SEEMANN,
Deputy Director-Environmental Services, Humboldt County Public Works Department.

JANET PAULI,
Chair, Mendocino County Inland Water and Power Commission.

CURTIS KNIGHT,
California Trout.

DECEMBER 18, 2020.

DEAR CHAIRMAN HUFFMAN: The Nature Conservancy, Trout Unlimited, and California Trout, collectively known as the California Salmon and Steelhead Coalition, write in strong support of the aquatic ecosystem restoration provision included in H.R. 2, which we understand you and your staff have negotiated for inclusion in the omnibus appropriations bill.

The Coalition is a strategic partnership founded to increase streamflows in California's North and Central Coast watersheds, with the goal of restoring and protecting wild salmon and steelhead and creating water reliability for people. We are working toward a California where water use management harmonizes and meets the needs of people, needs of fish and ecosystems. It is for these reasons that the Coalition is working together to support the Potter Valley Project relicensing effort as a major restoration opportunity.

The current Potter Valley Project Plan is built around a unique collaboration among conservationists, county governments, tribes, farmers and other water interests to shape a new future for the Project, a set of obsolete hydroelectric facilities in the upper Eel River and Russian River Watersheds. This effort, if successful, will implement one of the largest dam removals in the history of the United States while strengthening the security of local water supplies.

The project consists of two dams on the upper Eel River—Scott and Cape Horn—as well as a system of trans-basin tunnels that divert approximately 60,000 acre-feet of water per year from the Eel to the Russian to generate hydroelectric power. This water ultimately flows to agricultural and municipal users in the Russian River Watershed. But, perhaps more importantly, the project blocks fish from reaching 288 linear stream miles above Scott Dam that were once the spawning grounds for some of the largest salmon and steelhead runs in California.

In January 2019, PG&E chose to discontinue its efforts to renew the project's license, which expires in 2022, from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). This left the door open for a different entity to license the project. Seeing this as an opportunity to remove the dams blocking the headwaters of the Eel River, California Trout joined with a diverse coalition—Sonoma Water, Mendocino County Inland Water and Power Commission, and Humboldt County—to notify FERC that they would explore taking over the re-licensing of the project. Over the subsequent year, those parties—joined by the Round Valley Tribe—worked with a team of technical consultants to develop a proposed plan to take over the project and implement a “Two-Basin Solution” that would remove Scott Dam, improve fish passage at Cape Horn Dam and build new infrastructure to deliver secure water supplies to farmers who currently rely on the project.

In the spring of 2020, the three Coalition groups helped negotiate an initial plan proposing the removal of Scott Dam and the implementation of a Two-Basin Solution to modernize this project to improve water supply reliability for farms and communities in the Russian and Eel River Basins; the plan will also help to restore struggling salmon and steelhead runs by reconnecting the river to its headwaters. In April the Coalition secured a \$1.1 million CDFW grant that will be used to develop that proposal into a complete re-licensing plan. We have also made inroads with the communities that would be most affected by dam removal and lobbied for state and federal funding that will be needed to further develop and implement the plan.

We strongly support the inclusion of aquatic ecosystem restoration funding in the omnibus that could facilitate the watershed-level restoration of a key salmon river in California. Thank you for your leadership and support.

Sincerely,

CURTIS KNIGHT,
Executive Director,
California Trout.

MATT CLIFFORD,
Staff Attorney, California Water Project, Trout Unlimited.

JAY ZIEGLER,
California Director of External Affairs and Policy, The Nature Conservancy.

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, the first wave of stimulus spending proved frustrating for a lot of small and medium sized business.

Many mom and pop businesses ran in to loan processing problems because there were problems with their applications.

Many applicants did not know that their applications needed to be cured from any defects or that there were defects with their application.

Some other small businesses were rejected because their lender ran out of allocation because the lenders were focused on larger loans.

That is why, Democrats were able to secure \$325 billion in small business aid this time around.

Democrats secured critical funding and policy changes to help small businesses, including minority-owned businesses, and nonprofits recover from the pandemic.

This deal includes over \$284 billion for first and second forgivable PPP loans, dedicated set-asides for very small businesses and lending through community-based lenders like Community Development Financial Institutions and Minority Depository Institutions, and expanded PPP eligibility for 501(c)(6) nonprofits, including destination marketing organizations, and local newspapers, TV and radio broadcasters. \$20 billion is included for new EIDL Grants for businesses in low-income communities, \$3.5 billion for continued SBA debt relief payments, and \$2 billion for enhancements to SBA lending.

This deal also includes \$15 billion in dedicated funding for live venues, independent movie theaters, and cultural institutions.

Small businesses that took a PPP loan and saw their revenues fall by 25% will be eligible for a second loan.

Congress will also allow PPP borrowers to take tax deductions for covered business expenses.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 1271, the previous question is ordered.

The question of adoption of the motion is divided.

The first portion of the divided question is: Will the House concur in the Senate amendment with the matter proposed to be inserted as Divisions B, C, E, and F of the amendment of the House?

The question is on the first portion of the divided question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. GRANGER. 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 327, nays 85, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 250]

YEAS—327

Adams	Estes	Lawson (FL)
Aderholt	Evans	Lee (NV)
Aguiar	Ferguson	Lesko
Allen	Finkenauer	Levin (CA)
Allred	Fitzpatrick	Lieu, Ted
Amodei	Fleischmann	Lipinski
Arrington	Fletcher	Loeback
Axne	Flores	Lowenthal
Bacon	Fortenberry	Lowey
Baird	Poster	Lucas
Balderson	Foxx (NC)	Luetkemeyer
Barr	Frankel	Luján
Barragán	Fudge	Luria
Bass	Fulcher	Lynch
Beatty	Gaetz	Malinowski
Bera	Gallego	Maloney, Sean
Bergman	Garamendi	Marshall
Beyer	Garcia (CA)	Matsui
Bilirakis	Garcia (TX)	McAdams
Bishop (GA)	Gianforte	McBath
Blunt Rochester	Gibbs	McCarthy
Bonamici	Golden	McCaul
Bost	Gonzalez (OH)	McCollum
Brady	Gottheimer	McEachin
Brindisi	Granger	McHenry
Brooks (AL)	Graves (LA)	McKinley
Brown (MD)	Graves (MO)	McNerney
Brownley (CA)	Green, Al (TX)	Meeks
Buchanan	Griffith	Meuser
Bucshon	Grothman	Mfume
Burgess	Guest	Miller
Bustos	Haaland	Mitchell
Butterfield	Hagedorn	Moolenaar
Byrne	Hall	Morelle
Calvert	Harder (CA)	Moulton
Carbajal	Harris	Mucarsels-Powell
Cárdenas	Hartzler	Murphy (FL)
Carson (IN)	Hastings	Nadler
Carter (GA)	Hayes	Napolitano
Cartwright	Heck	Neal
Case	Hern, Kevin	Neguse
Casten (IL)	Herrera Beutler	Newhouse
Castor (FL)	Higgins (NY)	Norcross
Chabot	Hill (AR)	Nunes
Cheney	Himes	O'Halleran
Chu, Judy	Holding	Olson
Ciциlline	Horn, Kendra S.	Palazzo
Cisneros	Horsford	Pallone
Clark (MA)	Houlahan	Palmer
Clay	Hoyer	Panetta
Cleaver	Hudson	Pappas
Cline	Huizenga	Pascrell
Clyburn	Hurd (TX)	Payne
Cohen	Jackson Lee	Pelosi
Cole	Jacobs	Pence
Collins (GA)	Johnson (GA)	Perlmutter
Conaway	Johnson (LA)	Peters
Connolly	Johnson (OH)	Peterson
Cooper	Johnson (SD)	Phillips
Costa	Johnson (TX)	Pingree
Courtney	Joyce (OH)	Porter
Cox (CA)	Joyce (PA)	Price (NC)
Craig	Kaptur	Quigley
Crawford	Katko	Reed
Crenshaw	Keating	Reschenthaler
Crist	Kelly (IL)	Rice (NY)
Crow	Kelly (PA)	Richmond
Cunningham	Kildee	Riggleman
Davids (KS)	Kilmer	Roby
Davis (CA)	Kim	Rodgers (WA)
Davis, Danny K.	Kind	Roe, David P.
Davis, Rodney	King (NY)	Rogers (KY)
Dean	Kinzing	Rooney (FL)
DeGette	Kirkpatrick	Rose (NY)
DeLauro	Krishnamoorthi	Rouda
DelBene	Kuster (NH)	Rouzer
Delgado	Kustoff (TN)	Roybal-Allard
Demings	LaHood	Ruiz
Deutsch	LaMalfa	Ruppersberger
Diaz-Balart	Lamb	Rush
Dingell	Lamborn	Rutherford
Doyle, Michael	Langevin	Ryan
F.	Larsen (WA)	Sánchez
Emmer	Larson (CT)	Sarbanes
Engel	Latta	Scalise
Eshoo	Lawrence	Scanlon

Schiff	Stanton	Van Drew
Schneider	Stauber	Veasey
Schrader	Stefanik	Visclosky
Schrier	Steil	Wagner
Scott (VA)	Stevens	Walberg
Scott, Austin	Stewart	Walden
Scott, David	Stivers	Walorski
Serrano	Suozzi	Waltz
Sewell (AL)	Swalwell (CA)	Wasserman
Shalala	Thompson (CA)	Schultz
Sherman	Thompson (MS)	Waters
Sherrill	Thompson (PA)	Watkins
Shimkus	Thornberry	Wenstrup
Simpson	Tipton	Westerman
Sires	Titus	Wexton
Slotkin	Tonko	Wild
Smith (MO)	Torres (CA)	Williams
Smith (NE)	Torres Small	Wilson (FL)
Smith (NJ)	(NM)	Wittman
Smith (WA)	Trahan	Womack
Smucker	Trone	Woodall
Soto	Turner	Yarmuth
Spanberger	Underwood	Young
Speier	Upton	Zeldin

NAYS—85

Amash	Gohmert	Mooney (WV)
Armstrong	Gomez	Moore
Babin	Gonzalez (TX)	Mullin
Banks	Gooden	Norman
Biggs	Gosar	Ocasio-Cortez
Bishop (NC)	Green (TN)	Omar
Blumenauer	Grijalva	Perry
Boyle, Brendan	Hice (GA)	Pocan
F.	Higgins (LA)	Posey
Buck	Hollingsworth	Pressley
Budd	Huffman	Raskin
Burchett	Jayapal	Rice (SC)
Castro (TX)	Jeffries	Rose, John W.
Clarke (NY)	Jordan	Roy
Cloud	Keller	Schakowsky
Comer	Kelly (MS)	Schweikert
Correa	Kennedy	Sensenbrenner
Cuellar	Khanna	Steube
Curtis	Lee (CA)	Takano
Davidson (OH)	Levin (MI)	Taylor
DeFazio	Lofgren	Tiffany
DeSaulnier	Long	Timmons
DesJarlais	Maloney,	Tlaib
Doggett	Carolyn B.	Vargas
Escobar	Massie	Vela
Españat	Mast	Velázquez
Gabbard	McClintock	Watson Coleman
Gallagher	McGovern	Weber (TX)
Garcia (IL)	Meng	Welch

NOT VOTING—18

□ 2025

Messrs. GRIJALVA, JEFFRIES, and WEBER of Texas changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. MCCARTHY changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the first portion of the divided question was adopted.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE
RESOLUTION 965, 116TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)	Carson (IN)	DelBene
Axne (Davids	(Butterfield)	(Ciциlline)
(KS))	Case	DeSaulnier
Barragán (Beyer)	(Cartwright)	(Matsui)
Bera (Aguiar)	Castor (FL)	Deutch (Rice
Bishop (GA)	(Demings)	(NY))
(Butterfield)	Cisneros	Doggett (Raskin)
Blumenauer	(Carbajal)	Escobar (Garcia
(Beyer)	Cleaver (Davids	(TX))
Bonamici (Clark	(KS))	Eshoo
(MA))	Cohen (Beyer)	(Thompson
Boyle, Brendan	Costa (Correa)	(CA))
F. (Jeffries)	Davis (CA)	Finkenauer
Brownley (CA)	(Scanlon)	(Underwood)
(Clark (MA))	Dean (Scanlon)	Fletcher
Bustos (Kuster	DeFazio (Davids	(Raskin)
(NH))	(KS))	Frankel (Clark
Cárdenas	DeGette (Blunt	(MA))
(Carbajal)	Rochester)	

Schakowsky (Underwood)	Shimkus (Pallone)	Veasey (Beyer)
Schneider (Casten (IL))	Sires (Pallone)	Velázquez (Clarke (NY))
Schrier (Spanberger)	Smith (WA) (Courtney)	Watson Coleman (Pallone)
Serrano (Jeffries)	Speier (Scanlon)	Welch (McGovern)
Sewell (AL) (Cicilline)	Thompson (MS) (Fudge)	Wilson (FL) (Hayes)
	Titus (Connolly)	
	Vargas (Correa)	

BANKRUPTCY ADMINISTRATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2020

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (S. 4996) to ensure funding of the United States trustees, extend temporary bankruptcy judgeships, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MFUME). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Rhode Island?

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 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 "Bankruptcy Administration Improvement Act of 2020".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Because of the importance of the goal that the bankruptcy system is self-funded, at no cost to the taxpayer, Congress has closely monitored the funding needs of the bankruptcy system, including by requiring periodic reporting by the Attorney General regarding the United States Trustee System Fund.

(2) Congress has amended the various bankruptcy fees as necessary to ensure that the bankruptcy system remains self-supporting, while also fairly allocating the costs of the system among those who use the system.

(3) Because the bankruptcy system is interconnected, the result has been a system of fees, including filing fees, quarterly fees in chapter 11 cases, and other fees, that together fund the courts, judges, United States trustees, and chapter 7 case trustees necessary for the bankruptcy system to function.

(4) This Act and the amendments made by this Act—

(A) ensure adequate funding of the United States trustees, supports the preservation of existing bankruptcy judgeships that are urgently needed to handle existing and anticipated increases in business and consumer caseloads, and provides long-overdue additional compensation for chapter 7 case trustees whose caseloads include chapter 11 reorganization cases that were converted to chapter 7 liquidation cases; and

(B) confirm the longstanding intention of Congress that quarterly fee requirements remain consistent across all Federal judicial districts.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act and the amendments made by this Act is to further the long-standing goal of Congress of ensuring that the bankruptcy system is self-funded, at no cost to the taxpayer.

SEC. 3. UNITED STATES TRUSTEE SYSTEM FUND; BANKRUPTCY FEES.

(a) DEPOSITS OF CERTAIN FEES FOR FISCAL YEARS 2021 THROUGH 2026.—Notwithstanding

section 589a(b) of title 28, United States Code, for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2026—

(1) the fees collected under section 1930(a)(6) of such title, less the amount specified in subparagraph (2), shall be deposited as specified in subsection (b); and

(2) \$5,400,000 of the fees collected under section 1930(a)(6) of such title shall be deposited in the general fund of the Treasury.

(b) UNITED STATES TRUSTEE SYSTEM FUND.—Section 589a of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(f)(1) During each of fiscal years 2021 through 2026 and notwithstanding subsections (b) and (c), the fees collected under section 1930(a)(6), less the amount specified in paragraph (2), shall be deposited as follows, in the following order:

"(A) First, the amounts specified in the Department of Justice appropriations for that fiscal year, shall be deposited as discretionary offsetting collections to the 'United States Trustee System Fund', pursuant to subsection (a), to remain available until expended.

"(B) Second, the amounts determined annually by the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts that are necessary to reimburse the judiciary for the costs of administering payments under section 330(e) of title 11, shall be deposited as mandatory offsetting collections to the 'United States Trustee System Fund', and transferred and deposited into the special fund established under section 1931(a), and notwithstanding subsection (a), shall be available for expenditure without further appropriation.

"(C) Third, the amounts determined annually by the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts that are necessary to pay trustee compensation authorized by section 330(e)(2) of title 11, shall be deposited as mandatory offsetting collections to the 'United States Trustee System Fund', and transferred and deposited into the Chapter 7 Trustee Fund established under section 330(e) of title 11 for payment to trustees serving in cases under chapter 7 of title 11 (in addition to the amounts paid under section 330(b) of title 11), in accordance with that section, and notwithstanding subsection (a), shall be available for expenditure without further appropriation.

"(D) Fourth, any remaining amounts shall be deposited as discretionary offsetting collections to the 'United States Trustee System Fund', to remain available until expended.

"(2) Notwithstanding subsection (b), for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2026, \$5,400,000 of the fees collected under section 1930(a)(6) shall be deposited in the general fund of the Treasury."

(c) COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS.—Section 330 of title 11, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(e)(1) There is established a fund in the Treasury of the United States, to be known as the 'Chapter 7 Trustee Fund', which shall be administered by the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts.

"(2) Deposits into the Chapter 7 Trustee Fund under section 589a(f)(1)(C) of title 28 shall be available until expended for the purposes described in paragraph (3).

"(3) For fiscal years 2021 through 2026, the Chapter 7 Trustee Fund shall be available to pay the trustee serving in a case that is filed under chapter 7 or a case that is converted to a chapter 7 case in the most recent fiscal year (referred to in this subsection as a 'chapter 7 case') the amount described in paragraph (4) for the chapter 7 case in which the trustee has rendered services in that fiscal year.

"(4) The amount described in this paragraph shall be the lesser of—

"(A) \$60; or

"(B) a pro rata share, for each chapter 7 case, of the fees collected under section 1930(a)(6) of title 28 and deposited to the United States Trustee System Fund under section 589a(f)(1) of title 28, less the amounts specified in section 589a(f)(1)(A) and (B) of title 28.

"(5) The payment received by a trustee under paragraph (3) shall be paid in addition to the amount paid under subsection (b).

"(6) Not later than September 30, 2021, the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts shall promulgate regulations for the administration of this subsection."

(d) BANKRUPTCY FEES.—Section 1930(a) of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (6)(B) and inserting the following:

"(B)(i) During the 5-year period beginning on January 1, 2021, in addition to the filing fee paid to the clerk, a quarterly fee shall be paid to the United States trustee, for deposit in the Treasury, in each open and reopened case under chapter 11 of title 11, other than under subchapter V, for each quarter (including any fraction thereof) until the case is closed, converted, or dismissed, whichever occurs first.

"(ii) The fee shall be the greater of—

"(I) 0.4 percent of disbursements or \$250 for each quarter in which disbursements total less than \$1,000,000; and

"(II) 0.8 percent of disbursements but not more than \$250,000 for each quarter in which disbursements total at least \$1,000,000.

"(iii) The fee shall be payable on the last day of the calendar month following the calendar quarter for which the fee is owed."; and

(2) in paragraph (7), in the first sentence, by striking "may" and inserting "shall".

(e) APPLICABILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) EXCEPTIONS.—

(A) COMPENSATION OF OFFICERS.—The amendments made by subsection (c) shall apply to any case filed on or after the date of enactment of this Act—

(i) under chapter 7 of title 11, United States Code; or

(ii)(I) under chapter 11, 12, or 13 of that title; and

(II) converted to a chapter 7 case under that title.

(B) BANKRUPTCY FEES.—The amendments made by subsection (d) shall apply to—

(i) any case pending under chapter 11 of title 11, United States Code, on or after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(ii) quarterly fees payable under section 1930(a)(6) of title 28, United States Code, as amended by subsection (d), for disbursements made in any calendar quarter that begins on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY OFFICE OF BANKRUPTCY JUDGES IN CERTAIN JUDICIAL DISTRICTS.

(a) TEMPORARY OFFICE OF BANKRUPTCY JUDGES AUTHORIZED BY THE BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIP ACT OF 2017.—

(1) EXTENSIONS.—The temporary office of bankruptcy judges authorized by section 1003(a) of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2017 (28 U.S.C. 152 note) for the district of Delaware and the eastern district of Michigan are extended until the applicable vacancy specified in paragraph (2) in the office of a bankruptcy judge for the respective district occurs.

(2) VACANCIES.—

(A) DISTRICT OF DELAWARE.—The 1st and 2d vacancies in the office of a bankruptcy judge for the district of Delaware—

(i) occurring 5 years or more after the date established by section 1003(b)(1) of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2017 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), and

(ii) resulting from the death, retirement, resignation, or removal of a bankruptcy judge, shall not be filled.

(B) EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN.—The 1st vacancy in the office of a bankruptcy judge for the eastern district of Michigan—

(i) occurring 5 years or more after the date established by section 1003(b)(3) of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2017 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), and

(ii) resulting from the death, retirement, resignation, or removal of a bankruptcy judge, shall not be filled.

(3) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER PROVISIONS.—Except as provided in paragraphs (1) and (2), all other provisions of section 1003 of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2017 (28 U.S.C. 152 note) remain applicable to the temporary office of bankruptcy judges referred to in paragraph (1).

(b) TEMPORARY OFFICE OF BANKRUPTCY JUDGES AUTHORIZED BY THE BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIP ACT OF 2005 AND EXTENDED BY THE TEMPORARY BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIPS EXTENSION ACT OF 2012 AND THE BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIP ACT OF 2017.—

(1) EXTENSIONS.—The temporary office of bankruptcy judges authorized for the following districts by section 1223(b) of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2005 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), extended by section 2(a) of the Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act of 2012 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), and further extended by section 1002(a) of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2017 (28 U.S.C. 152 note) are extended until the applicable vacancy specified in paragraph (2) in the office of a bankruptcy judge for the respective district occurs:

- (A) The district of Delaware.
- (B) The southern district of Florida.
- (C) The district of Maryland.
- (D) The eastern district of Michigan.
- (E) The district of Nevada.
- (F) The eastern district of North Carolina.
- (G) The district of Puerto Rico.
- (H) The eastern district of Virginia.

(2) VACANCIES.—

(A) SINGLE VACANCIES.—Except as provided in subparagraphs (B), (C), (D), (E), and (F), the 1st vacancy in the office of a bankruptcy judge for each district specified in paragraph (1)—

(i) occurring 5 years or more after the date established by section 1002(a)(2) of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2017 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), and

(ii) resulting from the death, retirement, resignation, or removal of a bankruptcy judge, shall not be filled.

(B) DISTRICT OF DELAWARE.—The 3d, 4th, 5th, and 6th vacancies in the office of a bankruptcy judge for the district of Delaware—

(i) occurring 5 years or more after the date established by section 1002(a)(2) of Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2017 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), and

(ii) resulting from the death, retirement, resignation, or removal of a bankruptcy judge, shall not be filled.

(C) SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA.—The 1st and 2d vacancies in the office of a bankruptcy judge for the southern district of Florida—

(i) occurring 5 years or more after the date established by section 1002(a)(2) of the Bank-

ruptcy Judgeship Act of 2017 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), and

(ii) resulting from the death, retirement, resignation, or removal of a bankruptcy judge, shall not be filled.

(D) DISTRICT OF MARYLAND.—The 1st vacancy in the office of a bankruptcy judge for the district of Maryland—

(i) occurring 5 years or more after the date established by section 1002(a)(2) of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2017 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), and

(ii) resulting from the death, retirement, resignation, or removal of a bankruptcy judge, shall not be filled.

(E) EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN.—The 2d vacancy in the office of a bankruptcy judge for the eastern district of Michigan—

(i) occurring 5 years or more after the date established by section 1002(a)(2) of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2017 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), and

(ii) resulting from the death, retirement, resignation, or removal of a bankruptcy judge, shall not be filled.

(F) DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO.—The 1st vacancy in the office of a bankruptcy judge for the district of Puerto Rico—

(i) occurring 5 years or more after the date established by section 1002(a)(2) of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2017 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), and

(ii) resulting from the death, retirement, resignation, or removal of a bankruptcy judge, shall not be filled.

(3) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER PROVISIONS.—Except as provided in paragraphs (1) and (2), all other provisions of section 1223 of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2005 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), section 2 of the Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act of 2012 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), and section 1002 of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2017 (28 U.S.C. 152 note) remain applicable to the temporary office of bankruptcy judges referred to in paragraph (1).

(c) TEMPORARY OFFICE OF BANKRUPTCY JUDGES AUTHORIZED BY THE BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIP ACT OF 2005 AND EXTENDED BY THE TEMPORARY BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIPS EXTENSION ACT OF 2012.—

(1) EXTENSIONS.—The temporary office of bankruptcy judges authorized for the following districts by section 1223(b) of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2005 (28 U.S.C. 152 note) and extended by section 2(a) of the Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act of 2012 (28 U.S.C. 152 note) are extended until the applicable vacancy specified in paragraph (2) in the office of a bankruptcy judge for the respective district occurs:

- (A) The southern district of Georgia.
- (B) The district of Maryland.
- (C) The district of New Jersey.
- (D) The northern district of New York.
- (E) The district of South Carolina.

(2) VACANCIES.—

(A) SINGLE VACANCIES.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the 1st vacancy in the office of a bankruptcy judge for each district specified in paragraph (1)—

(i) occurring 5 years or more after the date of the enactment of this Act, and

(ii) resulting from the death, retirement, resignation, or removal of a bankruptcy judge, shall not be filled.

(B) DISTRICT OF MARYLAND.—The 2d and 3d vacancies in the office of a bankruptcy judge for the district of Maryland—

(i) occurring 5 years or more after the date of the enactment of this Act, and

(ii) resulting from the death, retirement, resignation, or removal of a bankruptcy judge, shall not be filled.

(3) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER PROVISIONS.—Except as provided in paragraphs (1) and (2), all other provisions of section 1223 of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2005 (28 U.S.C. 152 note) and section 2 of the Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act of 2012 (28 U.S.C. 152 note) remain applicable to the temporary office of bankruptcy judges referred to in paragraph (1).

(d) TEMPORARY OFFICE OF BANKRUPTCY JUDGES AUTHORIZED BY THE BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIP ACT OF 1992 AND EXTENDED BY THE BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIP ACT OF 2005, THE TEMPORARY BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIPS EXTENSION ACT OF 2012, AND THE BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIP ACT OF 2017.—

(1) EXTENSIONS.—The temporary office of bankruptcy judges authorized by section 3(a) of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 1992 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), extended by section 1223(c) of Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2005 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), extended by section 2(b) of the Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act of 2012 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), and further extended by section 1002(b) of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2017 (28 U.S.C. 152 note) for the district of Delaware and the district of Puerto Rico are extended until the applicable vacancy specified in paragraph (2) in the office of a bankruptcy judge for the respective district occurs.

(2) VACANCIES.—

(A) DISTRICT OF DELAWARE.—The 7th vacancy in the office of a bankruptcy judge for the district of Delaware—

(i) occurring 5 years or more after the date established by section 1002(b)(2) of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2017 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), and

(ii) resulting from the death, retirement, resignation, or removal of a bankruptcy judge, shall not be filled.

(B) DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO.—The 2d vacancy in the office of a bankruptcy judge for the district of Puerto Rico—

(i) occurring 5 years or more after the date established by section 1002(b)(2) of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2017 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), and

(ii) resulting from the death, retirement, resignation, or removal of a bankruptcy judge, shall not be filled.

(3) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER PROVISIONS.—Except as provided in paragraphs (1) and (2), all other provisions of section 3 of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 1992 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), section 1223 of Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2005 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), section 2 of the Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act of 2012 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), and section 1002 of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2017 (28 U.S.C. 152 note) remain applicable to the temporary office of bankruptcy judges referred to in paragraph (1).

(e) TEMPORARY OFFICE OF BANKRUPTCY JUDGE AUTHORIZED BY THE BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIP ACT OF 1992 AND EXTENDED BY THE BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIP ACT OF 2005 AND THE TEMPORARY BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIPS EXTENSION ACT OF 2012.—

(1) EXTENSIONS.—The temporary office of bankruptcy judge authorized by section 3(a) of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 1992 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), extended by section 1223(c) of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2005 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), and further extended by section 2(b) of the Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act of 2012 (28 U.S.C. 152 note) for the eastern district of Tennessee is extended until the applicable vacancy specified in paragraph (2) in the office of a bankruptcy judge for the district occurs.

(2) VACANCY.—The 1st vacancy in the office of a bankruptcy judge for the eastern district of Tennessee—

(A) occurring 5 years or more after the date of the enactment of this Act, and

(B) resulting from the death, retirement, resignation, or removal of a bankruptcy judge, shall not be filled.

(3) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER PROVISIONS.—Except as provided in paragraphs (1) and (2), all other provisions of section 3 of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 1992 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), section 1223 of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2005 (28 U.S.C. 152 note), and section 2 of the Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act of 2012 (28 U.S.C. 152 note) remain applicable to the temporary office of bankruptcy judge referred to in paragraph (1).

(f) TEMPORARY OFFICE OF BANKRUPTCY JUDGE AUTHORIZED BY THE BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIP ACT OF 1992 AND EXTENDED BY THE TEMPORARY BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIPS EXTENSION ACT OF 2012.—

(1) EXTENSIONS.—The temporary office of bankruptcy judge authorized by section 3(a) of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 1992 (28 U.S.C. 152 note) and extended by section 2(c) of the Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act of 2012 (28 U.S.C. 152 note) for the middle district of North Carolina is extended until the applicable vacancy specified in paragraph (2) in the office of a bankruptcy judge for the district occurs.

(2) VACANCY.—The 1st vacancy in the office of a bankruptcy judge for the middle district of North Carolina—

(A) occurring 5 years or more after the date of the enactment of this Act, and

(B) resulting from the death, retirement, resignation, or removal of a bankruptcy judge, shall not be filled.

(3) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER PROVISIONS.—Except as provided in paragraphs (1) and (2), all other provisions of section 3 of the Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 1992 (28 U.S.C. 152 note) and section 2 of the Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act of 2012 (28 U.S.C. 152 note) remain applicable to the temporary office of bankruptcy judge referred to in paragraph (1).

SEC. 5. REGULATIONS.

Section 375(h) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by striking “may” and inserting “shall”.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPLANATORY MATERIAL STATEMENT ON THE INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021, SUBMITTED BY MR. SCHIFF, CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The following is the explanation of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (hereinafter, “the Act”).

This explanation reflects the result of negotiations and disposition of issues reached between the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (SSCI) and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI) and the (hereinafter, “the Agreement”). The explanation shall have the same effect with respect to the implementation of the Act as if it were a joint explana-

tory statement of a conference committee. The term “Committees” refers to both SSCI and HPSCI.

The explanation comprises three parts: an overview of the application of the annex to accompany this statement; unclassified congressional direction; and a section-by-section analysis of the legislative text.

PART I: APPLICATION OF THE CLASSIFIED ANNEX

The classified nature of U.S. intelligence activities prevents the SSCI and HPSCI (collectively, the “congressional intelligence committees”) from publicly disclosing many details concerning the conclusions and recommendations of the Agreement. Therefore, a classified Schedule of Authorizations and a classified annex have been prepared to describe in detail the scope and intent of the congressional intelligence committees’ actions. The Agreement authorizes the Intelligence Community (IC) to obligate and expend funds not altered or modified by the classified Schedule of Authorizations as requested in the President’s budget, subject to modification under applicable reprogramming procedures.

The classified annex is the result of negotiations between the congressional intelligence committees. They reconcile the differences between the congressional intelligence committees’ respective versions of the bill for the National Intelligence Program (NIP) for Fiscal Year 2021. The Agreement also makes recommendations for the Military Intelligence Program (MIP) and the Information Systems Security Program (ISSP), consistent with the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, and provides certain direction for these two programs. The Agreement applies to IC activities for Fiscal Year 2021.

The classified Schedule of Authorizations is incorporated into the bill pursuant to Section 102. It has the status of law. The classified annex supplements and adds detail to clarify the authorization levels found in the bill and the classified Schedule of Authorizations. The congressional intelligence committees view direction and recommendations, whether contained in this explanation or in the classified annex, as requiring compliance by the Executive Branch.

PART II: SELECT UNCLASSIFIED CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTION

This Joint Explanatory Statement incorporates by reference, and the Executive Branch shall comply with, all direction contained in the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Report to accompany the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (S. Rept. 116-233) and in the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence Report to accompany the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (H. Rept. 116-565).

PART III: SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS AND EXPLANATION OF LEGISLATIVE TEXT

TITLE I—INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

Section 101. Authorization of appropriations.

Section 101 lists the United States Government departments, agencies, and other elements for which the Act authorizes appropriations for intelligence and intelligence-related activities for Fiscal Year 2021.

Section 102. Classified Schedule of Authorizations.

Section 102 provides that the details of the amounts authorized to be appropriated for intelligence and intelligence-related activities for Fiscal Year 2021 are contained in the classified Schedule of Authorizations and that the classified Schedule of Authorizations shall be made available to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and House of Representatives and to the President.

Section 103. Intelligence Community Management Account.

Section 103 authorizes appropriations for the Intelligence Community Management Account (ICMA) of the ODNI for Fiscal Year 2021.

TITLE II—CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM

Section 201. Authorization of appropriations.

Section 201 authorizes appropriations for the CIA Retirement and Disability Fund for Fiscal Year 2021.

TITLE III—INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MATTERS

Subtitle A—General Intelligence Community Matters

Section 301. Restriction on conduct of intelligence activities.

Section 301 provides that the authorization of appropriations by the Act shall not be deemed to constitute authority for the conduct of any intelligence activity that is not otherwise authorized by the Constitution or laws of the United States.

Section 302. Increase in employee compensation and benefits authorized by law.

Section 302 provides that funds authorized to be appropriated by the Act for salary, pay, retirement, and other benefits for federal employees may be increased by such additional or supplemental amounts as may be necessary for increases in compensation or benefits authorized by law.

Section 303. Continuity of operations plans for certain elements of the intelligence community in the case of a national emergency.

Section 303 requires the Directors of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI), Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), National Reconnaissance Office (NRO), Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), National Security Agency (NSA), and National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) to establish continuity of operations plans for use in the case of certain national emergencies as defined in statute, and share those with the congressional intelligence committees within 7 days of a national emergency being declared. Furthermore, Section 303 requires these agencies to provide the committees with any updates to those plans as the conditions of the national emergency require.

Section 304. Application of Executive Schedule level III to position of Director of National Reconnaissance Office.

Section 304 provides that the Director of the NRO shall be designated as Level III on the Executive Schedule, the equivalent of an Under Secretary. The Committee further clarifies that this provision shall apply to a

successor civilian occupying the position of Director of the NRO.

Section 305. National Intelligence University.

Section 305 provides the National Intelligence University (NIU) with degree-granting authority and requires reporting on personnel and compensation. Section 305 also sustains an independent, external board of visitors to provide oversight of the NIU.

Section 306. Data collection on attrition in intelligence community.

Section 306 requires the DNI to set standards and issue an annual report on the reasons why different categories of IC employees separate from service or applicants to IC positions withdraw from the hiring process after they have been issued a conditional offer of employment. Data on workforce attrition should include demographics, specialties, and length of service. Such reasons may include an alternative job opportunity, a loss of interest in joining the IC, or the length of time to complete the clearance process.

Section 307. Limitation on delegation of responsibility for program management of information-sharing environment.

Section 307 stipulates that the President must delegate responsibilities under Section 1016(b) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 to an official other than the DNI.

Section 308. Requirement to buy certain satellite component from American sources.

Section 308 prohibits an element of the IC to award a contract for a national security satellite if the satellite uses a star tracker that is not produced in the United States, with certain limited exceptions.

Section 309. Limitation on construction of facilities to be used primarily by intelligence community.

Section 309 amends the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1995 regarding funding and authorities for facility construction.

Section 310. Intelligence community student loan repayment programs.

Section 310 requires the DNI to establish minimum student loan repayment standards for IC employees.

*Subtitle B—Reports and Assessments
Pertaining to the Intelligence Community*

Section 321. Assessment by the Comptroller General of the United States on efforts of the Intelligence Community and the Department of Defense to identify and mitigate risks posed to the intelligence community and the Department by the use of direct-to-consumer genetic testing by the Government of the People's Republic of China.

Section 321 directs the Comptroller General to assess efforts in the IC and Department of Defense (DoD) to identify and mitigate the risks posed to the IC and DoD by direct-to-consumer genetic testing by the Government of the People's Republic of China. Section 321 further requires the report to include key national security risks and vulnerabilities, an assessment of the IC's and DoD's identification and mitigation of such risks and vulnerabilities, and recommendations for the IC and DoD to improve identification and mitigation of such risks and vulnerabilities.

Section 322. Report on use by intelligence community of hiring flexibilities and expedited human resources practices to assure quality and diversity in the workforce of the intelligence community.

Section 322 requires the DNI to submit a report describing how IC elements are exercising hiring flexibilities and expedited human resources practices afforded under 5

U.S.C. §3326 and related regulations, including the identification of any obstacles encountered by the IC in exercising such authorities.

Section 323. Report on signals intelligence priorities and requirements.

Section 323 requires the DNI to submit a report detailing signals intelligence priorities and requirements subject to Presidential Policy Directive-28 that stipulates “why, whether, when, and how the United States conducts signals intelligence activities.” This report shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

Section 324. Assessment of demand for student loan repayment program benefit.

Section 324 requires the head of each IC element to calculate the number of personnel who qualify for a student loan repayment program benefit, and compare it to the number of personnel who apply for such a benefit. The information provided will include recommendations for how to optimize participation and enhance the effectiveness of the benefit as a retention tool, to identify any shortfall in funds or authorities needed to provide such benefit, and to include such materials with the budget request for Fiscal Year 2022.

Section 325. Assessment of intelligence community demand for child care.

Section 325 requires the DNI in coordination with the heads of other IC elements to provide a report that includes: a calculation of the total annual demand for child care by employees at NSA, NSA, DIA, NRO, CIA, and ODNI; an identification of any shortfalls between demand and the child care support by these IC elements; an assessment of options for addressing any such shortfall; an identification of the advantages, disadvantages, security requirements, and costs associated with each option; a plan to meet, within five years after the date of the report, the demand for childcare, and an assessment of specific considerations that impact the alternatives available to these IC elements.

Section 326. Open source intelligence strategies and plans for the intelligence community.

Section 326 requires the DNI in coordination with the heads of each IC element, to conduct a survey of the open source intelligence requirements, goals, investments, and capabilities for each element of the IC and to evaluate the usability of the Open Source Enterprise (OSE). Based on such findings, it further mandates the DNI shall develop, in coordination with the heads of each IC element, a strategy for open source intelligence collection, analysis, and production across the IC; create a plan for improving usability of the OSE; and conduct a risk and benefit analysis of creating an independent open source center.

Using the findings above, Section 326 further requires the DNI to develop a plan for a centralized data repository of open source intelligence. Finally, it mandates the DNI develop a cost-sharing model that leverages the open source intelligence investments of each IC element for the beneficial use of the entire IC. It also requires the heads of ODNI, CIA, DIA, NSA, and NSA to jointly brief the congressional intelligence committees on the progress developing the aforementioned plans.

TITLE IV—MATTERS RELATING TO ELEMENTS OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY

Section 401. Establishment of Office of the Ombudsman for Analytic Objectivity.

Section 401 establishes in the CIA an Office of the Ombudsman for Analytic Objectivity to implement required procedures and conduct required activities.

Section 402. Expansion of personnel management authority to attract experts in science and engineering.

Section 402 facilitates NSA's recruitment of experts in science or engineering for research and development projects.

Section 403. Senior Chief Petty Officer Shannon Kent Award for distinguished female personnel of the National Security Agency.

Section 403 requires the Director of the NSA to establish an honorary award for the recognition of female personnel of the NSA for distinguished career contributions in support of the mission of the NSA.

Section 404. Department of Homeland Security intelligence and cybersecurity diversity fellowship program.

Section 404 requires the Secretary of DHS to carry out an intelligence and cybersecurity diversity fellowship program that provides paid internships, tuition assistance, and potential employment opportunities.

Section 405. Climate Security Advisory Council.

Section 405 requires the DNI, in coordination with the appropriate heads of other IC elements, to conduct a study on the effectiveness of the Climate Security Advisory Council as a potential model for future advisory councils.

TITLE V—MATTERS RELATING TO EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

Section 501. Requirements and authorities for Director of Central Intelligence Agency to improve education in science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics.

Section 501 ensures that the Director of the CIA has the legal authorities required to improve the skills in science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (known as STEAM) necessary to meet long-term national security needs.

Section 502. Seedling investment in next-generation microelectronics in support of artificial intelligence.

Section 502 requires the DNI, acting through the Director of the Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity, to award contracts or grants, or enter into other transactions, to encourage microelectronics research.

TITLE VI—REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

Section 601. Report on attempts by foreign adversaries to build telecommunications and cybersecurity equipment and services for, or to provide such equipment and services to, certain allies of the United States.

Section 601 requires the CIA, NSA, and DIA to submit to the congressional intelligence and armed services committees a joint report that describes the United States intelligence sharing and military posture in Five Eyes countries that currently have or intend to use adversary telecommunications or cybersecurity equipment, especially as provided by China or Russia, with a description of potential vulnerabilities of that information and assessment of mitigation options.

Section 602. Report on threats posed by use by foreign governments and entities of commercially available cyber intrusion and surveillance technology.

Section 602 requires the DNI to submit a report on the threats posed by foreign governments and foreign entities using and appropriating commercially available cyber intrusion and other surveillance technology.

Section 603. Reports on recommendations of the Cyberspace Solarium Commission.

Section 603 requires the ODNI, Department of Homeland Security (acting through the Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Intelligence and Analysis), Department of

Energy (acting through the Director of Intelligence and Counterintelligence of the Department of Energy), Department of Commerce, and DoD to report to Congress their assessment of the recommendations submitted by the Cyberspace Solarium Commission pursuant to Section 1652(j) of the *John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2019*, and to describe actions that each agency expects to take to implement these recommendations.

Section 604. Assessment of critical technology trends relating to artificial intelligence, microchips, and semiconductors and related supply chains.

Section 604 requires the DNI to complete an assessment of export controls related to artificial intelligence (AI), microchips, advanced manufacturing equipment, and other AI-enabled technologies, including the identification of opportunities for further cooperation with international partners.

Section 605. Combating Chinese influence operations in the United States and strengthening civil liberties protections.

Section 605 provides additional requirements to annual reports in 50 U.S.C. § 3237(B) on Influence Operations and Campaigns in the United States by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) by mandating an identification of influence operations by the CCP against the science and technology sector in the United States. Section 605 also requires the FBI to create a plan, in consultation with stakeholders outside the Intelligence Community to increase public awareness of influence activities by the CCP. Finally, section 605 requires the FBI, in consultation with the Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights and the Chief Privacy and Civil Liberties Officer of the Department of Justice, to develop recommendations to strengthen relationships with communities targeted by the CCP and to build trust with such communities through local and regional grassroots outreach.

Section 606. Annual report on corrupt activities of senior officials of the Chinese Communist Party.

Section 606 requires the CIA, in coordination with the Department of Treasury's Office of Intelligence and Analysis and the FBI, to submit to designated congressional committees annually through 2025 a report that describes and assesses the wealth and corruption of senior officials of the CCP, as well as targeted financial measures, including potential targets for sanctions designation. Section 606 further expresses the Sense of Congress that the United States should undertake every effort and pursue every opportunity to expose the corruption and illicit practices of senior officials of the CCP, including President Xi Jinping.

Section 607. Report on corrupt activities of Russian and other Eastern European oligarchs.

Section 607 requires the CIA, in coordination with the Department of the Treasury's Office of Intelligence and Analysis and the FBI, to submit to designated congressional committees and the Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy, a report that describes the corruption and corrupt or illegal activities among Russian and other Eastern European oligarchs who support the Russian government and Russian President Vladimir Putin, and the impact of those activities on the economy and citizens of Russia. Section 607 further requires the CIA, in coordination with the Department of Treasury's Office of Intelligence and Analysis, to describe potential sanctions that could be imposed for such activities.

Section 608. Report on biosecurity risk and disinformation by the Chinese Communist Party and the Government of the People's Republic of China.

Section 608 requires the DNI to submit to the designated congressional committees a report identifying whether and how CCP officials and the Government of the People's Republic of China may have sought to suppress or exploit for national advantage information regarding the novel coronavirus pandemic, including specific related assessments. Section 608 further provides that the report shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may have a classified annex.

Section 609. Report on effect of lifting of United Nations arms embargo on Islamic Republic of Iran.

Section 609 requires the DIA to submit to designated congressional committees a report on the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran's plans to acquire military arms if the ban on arms transfers to or from such government under United Nations Security Council resolutions are lifted, as well as the effects such arms acquisitions may have on regional security and stability.

Section 610. Report on Iranian activities relating to nuclear nonproliferation.

Section 610 directs the DNI to submit a report on any relevant activities relating to nuclear weapons research and development by the Islamic Republic of Iran and any relevant efforts to afford or deny international access to related facilities in accordance with international non-proliferation agreements.

Section 611. Annual reports on security services of the People's Republic of China in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

Section 611 requires the DNI to submit a report on the presence and activities of Chinese security services operating within the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

Section 612. Research partnership on activities of People's Republic of China.

Section 612 requires the Director of the NGA to seek to enter into a partnership with an academic or non-profit research institution to carry out joint unclassified geospatial intelligence analyses of the activities of the People's Republic of China that pose national security risks to the United States, and to make publicly available unclassified products relating to such analyses.

Section 613. Report on the pharmaceutical and personal protective equipment regulatory practices of the People's Republic of China.

Section 613 requires the DNI to submit a report on the pharmaceutical and personal protective equipment regulatory practices of the People's Republic of China.

Section 614. National Intelligence Estimate on situation in Afghanistan.

Section 614 requires the DNI, acting through the National Intelligence Council, to produce a National Intelligence Estimate on the situation in Afghanistan.

Section 615. Assessment regarding tensions between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Section 615 requires the DNI to submit an assessment regarding tensions between the governments of Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Section 616. Sense of Congress on Third Option Foundation.

Section 616 expresses the sense of Congress that the Third Option Foundation's work on behalf of the CIA's special operations community and their families is invaluable, such that the Director of the CIA should work with the Foundation to implement section 6412 of the Damon Paul Nelson and Matthew

Young Pollard Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, and 2020, which provided special rules for certain monthly workers' compensation payments and other payments to CIA personnel.

Section 617. Annual reports on worldwide threats.

Section 617 requires the DNI, in coordination with IC element heads, to submit an annual report with an IC assessment of worldwide threats to United States national security. Section 617 further required the DNI, together with IC element heads determined appropriate by the congressional intelligence and defense committees in consultation with the DNI, to testify at an open hearing before such committees upon request. It is the intent of the Committees that a request by one of the congressional intelligence or defense committees, or a number of them, shall trigger the obligation of IC element heads to testify at an open hearing before a requesting committee, as specified under Section 617.

Section 618. Annual report on Climate Security Advisory Council.

Section 618 requires the chair of the Climate Security Advisory Council to submit an annual report regarding the Council's prior year activities.

Section 619. Improvements to funding for National Security Education program.

Section 619 authorizes funds for national security-related scholarship, fellowship, and grant programs.

Section 620. Report on best practices to protect privacy, civil liberties, and civil rights of Chinese Americans.

Section 620 makes certain technical and conforming amendments to a reporting provision enacted pursuant to the Damon Paul Nelson and Matthew Young Pollard Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, and 2020.

Section 621. National Intelligence Estimate on the threat of global pandemic disease.

Section 621 requires the DNI, acting through the National Intelligence Council, to produce a National Intelligence Estimate on the threat of global pandemic disease.

Section 622. Modification of requirement for briefings on national security effects of emerging infectious disease and pandemics.

Section 622 amends a quinquennial reporting provision enacted pursuant to the Damon Paul Nelson and Matthew Young Pollard Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, and 2020 to require annual reporting.

Section 623. Independent study on open-source intelligence.

Section 623 requires the DNI to seek to enter into an agreement with a federally funded research and development center or a nongovernmental entity to conduct a study on the future of the collection, processing, exploitation, analysis, dissemination, and evaluation of open-source intelligence by the IC, with certain requirements and criteria.

Section 624. Survey on Open Source Enterprise.

Section 624 requires the Director of the CIA (as the open source functional manager for the IC), in consultation with the DNI and any other IC element head that the Director determines appropriate, to conduct a survey to measure the satisfaction of customers of open-source intelligence with the Open Source Enterprise of the CIA.

Section 625. Sense of Congress on report on murder of Jamal Khashoggi.

Section 625 provides that it is the sense of Congress that the DNI should reasonably have been able to produce an unclassified report, as required pursuant to section 5714 of

the Damon Paul Nelson and Matthew Young Pollard Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, and 2020, and section 1277 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020.

PUBLICATION OF BUDGETARY MATERIAL

REVISION TO THE AGGREGATES, ALLOCATIONS, AND OTHER BUDGETARY LEVELS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET,
Washington, DC, December 21, 2020.

MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (CBA), the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (BBEDCA), and the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019 (BBA), I hereby submit for printing in the Congressional Record a revision to the aggregates and allocations set forth in the statement of aggregates, allocations, and other budgetary levels for fiscal year 2021 published in the Congressional Record on May 1, 2020, as adjusted.

In accordance with these Acts, this revision includes an allowable adjustment for Overseas Contingency Operations and disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b) of BBEDCA. These amounts are contained in the House Amendment to the Senate Amendment to H.R. 133, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021.

Accordingly, I am revising aggregate spending levels for fiscal year 2021 and the allocation for the House Committee on Appropriations for fiscal year 2021. For purposes of enforcing titles III and IV of the CBA and other budgetary enforcement provisions, the revised aggregates and allocations are to be considered as aggregates and allocations included in the budget resolution, pursuant to the statement published in the Congressional Record on May 1, 2020, as adjusted.

Questions may be directed to Jennifer Wheelock or Raquel Spencer of the Budget Committee staff.

JOHN YARMUTH.

TABLE 1.—REVISION TO ON-BUDGET AGGREGATES

[On-budget amounts, in millions of dollars]

	2021	2021–2030
Current Aggregates:		
Budget Authority	3,876,749	n.a.
Outlays	3,840,592	n.a.
Revenues	2,800,378	35,724,078
Revision for the Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY21 (H.R. 133):		
Budget Authority	12,082	n.a.
Outlays	3,360	n.a.
Revenues	—	—
Revised Aggregates:		
Budget Authority	3,888,831	n.a.
Outlays	3,843,952	n.a.
Revenues	2,800,378	35,724,078

n.a. = Not applicable because annual appropriations acts for fiscal years 2022 through 2030 will not be considered until future sessions of Congress.

TABLE 2.—ALLOCATION OF SPENDING AUTHORITY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

[Unified amounts in millions of dollars]

	2021
Current Discretionary Allocation:	
BA	1,384,434
OT	1,457,837
Revision for Overseas Contingency Operations (H.R. 133):	
BA	—
OT	314
Revision for Disaster Relief (H.R. 133):	
BA	12,082
OT	3,046
Revised Discretionary Allocation:	
BA	1,396,516
OT	1,461,197
Current Law Mandatory:	
BA	1,172,969
OT	1,152,482

JOINT RESOLUTION AND ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Gloria J. Lett, Deputy Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a joint resolution of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker on Sunday, December 20, 2020:

H.J. Res. 110. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes.

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, further reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 1966. An act to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to complete a study on barriers to participation in federally funded cancer clinical trials by populations that have been traditionally underrepresented in such trials.

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. 5459. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to correct a land ownership error within the boundary of Rocky Mountain National Park, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6237. An act to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to clarify the requirement of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense to reimburse the Indian Health Service for certain health care services.

H.R. 7898. An act to amend the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to consider certain recognized security practices of covered entities and business associates when making certain determinations, and for other purposes.

H.R. 8906. To amend title XXIX of the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the program under such title relating to lifespan respite care.

SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The Speaker announced her signature to enrolled bills of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 979.—An act to amend the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 to incorporate the recommendations made by the Government Accountability Office relating to advance contracts, and for other purposes.

S. 1694.—An act to require the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to add recommendations and inform other relevant agencies of information relating to the principle of due regard and the limitation of harmful interference with Apollo landing site artifacts, and for other purposes.

S. 2174.—An act to the extent provided in advance in appropriations Act, the Attorney General is authorized to use funds appropriated for the operationalization, maintenance, and expansion of the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs) for the purpose of carrying out this Act.

S. 2683.—An act to establish a task force to assist States in implementing hiring requirements for child care staff members to improve child safety.

S. 2730.—An act to establish and ensure an inclusive and transparent Drone Advisory Committee.

S. 3312.—An act to establish a crisis stabilization and community reentry grant program, and for other purposes.

S. 3418.—An act to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to allow the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide capitalization grants to States to establish revolving funds to provide hazard mitigation assistance to reduce risks from disasters and natural hazards, and other related environmental harm.

S. 3989.—An act to amend the United States Semiquincentennial Commission Act of 2016 to modify certain membership and other requirements of the United States Semiquincentennial Commission, and for other purposes.

S. 5036.—An act to amend the Overtime Pay for Protective Service Act of 2016 to extend the Secret Service overtime pay exception through 2023, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 4(b) of House Resolution 967, the House stands adjourned until 9 a.m. on Thursday, December 24, 2020.

Thereupon (at 9 o'clock and 13 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Thursday, December 24, 2020, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-5982. A letter from the Program Specialist, Chief Counsel's Office, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Licensing Amendments [Docket ID: OCC-2019-0024] (RIN: 1557-AE71) received December 14, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-5983. A letter from the Director, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule — Implementing Legal Requirements Regarding the Equal Opportunity Clause's Religious Exemption (RIN: 1250-AA09) received December 14, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

EC-5984. A letter from the Section Chief, Diversion Control Division, DEA, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — Schedules of Controlled Substances: Placement of Oliceridine in Schedule II [Docket No.: DEA-715] received December 14, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5985. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulatory Clean Up Initiative [Docket Number: HHS-OS-2020-0015] (RIN: 0991-AC19) received December 9, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5986. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendments to the HHS-Operated Risk Adjustment Data Validation (HHS-RADV) under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act's HHS-Operated Risk Adjustment Program [CMS-9913-F]

(RIN: 0938-AU23) received December 9, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5987. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Partial Approval and Partial Disapproval; California; San Diego [EPA-R09-OAR-2020-0136; FRL-10016-79-Region 9] received December 9, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5988. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Test Methods and Performance Specifications for Air Emission Sources; Correction [EPA-HQ-OAR-2018-0815; FRL-10016-14-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AU39) received December 9, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5989. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Information Blocking and the ONC Health IT Certification Program: Extension of Compliance Dates and Timeframes in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency; Correction (RIN: 0955-AA02) received December 17, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5990. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Executive Office for Immigration Review, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Procedures for Asylum and Withholding of Removal; Credible Fear and Reasonable Fear Review [EOIR Docket No.: 18-0102; A.G. Order No. 4922-2020] (RIN: 1125-AA94) received December 16, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5991. A letter from the Associate Administrator for Policy, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — Hours of Service of Drivers; Definition of Agricultural Commodity [Docket No.: FMCSA-2018-0348] (RIN: 2126-AC24) received December 9, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-5992. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of the Alisos Canyon Viticultural Area [Docket No.: TTB-2019-0007; T.D. TTB-161; Ref. Notice No.: 185] (RIN: 1513-AC51) received December 9, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-5993. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of the Tualatin Hills and Laurelwood District Viticultural Areas [Docket No.: TTB-2019-0003; T.D. TTB-160; Ref. Notice No.: 181] (RIN: 1513-AC52) received December 9, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-5994. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Changes to Certain Alcohol-Related

Regulations Governing Bond Requirements and Tax Return Filing Periods [Docket No.: TTB-2016-0013; T.D. TTB-159; Re: T.D. TTB-146; Notice No.: 167] (RIN: 1513-AC30) received December 9, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-5995. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of the Royal Slope Viticultural Area [Docket No.: TTB-2019-0008; T.D. TTB-162; Ref. Notice No. 186] (RIN: 1513-AC53) received December 9, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-5996. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of the Candy Mountain Viticultural Area and Modification of the Yakima Valley Viticultural Area [Docket No.: TTB-2019-0006; T.D. TTB-163; Ref. Notice No. 184] (RIN: 1513-AC42) received December 9, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-5997. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of the Tehachapi Mountains Viticultural Area [Docket No.: TTB-2020-0006; T.D. TTB-164; Ref. Notice No. 191] (RIN: 1513-AC69) received December 9, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-5998. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Services final rule — Unrelated Business Taxable Income Separately Computed for Each Trade or Business [TD 9933] (RIN: 1545-B079) received December 9, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-5999. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final regulations — Coordination of Extraordinary Disposition and Disqualified Basis Rules [TD 9934] (RIN: 1545-BP57) received December 9, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-6000. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Revenue Ruling: 2020 Base Period T-Bill Rate (Rev. Rul. 2020-25) received December 9, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-6001. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final regulations — Guidance Clarifying Premium Tax Credit Unaffected by Suspension of Personal Exemption Deduction [TD 9912] (RIN: 1545-BP76) received December 9, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-6002. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — 2020 Required Amendments List for Qualified Retirement Plans and Sec. 403(b) Retirement Plans [Notice 2020-83] received December 9, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-6003. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service,

transmitting the Service's final rule — Withholding of Tax and Information Reporting with Respect to Interests in Partnerships Engaged in a U.S. Trade or Business [TD 9926] (RIN: 1545-B060) received December 9, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-6004. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Implementation of the CARES Act Extended January 1, 2021 Due Date for Contributions to Defined Benefit Plans [Notice 2020-82] received December 9, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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:

Ms. SHALALA: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 1271. Resolution providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 133) to promote economic partnership and cooperation between the United States and Mexico; providing for disposition of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 1520) to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the publication of a list of licensed biological projects and for other purposes; and for other purposes (Rept. 116-679). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. GRIJALVA: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 2245. A bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to prohibit import and export of any species listed or proposed to be listed under such Act as a threatened species or endangered species, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 116-680, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. DEFAZIO: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 1108. A bill to provide for funding from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund for all Federal Aviation Administration activities in the event of a Government shutdown, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116-681, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. WATERS: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 4545. A bill to provide for the discharge of a private education loan in the case of death or total and permanent disability of a student obligor, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116-682, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 4782. A bill to establish a national commission on online platforms and homeland security, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 116-683, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia: Committee of Education and Labor. H.R. 865. A bill to provide for the long-term improvement of public school facilities, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 116-684, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Ways and Means discharged from further consideration. H.R. 865 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Ways and Means discharged from further consideration. H.R. 1108 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Ways and Means discharged from further consideration. H.R. 2245 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Ways and Means discharged from further consideration. H.R. 4545 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Energy and Commerce discharged from further consideration. H.R. 4782 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. AMASH:

H.R. 9039. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to operate alternatives to detention programs, to prioritize certain vulnerable populations for those programs, and to require the Secretary to justify the allocation of resources and decisions on whether to detain people based on ensuring compliance with immigration proceedings in the most cost-effective ways possible, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. AMASH:

H.R. 9040. A bill to protect aliens seeking asylum in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. AMASH:

H.R. 9041. A bill to amend the National Emergencies Act to provide for a sunset of a national emergency declared by the President 2 days after the declaration unless Congress enacts a joint resolution affirming such declaration and the emergency powers approved for use by the President, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and Rules, 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. BUDD:

H.R. 9042. A bill to amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to prohibit the Secretary of Commerce from issuing certain grants to States or political subdivisions of States that restrict or prohibit indoor and outdoor dining, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Trans-

portation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on 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 Mr. GOTTHEIMER (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 9043. A bill to require social media companies to establish an office dedicated to identifying and removing violent or extremist content associated with or distributed by any entity identified as a terrorist organization; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JOYCE of Ohio (for himself and Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire):

H.R. 9044. A bill to expand and enhance programs and activities of the Department of Defense for prevention of and response to domestic violence and child abuse and neglect among military families, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. JEFFRIES):

H.R. 9045. A bill to prohibit searches based on race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, or sex, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. LOWEY:

H. Con. Res. 127. Concurrent resolution directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 133; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. LOWEY:

H. Con. Res. 128. Concurrent resolution directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 1520; considered and agreed to.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT,

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. AMASH:

H.R. 9039.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 4.

By Mr. AMASH:

H.R. 9040.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Fifth Amendment

By Mr. AMASH:

H.R. 9041.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 1.

By Mr. BUDD:

H.R. 9042.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. GOTTHEIMER:

H.R. 9043.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. JOYCE of Ohio:

H.R. 9044.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 14.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

H.R. 9045.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS TO PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 808: Mr. STEUBE.

H.R. 1634: Ms. FINKENAUER.

H.R. 1766: Ms. FINKENAUER.

H.R. 1897: Mr. HALL.

H.R. 2350: Ms. FINKENAUER.

H.R. 2442: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 3229: Ms. BASS and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 3464: Ms. FINKENAUER.

H.R. 3509: Ms. FINKENAUER.

H.R. 4098: Mr. KELLY of Mississippi.

H.R. 5002: Ms. FINKENAUER.

H.R. 5084: Ms. HOULAHAN.

H.R. 5176: Ms. FINKENAUER.

H.R. 5297: Mr. STEUBE.

H.R. 5534: Ms. FINKENAUER.

H.R. 6402: Mrs. HAYES, Ms. NORTON, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. TLAI, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. CLARKE of New York.

H.R. 6492: Mr. MFUME.

H.R. 6556: Mr. LEVIN of California.

H.R. 6560: Ms. FINKENAUER.

H.R. 6585: Mr. HALL.

H.R. 6763: Mr. HALL.

H.R. 6802: Mr. KELLY of Mississippi.

H.R. 6958: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 7052: Mr. RUIZ.

H.R. 8003: Mr. MFUME.

H.R. 8044: Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 8113: Mr. NEAL.

H.R. 8196: Mr. HALL.

H.R. 8302: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 8362: Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. SHALALA, Mr. CISNEROS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. COOPER, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. CLAY, and Mr. SHERMAN.

H.R. 8525: Ms. SCANLON.

H.R. 8662: Mrs. TORRES of California and Mr. BRINDISI.

H.R. 8769: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 8782: Mr. PANETTA.

H.R. 8801: Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. KILMER, and Mr. HASTINGS.

H.R. 8845: Mr. KIND, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. RYAN, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. DUNN.

H.R. 8912: Mr. COHEN and Mr. ESPAILLAT.

H.R. 8962: Mr. GOSAR and Mr. HICE of Georgia.

H.R. 8969: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.

H.R. 9029: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois and Mr. POCAN.

H. Res. 1106: Mr. SIRE, Mrs. DINGELL, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H. Res. 1268: Mr. BACON, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mrs. WAGNER, and Mr. GALLAGHER.