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House of Representatives

The House met at 1:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

God of the ages for whom one day is like 1,000 years and 1,000 years a day, we come before You in gratitude for the days and years we are graced to enjoy. We are truly appreciative of the people with whom we journey in our lifetimes; for the lives You have allowed us to share, for the joy that fills us in their presence, and for the love that You have given us through them.

And when those days pass, we put our grief into Your tender care, praying that their memories will remain a blessing. We ask that You minister to us as we name in our hearts those whose loss is especially poignant: family members, friends, mentors, and leaders. And in these days when our country mourns notables like Hank Aaron and Larry King, and the less conspicuous lives of over 400,000 who have died from COVID, as well as heroes who have given their lives in battle and the homeless who have lost their fight to survive, may our lives serve to bring honor to those who have gone before us. May all that we do today reflect not only gratitude for our days, but our debt to their years.

We offer ourselves and our prayers to You in the strength of Your holy name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 5(a)(1)(A) of House Resolution 8, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

The SPEAKER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 21, 2021.

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 January 21, 2021, at 12:25 p.m.:

That the Senate agreed to Relative to the death of the United States Capitol Police Officer Brian David Sicknick S. Res. 5.

That the Senate agreed to S. Res. 9.

Appointment:

Commission on Social Impact Partnerships.

Commission on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

GLORIA J. LETT,
Deputy Clerk.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 21, 2021.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on January 21, 2021, at 5:30 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 335.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

GLORIA J. LETT,
Deputy Clerk.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bill was signed by Speaker pro tempore HOYER on Thursday, January 21, 2021:

H.R. 335, to provide for an exception to a limitation against appointment of persons as Secretary of Defense within seven years of relief from active duty as a regular commissioned officer of the Armed Forces.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) on account of a family funeral.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Gloria J. Lett, Deputy Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker pro tempore, Mr. Hayer, on Thursday, January 21, 2021:

H.R. 335. An act to provide for an exception to a limitation against appointment of persons as Secretary of Defense with seven years of relief from active duty as a regular commissioned officer of the Armed Forces.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 5(a)(1)(B) of House Resolution 8, the House stands adjourned until 9 a.m. on Thursday, January 28, 2021.

Thereupon (at 1 o'clock and 36 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the

Printed on recycled paper.

House adjourned until Thursday, January 28, 2021, at 9 a.m.

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 Ms. KELLY of Illinois (for herself and Mr. BALDERSON):

H.R. 446. A bill to require the Federal Trade Commission to submit a report to Congress on scams targeting seniors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. MCKINLEY, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BACON, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. BOST, Mr. POCAN, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. WILD, Mr. KATKO, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. GARBARINO, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. STAUBER, and Mrs. TRAHAN):

H.R. 447. A bill to amend the Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly referred to as the ''National Apprenticeship Act'') and expand the national apprenticeship system to include apprenticeships, youth apprenticeships, and pre-apprenticeship registered under such Act, to promote the furtherance of labor standards necessary to safeguard the welfare of apprentices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, 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 Ms. BARRAGÁN (for herself, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. SIRES, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. NORTON, Mr. KHANNA, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. TONKO, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. NADLER, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. MENG, Mr. WELCH, Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. BUSH, Mr. CARSON, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, and Mr. BOWMAN):

H.R. 448. A bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to carry out a grant program to improve the energy resilience, energy democracy, and security of communities, prioritizing environmental justice communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BIGGS (for himself, Mr. DUNCAN, and Mr. CAWTHORN):

H.R. 449. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds to maintain or collect information that can be used to identify any individual to whom a COVID-19 vaccine is administered, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BIGGS (for himself, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. CAWTHORN, and Mr. ROY):

H.R. 450. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds to propose, establish, implement, or enforce any requirement that an individual wear a mask or other face covering, or be vaccinated, to prevent the spread of COVID-19, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER (for himself and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois):

H.R. 451. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the national limitation amount for qualified highway or surface freight transfer facility bonds; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CALVERT:

H.R. 452. A bill to amend the Violence Against Women Act of 2000 to reauthorize the grant program for education, training, and enhanced services to end violence against and abuse of women with disabilities; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CALVERT (for himself and Mr. BROOKS):

H.R. 453. A bill to deny Federal funding to any State or political subdivision of a State that has in effect any law, policy, or procedure that prevents or impedes a State or local law enforcement official from maintaining custody of an alien pursuant to an immigration detainer issued by the Secretary of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CARBAJAL:

H.R. 454. A bill to render certain military parents eligible for adjustment of status, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CARBAJAL (for himself, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. BERA, Mr. LEVIN of California, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. CHU, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mrs. TORRES of California, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. TAKANO, and Mr. AGUILAR):

H.R. 455. A bill to permanently prohibit oil and gas leasing off the coast of the State of California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. CARBAJAL (for himself, Ms. BROWNLEY, and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 456. A bill to require a new supplemental environmental impact statement for oil and gas development in the Bakersfield Field Office planning area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. SOTO, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. AGUILAR, Mrs. TRAHAN, Ms. ESCOBAR, and Mr. GALLEGO):

H.R. 457. A bill to prohibit Executive agencies from using the derogatory term ''alien'' to refer to an individual who is not a citizen or national of the United States, to amend chapter 1 of title 1, United States Code, to establish a uniform definition for the term ''foreign national'', and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, 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. CASTRO of Texas (for himself, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Mr. GALLEGO):

H.R. 458. A bill to require investigations and reports regarding individuals who died in the custody of certain Federal authorities, 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 Ms. CRAIG:

H.R. 459. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit former Members and elected officers of Congress from lobbying Congress at any time after leaving office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on Rules, Ethics, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CROW (for himself, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. PHILLIPS, Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. CHU, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, and Mr. MORELLE):

H.R. 460. A bill to provide for the establishment of a standing Health Force and a Resilience Force to respond to public health emergencies and meet public health needs; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Budget, 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. CURTIS (for himself, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. STEWART, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. KHANNA, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. STANTON, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, and Mr. MCCLINTOCK):

H.R. 461. A bill to designate residents of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region as Priority 2 refugees of special humanitarian concern, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DIAZ-BALART (for himself, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. ZELDIN, Ms. MENG, and Mr. DONALDS):

H.R. 462. A bill to establish new ZIP codes for certain communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself and Mr. LARSEN of Washington):

H.R. 463. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to provide a set aside for transportation alternatives; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. FOSTER (for himself and Mr. FORTENBERRY):

H.R. 464. A bill to realign the nuclear forensics and attribution activities of the Federal Government from the Department of Homeland Security to the National Nuclear Security Administration; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, Homeland Security, and Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. RYAN, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. KILMER):

H.R. 465. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to require a school food authority to make publicly available any waiver of the Buy American requirement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio (for himself, Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. STEIL, Mr. GUEST, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. MEIJER, and Mr. ARMSTRONG):

H.R. 466. A bill to prohibit the use of funds to provide for the United States to become a party to the Paris Agreement; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio (for himself and Ms. SPANBERGER):

H.R. 467. A bill to amend the Families First Coronavirus Response Act and the CARES Act to require group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage to provide coverage, without cost sharing, of certain COVID-19 antibody treatments; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GRAVES of Missouri (for himself and Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana):

H.R. 468. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to permit the use of incentive payments to expedite certain federally financed airport development projects; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. HASTINGS (for himself, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mrs. DEMINGS, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. SOTO, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Ms. LEE of California):

H.R. 469. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to provide for health coverage of nipple-areolar complex tattooing in connection with reconstructive surgery following mastectomy and to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to extend coverage of certain breast reconstructive services following mastectomy under the Medicare and Medicaid programs; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HERN:

H.R. 470. A bill to withhold the salaries of Members of Congress upon failure to agree to a budget resolution, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on Rules, the Budget, Oversight and Reform, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. HERRELL (for herself, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. OWENS, Mr. BURCHETT, Mrs. GREENE of Georgia, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. FALLON, Mr. CARL, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. BROOKS, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. GAETZ, and Mr. CAWTHORN):

H.R. 471. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Health and Human Services from lessening the stringency of, and to prohibit the Secretary of Homeland Security from ceasing or lessening implementation of, the COVID-19 border health provisions through the end of the COVID-19 pandemic, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. FALLON, and Mr. BAIRD):

H.R. 472. A bill to reduce the size of the seat of the Government of the United States to the area comprised of the principal Federal monuments, the White House, the United States Capitol, the United States Supreme Court Building, and the Federal executive, legislative, and judicial office buildings located adjacent to the Mall and the United States Capitol, to provide for the retrocession of the remaining area of the District of Columbia to the State of Maryland, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, 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. KATKO (for himself, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Ms. SLOTKIN):

H.R. 473. A bill to require a review of Department of Homeland Security trusted traveler programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. LIEU:

H.R. 474. A bill to direct the Federal Trade Commission to review and potentially revise its standards for safeguarding customer information to ensure that such standards require certain consumer reporting agencies and service providers of such agencies to maintain sufficient safeguards against cyber attacks and related threats, to provide for additional authority to enforce such standards with respect to such agencies and providers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. LURIA (for herself and Mr. WALTZ):

H.R. 475. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve dependent coverage under the TRICARE Young Adult Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MORELLE (for himself, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. PHILLIPS, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. CASE):

H.R. 476. A bill to strengthen American economic resiliency and equitably expand economic opportunity by launching a national competition, promoting State and local strategic planning, encouraging innovation by the public and private sectors, and by substantially investing Federal resources in research and development; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committees on Small Business, Education and Labor, Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure, Ways and Means, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. NEGUSE (for himself, Mr. MCKINLEY, and Mr. THOMPSON of California):

H.R. 477. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to require coverage of hearing devices and systems in certain private health insurance plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Labor, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. O'HALLERAN:

H.R. 478. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to take certain land located in Pinal County, Arizona, into trust for the benefit of the Gila River Indian Community, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. PANETTA (for himself, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. LEE of California, and Ms. ESHOO):

H.R. 479. A bill to establish a moratorium on oil and gas leasing on public land on the Central Coast of California; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. PORTER (for herself, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. PAPPAS, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. DEAN, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. WELCH, Mrs. LURIA, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. RYAN, Mrs. KIM of California, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut):

H.R. 480. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to limit the penalty for late enrollment under part B of the Medicare Program to 15 percent and twice the period of no enrollment, and to exclude periods of COBRA, retiree, and VA coverage from such late enrollment penalty; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PRICE of North Carolina (for himself and Mr. ZELDIN):

H.R. 481. A bill to safeguard taxpayer resources and strengthen the Nation's resilience against severe storms and flooding; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD (for herself, Mr. SIMPSON, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. SIRES, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. STEWART, Mr. CALVERT, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. STIVERS, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. COHEN, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. KHANNA, and Mr. NEGUSE):

H.R. 482. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize certain programs under part A of title XI of such Act relating to genetic diseases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. RUIZ (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. BACON, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. BROWNLEY, and Ms. SPANBERGER):

H.R. 483. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to make reforms to the benefits for Public Service Officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SÁNCHEZ (for herself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CARSON, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Ms. CHU):

H.R. 484. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds for the commemoration of certain former Presidents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Natural Resources, Armed Services, and Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (for himself, Mr. COMER, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. FOXX, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. STEFANIK, Ms. SCHRIER, and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota):

H.R. 485. A bill to reauthorize the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SHERMAN (for himself, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. TAKANO, and Mr. CASE):

H.R. 486. A bill to require certain helicopters to be equipped with safety technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. SPANBERGER (for herself and Mr. UPTON):

H.R. 487. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to expand the operation of the State employment and training programs under such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. STAUBER (for himself, Mr. EMMER, Mr. HAGEDORN, and Mrs. FISCHBACH):

H.R. 488. A bill to prohibit a moratorium on mineral development on Bureau of Land Management and National Forest System land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. STEFANIK (for herself and Mr. DELGADO):

H.R. 489. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to clarify the application of the 15-mile secondary road distance requirement with respect to previously designated critical access hospitals under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi:

H.R. 490. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to improve morale within the Department of Homeland Security workforce by conferring new responsibilities to the Chief Human Capital Officer, establishing an employee engagement steering committee, requiring action plans, and authorizing an annual employee award program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. VARGAS (for himself and Mr. RUIZ):

H.R. 491. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a California New River restoration program to build on, and help coordinate funding for, restoration and protection efforts relating to the New River, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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. ZELDIN (for himself, Mr. SUOZZI, and Ms. STEFANIK):

H.R. 492. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide financial assistance for supportive services for very low-income veteran families in permanent housing; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HERN:

H.J. Res. 18. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to limit the number of terms that a Member of Congress may serve; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. FALLON, and Mr. BAIRD):

H.J. Res. 19. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to repeal the twenty-third article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PHILLIPS (for himself, Mr. KEATING, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. KILMER, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. DEAN, Ms. WILD, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. MOULTON, and Mrs. DEMINGS):

H. Con. Res. 8. Concurrent resolution honoring and memorializing the life and sacrifice of Officer Brian D. Sicknick; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. BIGGS (for himself, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. Gooden of Texas, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. CAWTHORN, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. STEUBE):

H. Res. 55. A resolution recognizing the importance of access to comprehensive, high-quality, life-affirming medical care for women of all ages; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. LESKO (for herself, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. GRIFFITH):

H. Res. 61. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Medicare and Social Security provide an essential benefit for current enrollees and should be strengthened for future generations; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, private bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:

H.R. 493. A bill for the relief of Alirio Palacios Gamez, Hilda Veronica Ramirez Mendez, and Jayro Ivan Juarez Ramirez; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. GARCIA of Texas:

H.R. 494. A bill for the relief of Enrique Soriano and Areli Soriano; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SOTO:

H.R. 495. A bill for the relief of Alejandra Juarez; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 446.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia:

H.R. 447.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Ms. BARRAGÁN:

H.R. 448.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. BIGGS:

H.R. 449.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I

By Mr. BIGGS:

H.R. 450.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 451.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. CALVERT:

H.R. 452.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress.

By Mr. CALVERT:

H.R. 453.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress.

By Mr. CARBAJAL:

H.R. 454.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. CARBAJAL:

H.R. 455.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2

By Mr. CARBAJAL:

H.R. 456.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3 and Article I, Section 8

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:

H.R. 457.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Constitutional Authority—Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. I, Sec. 8, Clause 18)

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION
ARTICLE I, SECTION 8: POWERS OF CONGRESS
CLAUSE 18
The Congress shall have power . . . To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:
H.R. 458.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Constitutional Authority—Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. I, Sec. 8, Clause 18)
THE U.S. CONSTITUTION
ARTICLE I, SECTION 8: POWERS OF CONGRESS
CLAUSE 18
The Congress shall have power . . . To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

By Ms. CRAIG:
H.R. 459.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. CROW:
H.R. 460.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. CURTIS:
H.R. 461.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section 8 Clause 4 of the Constitution

By Mr. DIAZ-BALART:
H.R. 462.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. ESPAILLAT:
H.R. 463.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 7.

By Mr. FOSTER:
H.R. 464.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GARAMENDI:
H.R. 465.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio:
H.R. 466.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section 8 Clause 18: To Make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States.

By Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio:
H.R. 467.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section 8 Clause 18: To Make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States.

By Mr. GRAVES of Missouri:
H.R. 468.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. HASTINGS:
H.R. 469.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article One, Section Eight

By Mr. HERN:
H.R. 470.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section VIII, U.S. Constitution

By Ms. HERRELL:
H.R. 471.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, section 8, clause 4, (the Naturalization Clause) which gives Congress sovereign control over immigration, In Chirac v. Lessee of Chirac (1817), the Supreme Court affirmed that the Constitution grants Congress Plenary power on immigration policy. Further, in Galvan v. Press (1954) the court found ''that the formulation of policies [pertaining to the entry of aliens and the right to remain here] is entrusted to Congress has become about as firmly imbedded in the legislative and judicial tissues of our body politic as any aspect of our government.''

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:
H.R. 472.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 17

By Mr. KATKO:
H.R. 473.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 and Clause 3 of the United States Constitution: The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States

By Mr. LIEU:
H.R. 474.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section VIII

By Mrs. LURIA:
H.R. 475.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 9, Clauses 12 and 13, which grant Congress the power to establish a military, and Clause 18, which grants Congress the necessary and proper powers to carry out its other enumerated powers.

By Mr. MORELLE:
H.R. 476.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, of the United States Constitution

By Mr. NEGUSE:
H.R. 477.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. O'HALLERAN:
H.R. 478.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. PANETTA:
H.R. 479.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Ms. PORTER:
H.R. 480.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. PRICE of North Carolina:
H.R. 481.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1:
''The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States; . . .

By Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD:
H.R. 482.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. RUIZ:
H.R. 483.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution, to provide for the general welfare and make all laws necessary and proper to carry out the powers of Congress.

By Ms. SANCHEZ:
H.R. 484.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia:
H.R. 485.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. SHERMAN:
H.R. 486.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

By Ms. SPANBERGER:
H.R. 487.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8

By Mr. STAUBER:
H.R. 488.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: ''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. STEFANIK:
H.R. 489.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi:
H.R. 490.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. VARGAS:
H.R. 491.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
(1) To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with

the Indian tribes, as enumerated in Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution;

(2) To make all laws necessary and proper for executing powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. ZELDIN:

H.R. 492.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:

H.R. 493.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Constitutional Authority—Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. I, Sec. 8, Clause 18)

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I, SECTION 8: POWERS OF CONGRESS

CLAUSE 18

The Congress shall have power . . . To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in department or officer thereof.

By Ms. GARCIA of Texas:

H.R. 494.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 4 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. SOTO:

H.R. 495.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. HERN:

H.J. Res. 18.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII, U.S. Constitution

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.J. Res. 19.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 5

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 25: Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. POSEY, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. DAVIDSON, Ms. FOXX, Mr. CHABOT, and Mr. LOUDERMILK.

H.R. 28: Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana and Mrs. BOEBERT.

H.R. 30: Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 38: Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 40: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.

H.R. 55: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. SOTO, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. NEGUSE, and Mr. CUELLAR.

H.R. 82: Mr. COLE, Mrs. LURIA, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. BOST, Mr. RYAN, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. MASSIE, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mr. HASTINGS.

H.R. 148: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 152: Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. SHERRILL, and Mr. LYNCH.

H.R. 153: Mr. KHANNA, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H.R. 154: Ms. LEE of California.

H.R. 164: Mr. CRIST.

H.R. 218: Mrs. LESKO, Mr. MANN, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. HICE of Georgia, and Mr. BURGESS.

H.R. 222: Mr. MEEKS.

H.R. 243: Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Ms. CHENEY, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, and Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana.

H.R. 249: Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 262: Ms. STEVENS and Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 265: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mrs. HAYES, and Mr. CORREA.

H.R. 276: Ms. TLAIB, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.

H.R. 280: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H.R. 295: Mr. NORMAN.

H.R. 305: Mr. BACON, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. KEATING, Mr. LIEU, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. COSTA, Ms. MENG, and Mr. HIGGINS of New York.

H.R. 308: Ms. PORTER and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 310: Mr. KEATING, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. RUSH, Mr. LATTA, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. RYAN, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. EVANS, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. NEAL, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. STEWART, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. TRONE, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. BACON, Ms. MENG, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. WILD, Mr. TURNER, and Mr. STIVERS.

H.R. 332: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN.

H.R. 334: Mr. PHILLIPS.

H.R. 336: Mr. COOPER.

H.R. 347: Mr. COHEN, Mr. CASE, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 369: Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 374: Ms. STEFANIK and Mr. DUNCAN.

H.R. 376: Mr. GOHMERT and Mr. ROUZER.

H.R. 377: Mr. GOHMERT and Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas.

H.R. 378: Mr. GOHMERT and Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas.

H.R. 380: Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mrs. LESKO, and Mr. GOHMERT.

H.R. 381: Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mr. GOHMERT, and Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H.R. 384: Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. DEAN, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. WELCH, Ms. BROWNLEY, and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 392: Mr. COURTNEY.

H.R. 398: Mrs. LESKO, Mrs. BOEBERT, and Mr. GOHMERT.

H.R. 401: Mr. STIVERS.

H.R. 403: Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 419: Mr. FULCHER and Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina.

H.R. 420: Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. FULCHER, and Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina.

H.R. 421: Ms. SCHRIER and Mr. CONNOLLY.

H.R. 423: Mr. POCAN, Mrs. DINGELL, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.

H.R. 433: Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. RYAN, Mr. VAN DREW, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. MCKINLEY, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Ms. WILD, Mr. KATKO, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. MOONEY, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Ms. KUSTER, and Mr. KELLER.

H.J. Res. 3: Mr. WITTMAN, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.

H.J. Res. 11: Mr. NORMAN and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.

H.J. Res. 12: Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. MANN, Mr. GARBARINO, and Mr. BUCK.

H.J. Res. 15: Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. TRONE, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Ms. BASS, Mr. SIRES, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.

H.J. Res. 16: Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. TRONE, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Ms. BASS, Mr. SIRES, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.

H.J. Res. 17: Mr. VARGAS, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, and Mr. KAHELE.

H. Res. 19: Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. SOTO, and Mrs. FLETCHER.

H. Res. 31: Mr. SOTO, Mr. JONES, Ms. SCANLON, and Mr. PAYNE.

H. Res. 47: Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. AXNE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. YARMUTH, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. ZELDIN, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. TITUS, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. RYAN, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. COOPER, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. RUSH, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. WILD, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. MENG, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. NADLER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. ESHOO, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. CHU, Mr. DEFAZIO, and Mr. COURTNEY.

H. Res. 55: Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mrs. LESKO, and Mr. GOHMERT.

H. Res. 58: Mr. FULCHER, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mrs. LESKO, and Mr. FORTENBERRY.

H. Res. 59: Mr. HARRIS and Mr. MEUSER.

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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 167 WASHINGTON, MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2021 No. 14

Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Almighty God, the rock of our salvation, teach us to live as contemplative activists, reflecting Your sacred guidance and obeying Your commands.

Remind our lawmakers that You direct the steps of good people, leading the faithful to the destination You have chosen. Lord, stir the hearts of our Senators until they possess a holiness that strives to carve tunnels of hope through mountains of despair.

We offer You our hearts, mighty God, for we trust Your prevailing and loving providence.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HIRONO). Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

NOMINATION OF JANET LOUISE YELLEN

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, this week, the Senate will continue confirming President Biden's highly qualified and history-making nominees.

In a few hours we will hold a vote on Janet Yellen to serve as the next Secretary of the Treasury. Janet Yellen, of course, is no stranger to this Chamber. She has been confirmed by the Senate no fewer than four times and was reported favorably to the floor by a unanimous vote of the Finance Committee on Friday.

The bipartisan support of Ms. Yellen's multiple nominations reflects her breathtaking range of experience and just how well suited she is to manage the economic challenges of our time. Ms. Yellen, I am proud to report, is a native of working-class Brooklyn, the daughter of a schoolteacher and physician, raised during the Great Depression. She went to Fort Hamilton High School, one of James Madison High School's rivals. A graduate of Brown and Yale, Ms. Yellen has taught economics at some of the world's most prestigious universities. Of course, Janet Yellen is best known for her tenure as Chair of the Federal Reserve, overseeing a period of falling unemployment and steady economic recovery from the global financial crisis.

Few people possess the experience and expertise that Ms. Yellen would bring to the Treasury, particularly during this moment of economic crisis. At the Treasury Department, there are long hallways on the third floor where the portraits of all 77 Treasury Secretaries hang—all of them men, all the way back to Alexander Hamilton, the first Secretary. I am thrilled today to vote to confirm the first woman to ever hold the position of Treasury Secretary and someday add her portrait to that hallway.

On that note, I would add it was a great pleasure to read the Biden administration's announcement today that the Treasury Department plans to speed up the plans to add the portrait of Harriet Tubman to the $20 bill. This is an issue I have long championed and something that should have been done a long time ago. I feel particularly strong about it since Harriet Tubman was an Auburn, NY, resident, and our office worked for years to successfully make her home in Upstate New York a national historic monument.

I am glad the Biden administration is reversing the Trump administration's foot-dragging. It is the kind of thing they did—no excuse, no reason, just didn't do it. But now the Biden administration is reversing the Trump administration's foot-dragging and will press forward with plans to circulate new currency celebrating Harriet Tubman's life and legacy.

After Ms. Yellen's confirmation tonight, the Senate will continue to process nominations to President Biden's Cabinet for the Secretaries of State, Homeland Security, and Transportation. With cooperation, the Senate could complete both confirmations this week. Again, those are the Secretaries of State, Homeland Security, and Transportation, in addition to Treasury this evening.

I remind my colleagues that President Trump had his Secretary of Homeland Security installed on Inauguration Day. We cannot allow our national security and our domestic security to be compromised in any way by the prolonged delay of Mr. Mayorkas' nomination.

IMPEACHMENT

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, as I announced on Friday, the Republican leader and I have come to an initial agreement about the timing of the impeachment trial of Donald Trump. This evening, managers appointed by the House of Representatives will deliver

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

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to the Senate the Article of Impeachment and will read the article here in the well of this Chamber.

Tomorrow, Senators will be sworn in as judges and jurors in the impending trial, and the Senate will issue a summons to former President Trump. After that, both the House managers and the former President's counsel will have a period of time to draft their legal briefs, just as they did in previous trials. Once the briefs are drafted, presentations by the parties will commence the week of February 8.

I want to thank the Republican leader for working with us to reach this agreement, which we believe is fair to both sides and will enable the Senate to conduct a timely and fair trial on the Article of Impeachment. The schedule will also allow us to continue the important work of the people, including confirming more members of President Biden's Cabinet.

I want to be very clear about that last point. The Senate will conduct a timely and fair trial.

I want to be very clear about that because some of my Republican colleagues have latched on to a fringe legal theory that the Senate does not have the constitutional power to hold the trial because Donald Trump is no longer in office. This argument has been roundly debunked by constitutional scholars from the left, right, and center. It defies precedent, historic practice, and basic common sense. It makes no sense whatsoever that a President—or any official—could commit a heinous crime against our country and then defeat Congress's impeachment powers by simply resigning so as to avoid accountability and a vote to disqualify them from future office.

This is not merely a hypothetical situation. In 1876, President Grant's Secretary of War, William Belknap, implicated in a corruption scheme, literally raced to the White House to tender his resignation mere minutes before the House was set to vote on his impeachment. Then, as a matter of historical record, he burst into tears. Not only did the House move forward with the five impeachment articles against him, but a trial was then convened in the Senate.

Of course, the question came up as to whether the Senate could try former officials, and guess what. The Senate voted as a Chamber that Mr. Belknap could be tried ''for acts done as Secretary of War, notwithstanding his resignation of said office.''

Those are the words of the Senate vote in 1876.

Mr. Belknap was ultimately acquitted, but the record is clear. The Senate has the power to try former officials, and the reasons are obvious. A President or any official, for example, could wait until their final 2 weeks in office to betray their country, knowing they could escape accountability or merely resign moments before the Senate decides to convict and disqualify them from future office. The theory that the Senate cannot try former officials would amount to a constitutional get-out-of-jail-free card for any President who commits an impeachable offense.

Now, it is certainly appropriate for the Senate to take the resignation of an official into account. After all, the House decided not to impeach Richard Nixon because, in that sense, Nixon took some responsibility for his actions. But to state the obvious, President Trump did not resign. He has not demonstrated remorse. He has not even acknowledged his role in the events of January 6, and he has never disavowed the lies that were fed to the American people by him about who actually won the election.

Just to put a final nail into the coffin of this ridiculous theory, I remind my colleagues, if a President is convicted on an Article of Impeachment, the Senate holds a separate vote on whether to bar them from future office. Once a President is convicted of an impeachment charge, they are removed from office. In other words, they become a former official. If we are to believe that the Senate can't hold former officials to account, then the Senate could never proceed to that second vote of disqualification, which is provided for in the Constitution, even for a sitting President.

In saying this, I am expressing the view of legal scholars across the political spectrum. Stephen Vladeck, a prominent constitutional expert at the University of Texas, wrote in the New York Times that Donald Trump is the ''poster child'' for why the conviction of an ex-President is not just constitutionally permissible but necessary. More than 150 legal scholars signed a letter last week forcefully stating that an impeachment trial of a former President is constitutional. Among the signatories, one of the cofounders of the Federalist Society, as well as one of President Reagan's Solicitors General, among other prominent conservatives.

It is so obviously wrong to suggest that impeaching the President is unconstitutional—that impeaching a former President is unconstitutional. So why are some suggesting it?

Well, there seems to be a desire on the political right to avoid passing judgment, one way or the other, on former President Trump and his role in fomenting the despicable attack on the Capitol on January 6. There seems to be some hope that Republicans could oppose the former President's impeachment on process grounds, rather than grappling with his actual awful conduct.

Let me be very clear. This is not going to fly. The trial is going to happen. It is certainly and clearly constitutional, and if the former President is convicted, there will be a vote to disqualify him from future office.

There is only one question at stake—only one question that Senators of both parties will have to answer before God and their own conscience: Is former President Trump guilty of inciting an insurrection against the United States?

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, our Nation has spent nearly a year locked in this terrible battle with COVID–19. This virus that spread from China around the world has taken more than 400,000 American lives. It has effectively cost many children an entire school year. It made us slam the brakes on one of the best job markets in modern history and threw millions of families into financial chaos.

But thanks to a lot of hard work in 2020, the dawn of 2021 has brought a turning point. The genius of science and the support of Operation Warp Speed produced vaccines in record time. And in December, after months of delay, Democrats finally let Congress move ahead with another major rescue package. The light at the end of the tunnel is getting closer, and both Republicans and Democrats are going to continue working together to accelerate victory.

Curiously, the President's candidate to run the Department of Health and Human Services is the famously partisan attorney general of California. His recent experience in health policies seems largely limited to promoting abortion-on-demand and suing groups like the Little Sisters of the Poor, which dare to live out their religious convictions.

In an interview just yesterday, Mr. Becerra compared the current state of vaccinations inherited by the Biden administration to an airplane in a nosedive—a disaster. He contrasted the status quo with the new administration's stated goal of 1 million vaccinations per day, which he called ''ambitious.''

There is a problem here. Even the press has repeatedly pointed it out, which said our Nation is already meeting that very pace—already meeting that very pace. That is not a big new goal. It is exactly what they inherited from the Trump administration in Operation Warp Speed.

Inauguration Day, Thursday, and Friday, each topped 1 million vaccinations. As of today, we are averaging 1.16 million shots per day over the last

week. They are claiming the exact same number can either be a total catastrophe or a smashing success. I guess it depends on whether Democrats are in power. So much for science without politics.

Here is how the Washington Post put it:

> The accelerating speed of the [vaccine] program undercuts assertions by some Biden advisers that they were left no plan by the Trump administration, and suggests they need only to keep their feet on the pedal to clear the bar they set for themselves.

Yesterday, Mr. Becerra was asked about increasing vaccinations in the months ahead. Here is what he said: ''I first have to be sworn in to give you a timeline.'' Perhaps that is like the time the Speaker of the House famously said she had to pass a bill before the public could learn what was in it.

The new administration campaigned heavily on having a new master plan to fight the pandemic. Well, now they are in office, President Biden has said: ''[T]here's nothing we can do to change the trajectory of the pandemic in the next several months,'' and his administration is apparently content to maintain the same vaccine pace they actually inherited.

Let's talk about Congress's role in the pandemic relief. Our Democratic colleagues spent last summer and fall using the legislative filibuster to delay the next rescue package until after the election. Now, that would be the same tool that some Senate Democrats now suddenly say they oppose, as if they hadn't leaned on it liberally over the last 6 years.

But, finally, last month, they let us act. We passed another package totaling nearly $900 billion in urgent relief. We provided more than $80 billion to help K–12 schools, $280 billion for the Paycheck Protection Program, billions more for Federal unemployment insurance supplements, nutrition and rental assistance, and direct cash aid and massive new investments in purchasing and distributing vaccines. Some of that money has already gone out the door. Other portions are still unspent—a massive, historic, almost trillion-dollar package that was passed into law just 5 weeks ago.

Since last March, Washington, DC, has spent a historic amount of money standing up one of the most enormous policy responses by any government to any emergency that the world has ever seen. Nobody thinks the support has been perfect—far from it—but it has been historic and strong.

For example, a nonpartisan study in November showed that because of the historic emergency legislation passed through Congress, American personal income was actually—listen to this—higher in September than it had been before the pandemic.

Last month, Larry Summers, President Clinton's Treasury Secretary and President Obama's NEC Director, confirmed that relative to our underlying economy, our multiple rescue packages have brought American household income all the way back to a level that equals or even exceeds what he would expect if we weren't in a crisis.

So, to be clear, nobody thinks our bipartisan work fighting this pandemic is completely finished. Nobody is arguing that. And we all understand that overall national statistics do not explain away the terrible struggles facing many families. But experts and economists from the left to the right agree: Any further action should be smart and targeted, not just an imprecise deluge of borrowed money that would direct huge sums toward those who don't need it.

That is why the new administration's first draft of their sprawling proposal misses the mark, and press reports make clear this is not just a Republican view. Multiple Democratic Senators agree that it is not the right path forward.

So as the $900 billion package from 5 weeks ago continues to come online and as the remaining needs continue to come into focus, Republicans will be ready and eager to continue bipartisan discussions about smart steps forward for the American people. Bipartisan action helped our Nation endure the last year. Bipartisan action helped us turn the corner, and it will be smart, bipartisan actions that help us finish the fight.

NOMINATION OF JANET LOUISE YELLEN

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, now on a related matter, this afternoon, the Senate will confirm Dr. Janet Yellen, the former Chair of the Federal Reserve, to serve as President Biden's Secretary of the Treasury. Her speedy confirmation will contrast sharply with the way the Senate Democratic minority handled many of the last President's key Cabinet nominations 4 years ago.

Secretary Mnuchin had to sit through a stunt where Senate Democrats literally boycotted his committee hearing. He was not confirmed until mid-February.

Dr. Yellen came out of committee on a unanimous vote and will begin to work 5 days after the inauguration. That is even faster than Secretary Geithner's nomination in 2009 in the teeth of a financial crisis.

This certainly isn't because Dr. Yellen's or President Biden's economic policy views have unanimous support here in the Senate. I expect we will have no shortage of spirited policy discussions with Dr. Yellen in the months ahead, especially if some Democrats keep trying to use this historic emergency as a pretext—a pretext to push through permanent far-left policy changes.

The 50 Senators on our side have great confidence in our pro-job, pro-worker vision that helped build the greatest job market in living memory. But the simple fact is that, when the American people elect a President and when the President selects qualified and mainstream people for key posts, the whole Nation deserves for them to be able to assemble their team.

I will be voting to confirm Dr. Yellen today. I look forward to working together on pro-growth policies that will help rebuild the thriving economy for American workers that was in place just 1 year ago.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The bill clerk read the nomination of Janet Louise Yellen, of California, to be Secretary of the Treasury.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the time until 5:30 will be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

TRIBUTE TO CAPITOL CUSTODIAL STAFF

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, it is good to see the Senator from Hawaii as the Presiding Officer.

Madam President, I rise today to honor workers in this building—something that Senator HIRONO does every day of her life in this job—workers in this building who are too often overlooked but whose work is essential to the functioning of our government: our Capitol custodial staff.

In the days after the January 6 insurrection, when domestic terrorists stormed this building, we rightly honored Capitol Police Officer Eugene Goodman and many other Capitol police officers who put their lives on the line to protect all of us, to protect our democratic process, and, essentially, to protect our democracy.

Last week, I joined a bipartisan group of colleagues in introducing legislation to award Officer Goodman the

Congressional Gold Medal. He and others may well have saved our lives and protected our democracy. They did it without the support they needed from their leadership. They did it without the support from the Trump White House on down.

But those officers aren't the only ones who deserve our honor and our gratitude. They are not the only ones who put their lives on the line serving our country on January 6 or over the past year during this pandemic.

Every day, Capitol custodial staff do their jobs with skill, dedication, and dignity. They showed up for work during this pandemic even when many in this building didn't take it seriously and put those workers' health at risk by not wearing masks.

Capitol custodial workers were here on January 6, doing their jobs, when White supremacists stormed this building, barging into this Chamber, acting as though no one could ever possibly hold them accountable. Because the President was on their side, they thought they were invulnerable.

And when their rampage was over, it was largely the Black and Brown custodians who were left to restore dignity and respect to the Capitol. Their work allowed us to continue ours that night: certifying the electoral votes, securing the election and our democracy.

Many Americans were so moved to see those workers still doing their jobs. That is what service looks like. That is what love of country looks like. That is what the dignity of work is all about.

Unfortunately, it tells you a whole lot about the problems that have been allowed to fester for too long in this country: White supremacists make a mess; Black workers clean it up.

We have a lot of work to do to fix that and to ensure that hard work pays off for all workers in this country. We simply don't value and respect all work the way we should.

I think of the words of Dr. King, who, as you know, died fighting for workers, sanitation workers in Memphis. He said:

> If a man is called to be a street sweeper, he should sweep streets even as Michelangelo painted or Beethoven composed music or Shakespeare wrote poetry. He should sweep streets so well that all the hosts of heaven and earth will pause to say, ''Here lived a great street sweeper who did his job well.''

Dr. King said:

> No work is insignificant. All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance.

No work is insignificant. All labor has dignity. We ought to treat it that way, starting with honoring these workers.

In the days after January 6, pictures of Capitol workers cleaning up after these terrorists were reported on the news, captured by dedicated journalists who also risked their lives to do their jobs that day. These photos struck a chord with so many people. Americans began writing thank-you letters, sending them to the Architect of the Capitol to pass on to custodial staff, to police officers, and to others.

Many of these workers are represented by AFSCME Local 626, which gives workers a voice on the job and is also working on ways to honor its members.

Members of Congress should do the same. In the coming weeks, I will be introducing a Senate resolution to recognize the Capitol custodial staff for their bravery and their service to our country on January 6. I hope my colleagues will join me—all of them—not as Republicans or Democrats but as Members of this body, as Americans all.

This Capitol is the people's House. The insurrectionists ransacked it. The Capitol custodians picked up the pieces. They deserve our eternal gratitude. To all the Capitol custodians who come to work in this building each day to ensure our democracy functions, thank you, thank you, thank you.

NOMINATION OF JANET LOUISE YELLEN

Madam President, a few days after our first woman Vice President was sworn in, we are about to confirm the first woman to step into one of the leading roles in our economy. Janet Yellen made history when she served as Chair of the Federal Reserve. She is about to make history again as Secretary of the Treasury.

She will be the first person ever to have held all three of the top positions in our economy—Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers, Chair of the Federal Reserve, and Secretary of the Treasury—and now more than ever, we need her leadership, her vision, and her appreciation for what makes this country work.

As Fed Chair and as a labor economist, Janet Yellen made it clear that she understands what drives our economy. It is not the stock market. It is not Wall Street. It is people. It is workers. Janet Yellen knows our economy is built by Americans who know the dignity of a hard day's work, whether you punch a clock or swipe a badge or work for tips or care for children or take care of your parents.

I remember in 2015 Chair Yellen came to Cleveland and toured the Alcoa plant not far from my house. She showed the kind of leadership we need, the kind of leaders President Biden is putting into the top jobs managing our economy—people who will get out of Washington, who will visit every sort of community in the heart of the country, and people who act on what they learn from workers in Chillicothe, in Springfield, in Youngstown and Moline, IL, where the next Presiding Officer comes from.

There is a lot more to our economy than a quarterly earnings report. Janet Yellen understands that. She will step into this job at a time when the contrast between the financial health of corporations and workers couldn't be starker.

We are in the midst of a public health crisis and an economic crisis. You wouldn't know it if you looked only at the stock market or corporate profits. But under President Biden, under Janet Yellen, and under new leadership in the Senate, we are done measuring—we are just done measuring the economy that way. We are going to think about the economy the way workers and their families do—in terms of paychecks, whether they can make rent or pay the mortgage this month or afford childcare or pay for their prescription drugs. By those measures, people are hurting.

We hear a lot about what some people call the K-shaped recovery—that is one way of saying that the rich are getting richer while the middle class and low-income families continue to struggle. It was a problem before this virus, as you know. The pandemic has only made it worse, and it is layered on top of systemic racism and inequalities that have been allowed to fester for too long.

We have a tax code that favors the wealthy, that gives corporations a tax break when they move manufacturing jobs out of East St. Louis or out of East Cleveland overseas. Americans' hard-earned savings are at risk from the financial instability of climate change. China is aggressive, confident, and continues to threaten American jobs. The Internal Revenue Service wastes time and taxpayer money auditing working families, often Black and Brown families, instead of going after wealthy tax cheats. Wall Street rewards corporations that lay off employees and cut their pay and treat their workers as expendable. Risky behavior on Wall Street—like it did in the last crisis—can devastate communities in Ohio and around the country.

I have confidence that Janet Yellen understands these vast challenges and that she will get to work immediately to take them on and to create a better, more prosperous, more stable economy, centered on the dignity of work. She knows we can build new, cleaner infrastructure that puts people to work at good-paying union jobs. We can invest in the country, including the small towns and industrial cities of Southeast Ohio and Southern Illinois and the Black and Brown communities in our cities that too often get left behind. We can make it easier for people to afford housing and transportation and childcare. We can create a tax code that rewards work instead of wealth, starting with a dramatic expansion of the child tax credit and the earned income tax credit. We can give people more power over their lives and their own money with options like monthly distribution of the child tax credit and no-fee bank accounts. That is the vision Janet Yellen and Joe Biden and Senate Democrats are committed to—one where the middle class is growing and everyone has the opportunity to join it.

Janet Yellen has the experience, the talent, and the commitment to service to deliver results. She is the right person for these tumultuous times. She

will rise to meet this moment to help our country build back better. I ask my colleagues to support Janet Yellen for Secretary of the Treasury.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. DUCKWORTH). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

59TH INAUGURATION

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, last week, the country and the world watched as our Nation carried out one of its most sacred traditions—the peaceful transfer of power, which is the hallmark of American democracy, that has defined our country since its earliest days. Between the pandemic and heightened security concerns, this inauguration looked far different than those of former Presidents, but the will of the people was carried out just as it has been following every Presidential election throughout our Nation's history.

President Biden, in his inaugural address, stressed the importance of unifying our country. I agree, and I hope that the President and our Democratic colleagues in Congress lead by example.

FILIBUSTER

Madam President, our first order of business has been to fill critical positions throughout the Federal Government, and the Senate has already confirmed the Director of National Intelligence and the Secretary of Defense, both of whom I supported. This afternoon, we will vote on the confirmation of Janet Yellen to be Secretary of the Treasury, whom I intend to vote for, as well, and there is a slate of other important positions that need to be filled in the coming days and weeks.

I should note that voting to confirm a nominee, under the words of the Constitution—providing advice and consent—is not a rubberstamp of the administration's policies. I know there will be important issues that we will disagree on, but if elections mean anything, they mean that the prevailing party should not be knee-capped as, unfortunately, our Democratic colleagues did to the previous administration when it tried to install a new Cabinet and agency heads. Rather, I believe the tradition has been to accommodate one another when we can so the administration can carry out its duties.

This morning, I had a very good conversation with Judge Merrick Garland, whom President Biden has nominated for Attorney General. Judge Garland's extensive legal experience makes him well suited to lead the Department of Justice, and I appreciate his commitment to keeping politics out of the Justice Department. That is my No. 1 criterion for who should be the next head of the Department of Justice, the Attorney General. I think both sides should support a depoliticized Justice Department, and that is what I hope Judge Garland, once confirmed, will deliver. I look forward to talking to him more during the confirmation process, but unless I hear something new, I expect to support his nomination before the full Senate. It is in the best interest of the country to have qualified, Senate-confirmed individuals leading our Federal departments and agencies.

As we look beyond the confirmation process, there are many opportunities for Republicans and Democrats to work together in those places where we agree, and I know additional coronavirus relief, as it is needed, is high on President Biden's list. Approximately 1 million Americans are being vaccinated every day, and while the light at the end of the tunnel is getting bigger and brighter, we are still not in the clear. Congress has provided trillions of dollars in relief to strengthen our fight on both the healthcare and economic fronts, but we need to remain vigilant in the final, critical phase of this battle.

I don't support President Biden's pandemic relief proposal in its current form, but I do believe it is a starting point for bipartisan negotiations. I will gladly support a reasonable, targeted bill as we determine precisely, as we can, where the needs truly are. We all agree we need to bolster vaccine manufacturing and distribution; that some Americans need additional financial support; and that Main Street businesses and their workforces are still struggling to survive this economic recession. I hope the administration will be willing to work with Congress to reach an agreement that receives broad, bipartisan support as each of the previous bills that we have passed has.

During my time in the Senate, I have worked with folks across the aisle on our shared priorities, and I have no plans of changing that practice now, but make no mistake: I will push back, forcefully, respectfully, when the President and I disagree. One of the things I have learned, though, is that there is a difference between what some elected officials say and what they actually do, and rather than listen to what they say, I really prefer to watch what they do and see if those are consistent. Only hours after being sworn in and speaking of unifying the country, President Biden unilaterally canceled the permit for the Keystone XL Pipeline, and on the same day, the administration halted all new energy leasing and permitting on public lands and waters. With these unfortunate actions, President Biden is killing thousands of well-paying U.S. jobs and kicking the U.S. energy industry while it is still struggling from the pandemic.

I had hoped and still hope to work with President Biden on an all-of-the-above energy strategy that prioritizes our fossil fuels—we have 280 million cars on the road, and people are still going to need gasoline for the foreseeable future—renewables, and innovative technologies that help us harness our most prevalent and reliable energy sources. One of the things that, I think, is exciting about some of the research that is being done is on carbon capture technology, which ought to be, again, something that we can all agree on as we transition to the next forms of energy.

As we begin a new Congress and welcome a new President, I am, once again, reminded of the words that were quoted from Ruth Bader Ginsburg, recently deceased Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. She didn't originate it, but she did make it popular when she said, ''You can disagree without being disagreeable.'' Of course, democracy itself expects a competition of ideas but not necessarily the mudslinging and name-calling that have become all too common. I hope we can return to the respectful battles in the days and months ahead and know there is no better battleground for that to happen in than in the Senate, where sometimes—sometimes—we live up to the billing as the world's greatest deliberative body.

The primary feature that separates the Senate from the House or any other legislative body is that of free and full debate. That is why it takes 60 votes to cut off debate—so that you can then vote and pass a piece of legislation with 51 votes. It forces us to do what we ought to do anyway, which is to have fulsome debate, allow minority views to be presented, and then, once the debate is concluded, have a vote on the underlying bill. Fundamentally, the Founders saw the Senate as a place that protected minority rights. I have been here long enough to be in the majority and in the minority, and we know what goes around comes around in the U.S. Senate. It is as sure as day follows night. That is why we are called a deliberative body. In the House, you have 435 Members, and in order to pass a bill, all you need is a majority. Got the votes? Jam it through. Yet there has to be someplace, somewhere, in a nation of 330 million souls, where competing ideas can be seriously debated, and that is why our Founders created the U.S. Senate.

George Washington was famously said to have told Thomas Jefferson that the Senate was meant to be a saucer to cool House legislation like a saucer was used to cool hot tea. Well, if partisan bills are the hot tea, then the Senate cloture requirements are the saucer. Rather than a simple majority here in the Senate, you have to get 60 out of 100 Senators to support a bill in order for it to advance. I know we all would love to see each of our ideas passed into law without any delay or extended debate, but that is not the way the Senate is supposed to work. It forces us to do what we ought to want to do anyway, which is to do the hard

work of bipartisan negotiation and compromise, come up with an 80–20 solution that can leave the 20 percent you don't agree on for another day and another battle, but to pass into law and make progress, on behalf of the American people, the 80 percent we can agree on.

Neither party has had a filibuster-proof majority since the late 1970s, and as a result, Senators from red States and blue States have had to work together, as they should, to reach agreements on nearly every piece of legislation that has moved through this Chamber in the last four decades. The only real exception is the budget reconciliation process, which, by court rules, can be done with 51 votes, but, otherwise, in the main, 60 votes—a bipartisan majority—is required in order to move legislation.

When bills require bipartisan support in order to pass, they are more durable. The fact is, if you pass a partisan piece of legislation, the next time the majority flips, it can undo it. I think it is useful in terms of our comity, in terms of our relationships, and in terms of our ability to get things done for the American people to try to figure out how to do things on a bipartisan basis. While I know bipartisanship isn't necessarily popular with the political bases of either party, it is critical to our democracy.

Unfortunately, some of our colleagues on the other side have expressed an interest in using their newly gained powers in the majority to blow up the filibuster and to shatter that important cooling saucer. Make no mistake: That would do irreparable harm to this institution and inflict serious damage on our democracy. Without the 60-vote cloture requirement, both Chambers would be majority-rule institutions, with a steady flow of partisan legislation moving through Congress. If the same party controls both Chambers and the White House, that party could pass strictly partisan legislation that would quickly be signed into law without a single vote from the opposing party. Does that feel good? Well, if you are on the winning side, yes. Is it good for the country? No, it is not. It is efficient, but it is not effective. It is not lasting. It is not durable. It doesn't provide the sort of stability and ability to plan that the current structure provides.

All the reasons I have given for doing away with the Senate cloture requirement are why no majority has ever tried to blow it up before.

During the past administrations—the Trump, Obama, Bush and Clinton administration—there was a period of time when the President's party controlled both Chambers of Congress. If you go further back in history, you will find dozens of examples. But no Senate, until now, has ever been so shortsighted as to get rid of the cloture requirement and the filibuster when it comes to legislation.

If Democrats carried out their threat to do that today, they would clear the path to pass a radical agenda that would fundamentally reshape our country without a single Republican vote.

As a reminder, we have a 50–50 Senate, and in the House there are 221 Democrats and 211 Republicans. In all of Congress, there are 10 more Democrats than Republicans out of 535 Members of Congress. That is far from a progressive or a radical mandate.

As I said, elections happen, majorities change, and Presidents come and go, as do U.S. Senators. In 2 years, Republicans could win the majority in either or both Chambers, and in 4, a Republican could win the White House as well.

If we were to do away with this restraint on snap decisions and partisan legislation, what would the succeeding Republican administration likely do? It would simply undo everything that had been done on a partisan basis.

Well, would our Democratic colleagues support a rule change to blow up the filibuster when Republicans control both Houses and the White House? Would they believe the Senate minority should be silenced, as they believe now?

As I say, what goes around comes around, and the shoe is always on the other foot, eventually.

The good news is we don't have to wonder what the answer would be because we already know it. In 2017, there was a Republican-led Senate, House, and White House, when we held both Houses and the White House. There was fear by some folks across the aisle—actually, both sides of the aisle—that the filibuster would be eliminated in order to clear a path for a Republican agenda.

That was when 61 Senators, a filibuster-proof majority, wrote a bipartisan letter to then-Majority Leader MCCONNELL and Democratic Leader SCHUMER, urging them to protect the filibuster. That was 61 Senators. Among the cosigners were 27 current Democratic Senators. One of the signatures on this bipartisan letter is that of our newly sworn-in Vice President, KAMALA HARRIS.

I can promise you that Leader MCCONNELL has no interest in eliminating the filibuster, when he was majority or now as minority leader, because he knew the institutional damage that this would cause and the damage to our democracy.

Unfortunately, Leader SCHUMER refuses to acknowledge that most basic fact.

The two party leaders are now in the process of negotiating an organizing resolution on how this new reality of a 50–50 Senate will operate. Fortunately, there is modern precedent for how this has been done, and the two leaders have shared an interest in emulating the 2001 agreement negotiated by Tom Daschle and Trent Lott.

But because of the newfound obsession of some on the left with uprooting the cornerstone of the Senate, Leader MCCONNELL has asked for assurances from Leader SCHUMER that the filibuster and the cloture requirement will remain intact. After all, it is not unreasonable to ask your negotiating partner to commit to not breaking the rules, which is all Senator MCCONNELL is asking for.

Senator SCHUMER has derided that request, calling it ''extraneous'' and saying it falls outside the bounds of the 2001 organizing resolution.

But I would like to remind our colleagues that in 2001 the majority party was not threatening to blow up the Senate rules to advance a partisan agenda. That is why it wasn't the subject, explicitly, of that negotiation of the organizing resolution. There was no need to ask for assurances on the protection of the filibuster because it wasn't even a question to be answered.

Our Democratic colleagues have relied on the filibuster while Republicans have held the majority. I can think of time after time after time when we have tried to pass more COVID–19 relief bills that our Democratic colleagues felt were inadequate. And time after time after time, they used the filibuster to prevent passage of those bills, which was their right—I think a mistake, a decision I disagree with, but within their rights under the Senate rules. Republicans have also relied on the filibuster while Democrats have held the majority.

We all recognize that at some point the shoe is always on the other foot, which is why no one has been so foolish as to eliminate the legislative filibuster or to even seriously consider it before. I hope our colleagues on the other side will avoid making this tragic mistake in order to pursue shortsighted political goals.

And in an encouraging sign on Friday, the White House indicated that President Biden does not support getting rid of the legislative filibuster either. President Biden served in the Senate for, I believe, 36 years. He understands how this institution works, how it is supposed to work, and his advice—and it is only advice, since he is the President and not a Member of the Senate anymore—is: Don't go there.

I encourage our more than two dozen Democratic colleagues who have repeatedly voiced their support for maintaining the legislative filibuster to insist that this critical stabilizing force in our democracy be preserved in the organizing resolution currently being discussed by Senator SCHUMER and Senator MCCONNELL. I truly believe that if we don't do that, if the legislative filibuster is eliminated, we will all rue the day.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, I tell you, I am going to follow right along with the comments that my colleague from Texas has made, because, in Tennessee, whether someone is a Republican or a Libertarian or an Independent or a Democrat, they have

very high expectations of what this Congress is going to be able to accomplish, and they also have high expectations for this administration. What they are doing is looking there, and they are saying: Politics and politicians are not what this is all about. They don't necessarily matter. Policies matter.

And, as my colleague is saying, maintaining the filibuster rule in the Senate allows robust, respectful debate so that we arrive at a sense of compromise and we do what is best for the American people.

Today, I was talking with one of our Tennesseans, and they were talking about that it doesn't matter what is being said on social media—on Twitter or Facebook or Parler or any of the social media platforms—that when you strip it all away, good policy is good policy, and that is what matters. Good policy is good policy. It is good for the people, and that is where the emphasis should be.

So when I say they have high expectations, I don't only mean that they want good policies; they want this to focus on them. They want it to focus on their concerns, their communities, their schools, their right to feel secure, their right to enjoy free speech, their right to pursue their happiness, their American dream, and their right to celebrate and protect life. It is about them, not politicians, not politics. It is about the American people.

From their perspective, we can spend hours debating the budget or immigration reform or data privacy—which I will talk more about later this week—as long as at the end of the day, whatever compromise we reach not only meets their needs but recognizes that the people are the most important part of this entire equation—the people.

Every Member of this body understands that when the balance of power shifts, sometimes that means that the guy across the aisle is going to get the upper hand. Things change, but it would be a mistake for my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to assume that that means we are willing to set our priorities and our principles aside.

It doesn't mean that we are going to submit to their agenda. It doesn't mean we are going to conform to their agenda. It means we are going to stay true to our principles, represent our States, and work—work diligently—for what is going to be best for the people.

We may have had a changing of the guard here in Washington, but it doesn't mean that any of us has set aside the promises that we have made to the people we represent, and that is why I came out so strongly against the Biden administration and the President's Executive order that really crushed the jobs and the potential for energy security that came with the building of the Keystone XL pipeline.

This was a project that had achieved bipartisan support, and what are we seeing now? Lost jobs, lost livelihoods, more money being taken out of the taxpayers' pocket.

For similar reasons, I came out in opposition to rejoining the Paris climate accords and reversing our course on the departure from the World Health Organization.

For me, this is isn't about politics. It is about the policies this new administration has decided to unilaterally say yes to—without consulting Congress, without including the people in the discussion.

And just so we are all aware, President Biden said yes to more unilateral policy changes on day one than any President in our Nation's history—more than any President in our Nation's history.

The Biden administration looked at those new policies and decided that the result—achieving that outcome—was worth whatever it would cost the American people to get it.

So over the next few weeks, we will also be examining the President's Cabinet picks to get a sense of the tradeoff they will be willing to make.

Safety is at the forefront of everyone's mind back home in Tennessee—not just safety from COVID but from the bad actors and the foreign adversaries who continue to show us just how far they are willing to go to undermine us on the world stage. Back in Tennessee, we have a saying: When somebody shows you who they really are, you better believe them.

And I will tell you that they are paying attention, and I will tell you that they are not very impressed right now with some of the so-called soft talk that they are hearing on proposed policies toward Iran and the communist regime in China.

This is why I chose not to support the confirmation of our new Director of National Intelligence, Avril Haines. I also had some pretty tough questions to ask Secretary of State Nominee Blinken about some of these same issues dealing with Iran, dealing with China. Many of the proposals that I am hearing from them have sounded strangely familiar from years gone by.

We don't have to look overseas to find some very real policy differences between what Tennesseans have said they expect and what the Biden administration is signaling that they want to deliver.

In his hearing before the Commerce Committee, Transportation Secretary Nominee Pete Buttigieg signaled to the panel that he would put the administration's environmental goals ahead of some very basic changes to Federal policy that would lighten the regulatory load on the county and city mayors trying to get their transportation projects off the ground.

As I told him, many times the regulations at issue don't just slow the projects down, they kill the project and that town's prospects for growth, for a better life, for people in the community. Hopefully, he is going to keep in mind what it means to these mayors the next time he is asked to consider the benefits of removing unnecessary redtape.

These tradeoffs many times are just too destructive to say yes to. I would encourage all of my colleagues to look at the compromises the President is asking each and every one to make, not just in terms of what we stand to gain but what is going to be the cost.

What is the monetary cost?

What is the cost of freedom?

What is the opportunity cost that will be delivered to the American people in order for the administration to have their way, to get their income? That is the question we should each ask: What is the cost to the American people in order to protect them, in order to meet the expectations that they have? We should be listening to the people. These policies are about them.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

NOMINATION OF JANET LOUISE YELLEN

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, it is a pleasure tonight to be making the case for Janet Yellen, former Chair of the Federal Reserve, to be the next Secretary of the Treasury. It is an awfully easy case to make.

Chair Janet Yellen deserves to be in the Senate confirmation hall of fame. She has already been confirmed four times for key economic positions. Tonight, the Senate can deliver an especially important economic judgment: Confirm Janet Yellen a fifth time and know that she will work with every single one of us to get our workers, our small businesses, and all Americans, from sea to shining sea, back on solid economic footing.

Tonight, I am going to spend just a few minutes discussing several important matters we learned from Chair Yellen's confirmation hearing. First, Chair Yellen is an exceptional economist who has a rare gift. She can take complicated economic theories and put them into understandable language, all while showing a real heart for the millions of Americans who are hurting through no fault of their own.

I asked Chair Yellen at her confirmation hearing: What will give Americans the most bang for the economic recovery buck? And Chair Yellen simply walked through the priorities, particularly going to bat for our small businesses. I come from a State where we have only a handful of big businesses. We are an overwhelmingly small business State. At her confirmation hearing, she spoke clearly about those small business needs, and she talked about the concerns she has for innovative and important approaches to expanding unemployment benefits to make sure that we are meeting the needs of our people. She also focused on reducing hunger and approaches that will help stretch anti-hunger dollars.

Second, Chair Yellen knows that it would be a big mistake for the Congress to go small on economic relief. She is acutely aware of what happened in 2009, when the government took its foot off the economic gas pedal too

soon, and recovery was compromised as a result. She also understands that emergency economic relief, like unemployment compensation, needs to last as long as the emergency. It cannot be tied to arbitrary expiration dates, where potential political agendas come before human needs. There is a reason why the Finance Committee approved her nomination unanimously on Friday morning. I touched on some of those factors, and I am going to amplify a little bit.

For example, nobody deserves more credit than Chair Yellen for the longest economic expansion in American history. It lasted until the pandemic hit. As Federal Reserve Chair, she led an important change to the status quo in economic policy. Previously, there had been too great a focus on inflation and deficit. Chair Yellen said: Let's zero in more on unemployment, income, and inequality, and she believed that the economy could run a bit hotter. The record shows that the Yellen approach was right on. Unemployment went down, wages went up, and a lot of people were better off than they were before. That is exactly the kind of thinking America needs again because confronting the COVID economy is hammering working families, in particular. Again, another clear reason why Janet Yellen is the right pick to be the next Treasury Secretary.

The most recent economic data shows that 1.4 million people nationwide had filed new claims for unemployment benefits in the last full week of the previous administration. So it is not hard to figure out what that means. It is an economic catastrophe. It is more than twice the highest figure from any single week in the great recession. That means 1.4 million people—so, so many working families—are suddenly walking on an economic tightrope every single day, balancing the food cost against the fuel cost, the fuel cost against the rent bill, worried about finding a new job, getting a badly needed shift at work, falling behind on rent or the mortgage, feeding their kids, paying the electric bill, paying medical bills—worried that the economy is headed in reverse and worried about whether the Congress will be gridlocked.

The country lost 140,000 jobs last month. My home State lost more than 25,000, in part because the Senate, in something that just defied common sense, waited around for the recovery to peter out before passing any more relief. Thousands and thousands of neighborhood restaurants and bars and mom-and-pop businesses have been shuttered. Nearly 11 million workers are out of a job. Another 4 million Americans have fallen out of the labor force entirely since this time last year. Unless the Congress acts boldly and quickly with more relief, the damage from the COVID economic crash will long outlast the pandemic itself. That must not be allowed to happen.

The key, of course, is for the Senate to get down to work, and one of the best ways you can do it is to confirm someone who is eminently qualified, Chair Janet Yellen, to be Treasury Secretary.

As I touched on, we are looking at working with her on a host of key economic issues. As I have said as the new chair of the Finance Committee, my first priority will be to make sure that this Congress does not commit again the mistake of 2009.

In 2009, the sense was, well, maybe we are getting there on economic recovery. We will be able to come back later if maybe we didn't do enough. Well, we all know that a missed opportunity is a missed opportunity, and, in 2009, the Congress said, All right. We can take our foot off the gas now. It was too early, and there wasn't any next effort to make up for the damage. I am committed to making sure that doesn't happen again. Suffice it to say, it took 7½ years for the unemployment rate in Oregon to return to its prerecession levels.

This time around, the Congress has been warned. The warning I am giving about making sure that Congress doesn't take its foot off the economic relief pedal too soon is not the first warning. Chair Powell, for example, made it clear that the biggest danger lies in not doing enough.

Increasing relief checks to $2,000 is key. The Congress needs to increase and extend unemployment benefits for the entirety of the COVID crisis, and you do that by, in effect, tying the benefits to the real world, to economic conditions on the ground. That has been my proposal for some time. Other colleagues have long advanced similar ideas. It is not a revolutionary proposition to say that emergency relief should last as long as the emergency. Simply stated. And it should not be held hostage by the arbitrary political agendas of Members of Congress.

If you don't do it, dysfunction and gridlock in Congress creates still more havoc for people who have done nothing wrong and just need help. A decade ago, that help went away too quickly because benefits expired arbitrarily, and Congress did not keep up with extensions. The Congress needs to do better, and I believe that should include important upgrades as well to unemployment insurance, which was created in the last century. I don't think it is too much to say we at least bring this critical safety net program into the relevant century.

Now, sometimes these programs look a little rusty in the modern economy. Sometimes it is because of outright sabotage. But workers suffer, particularly Black and Hispanic workers. So there are steps that need to be taken, in addition to modernizing the benefits, increasing base benefits, bringing all workers into the system, and ensuring it can hold up in a crisis.

Finally, Chair Yellen had some important comments on fixing America's broken Tax Code. I will tell you, Madam President, I start with the proposition that a nurse who is treating COVID patients and paying taxes with every single paycheck should not find themselves in a disadvantaged position when compared to billionaires who, in effect, do no such thing and can postpone and postpone and postpone paying their taxes.

Now, there is a lot of work we need to do to repair the 2017 bill. The previous administration actually increased the incentives for corporations to ship jobs overseas. I want to fix that mistake. I want to work with Secretary Yellen on energy policy because so much of it deals with the Tax Code.

Suffice it to say, those are just some of the challenges Chair Yellen will face when, I believe, she is confirmed tonight as Treasury Secretary. She is supremely qualified—a member, in my view, of the Senate Confirmation hall of fame—and a proven economic policymaker.

Finally, I say to my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, it is long past time to have a woman lead the U.S. Treasury Department. Chair Yellen has my full support.

As colleagues come for this vote—and it is a significant economic policy vote, make no mistake about that—I would just ask my colleagues to reflect on the fact that Chair Yellen was approved by the Finance Committee 26 to nothing. Sometimes I say about this place—I have questions about whether you can get a simple decision like ordering a sandwich decided on a 26-to-nothing. She was approved unanimously because she gives public service a good name.

I urge my colleagues to support Janet Yellen for Secretary of the Treasury when we vote in just a few minutes.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

TRIBUTE TO RYAN D. MCCARTHY

Mr. MORAN. Madam President, I want to visit this evening on the Senate floor and take this opportunity to recognize a public servant, a leader, our former Secretary of the Army, the Honorable Ryan D. McCarthy. Secretary McCarthy led our Nation's Army from September 30, 2019, to January 20, 2021, and during that time, he made it a more modern, agile, and lethal fighting force.

We have worked together on a number of projects for Kansans and those who serve or have served our Nation during his tenure as Secretary, Acting Secretary, and Under Secretary of the Army, and I have grown to consider him a good, solid friend.

One of my most memorable experiences in the Senate was visiting the 1st Infantry Division soldiers in Germany and Poland—soldiers who come from Fort Riley, KS—with the Secretary, followed by our trip to Afghanistan to meet with troops on the frontlines in the global War on Terror. Those visits marked the beginning of our friendship, and since then, I have appreciated his guidance and his support during his

visits to Kansas and our many discussions here in our Nation's Capital.

In 2019, Secretary McCarthy joined me in Kansas to visit Seitz Elementary School, which serves the families of the Big Red One soldiers on Fort Riley. Secretary McCarthy was instrumental in helping to find funding for this school in 2011 when he was the Special Assistant to Defense Secretary Robert Gates, a Kansan. I was pleased he joined me in Kansas to visit the school—and its students—that he helped create in 2019. We also met with Fort Riley leadership and then traveled to Wichita to visit defense manufacturing and academic leaders to discuss the future of Army procurement.

These personal touch points with soldiers and with the Army community were some of the reasons why Secretary McCarthy was universally respected within the Army family.

While I will always appreciate our personal engagements with soldiers, I will also remember our efforts to support soldiers and veterans when they step off the battlefield or separate from military service.

This past Veterans Day, we coauthored an editorial that discussed our parallel efforts to support the mental health and well-being of soldiers and veterans. Reports show Americans across the country are feeling isolated and alone in today's socially distanced environment, including our Nation's service men and women and veteran populations. Between my efforts as chairman of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee to implement the Commander John Scott Hannon Veterans Mental Health Care Improvement Act and Secretary McCarthy's effort to build interpersonal connections between soldiers, we are working to give soldiers and veterans the tools they need to overcome mental health challenges they face.

As Secretary McCarthy transitions out of the watchful eye of public life, I rise this evening to express my appreciation for his leadership, his character, and his moral compass. He never let politics or convenience influence his decisions, and that has significantly benefited soldiers, Army civilians, veterans, and Kansans across the Nation.

As the chairman and now ranking member of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, I will always strive to help veterans find success after service.

Secretary McCarthy, I have no doubts that you will find success and happiness after your dedicated service to our country. I thank your family for their support of your public service. I know that you and your family will find a quality life with purpose and meaning as you enter the next phase.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. CASSIDY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to complete my remarks before the scheduled rollcall vote.

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

TRIBUTE TO CHRIS GILLOTT

Mr. CASSIDY. Madam President, I rise today to recognize and thank three long-serving aides who have served my office but more importantly served our Nation proudly, and they are now moving on to the next chapters of their lives.

First, Chris Gillott. Chris Gillott was my legislative director and for 8 years has been my right-hand person on policy. He never failed to take the ideas we discussed together and craft the actual policy needed to make a meaningful difference in the lives of folks in Louisiana and the lives of all Americans.

He was a master at navigating the partisan divide to find areas of consensus upon which we could build to advance real solutions. I was always struck that he was on a first-name basis with the legislative director of—and fill in the Democratic Senator's or the Republican Senator's name. You have a sense that in the era before Zoom calls, they would go out and have a beer on a regular basis, and that helped us tremendously.

We saw this fully on display recently as Chris was a central figure in the so-called 908 Coalition, which jump-started stalled COVID relief packages. And it wasn't just the relationships between the Senators but, again, as I said, between the different legislative directors from both parties in all offices.

His efforts were also central to passing legislation to ban surprise medical billing—a more than 2-year effort that will have a direct and positive impact on the pocketbooks of American families. He was crucial in our effort to make healthcare more affordable and pass generational tax reform. For every major legislative pursuit, I could rely upon Chris.

What many in Louisiana may not know is that he has also been a central figure engaged in some of the most pressing issues affecting our State, including offshore energy production, revenue sharing, energy regulation and permitting, the National Flood Insurance Program, and public works related to flood protection. These are all important to the well-being of our State and the folks who live there, as well as our entire country, and all these were regularly under assault.

Chris was a fearless advocate for energy production and for the jobs that energy production creates to not only help meet America's energy needs but to meet the individual families' financial needs. He has been on the frontlines to prevent changes to revenue sharing that would gut the money used in my State for hurricane protection, flood mitigation, and coastal environmental renewal. He has defended the National Flood Insurance Program to ensure that this critical lifeline remains accessible to people across the country and, importantly, to those in Louisiana.

Thank you, Chris, for all you have done for me and for those of Louisiana.

TRIBUTE TO ALLISON KAPSNER SOLLEY

Madam President, the next person I will speak of is Allison Kapsner Solley. Allison is a Minnesotan. She said she grew up on the upper end of the Mississippi, but she found a home in the lower end of the Mississippi—or at least the office that represented Louisiana. She joined my staff at the beginning of my first Senate term as a scheduler but through sheer excellence became deputy chief of staff and a close confidant.

Trust is so important. I learned I could always trust Allie's judgment and her ability to accomplish anything. She is irreplaceable. She has had an impact on this office, ensuring that we better serve Louisiana, but that impact has meant that we will better serve Louisiana even after her departure.

Some examples. For any office to succeed, it needs to run efficiently and effectively. I knew this, that we had to have systems. Allie figured out the systems. She implemented them across all the offices here in DC and Louisiana. She kept things running smoothly. And she has a skill of identifying an individual's strengths and helping that individual leverage those strengths into results that contributed to the whole but also to the future of the individual.

I am about to say this about Allie, but I could say it of Chris and also of David, whom I am about to speak of. In Mark chapter 10, versus 42 through 45, Jesus speaks about servant leadership, and in there is a quote that ''the greatest among you shall be your servants.'' Allie is someone who has served others and helped others serve as well. Whether it be our staff, our mission, our constituents, the State of Louisiana, or the United States of America, she served creatively and tirelessly. She will be greatly missed, but I am looking forward to all that she achieves as she enters the next phase of her career.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID MILLS

Madam President, now let me speak of David Mills, a Louisiana native and a man of tremendous character and deep faith who has served for 5 years on my staff. He came to Washington because he felt called to give back to his State and Nation through public service. He was working in Congress for the right reasons, and his work reflected that.

David handled pro-life issues and other legal issues for my office. He was key in last year's impeachment trial as an attorney providing quick, reliable research to supplement my understanding of the testimony that we heard.

David also has the ability just to note something others don't notice and then very gently suggest some modification of how I would handle a situation, and that modification, although nuanced, could be so important, and I really learned to trust those insights.

David also handled privacy issues and has laid the foundation for work that

will continue after he has left us. As society becomes more technologically centered, we must ensure that data privacy laws keep up. David was on the forefront of that, thinking, how do we protect the privacy of consumers?

As I mentioned, this will be an important issue in this upcoming Congress, and just let me be specific. David developed legislation on questions regarding the data that is collected from a wearable, a smartwatch, a contact tracing app, and other information that provides personal health information but which is not covered by current personal health information laws. Our office will continue to build on David's work in those areas, and I thank David for all he has done.

Sometimes people say: Oh my gosh, those folks who are younger than those of us in the Senate—is there something lacking? I can promise you, among these, there is nothing lacking. They are the leaders who will take your place and my place as we pass the baton to the next generation, and, in turn, they shall pass to another to leave our future brighter than it has been in the past.

NOMINATION OF JANET LOUISE YELLEN

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Madam President, I rise in support of Janet Yellen's nomination to be Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Treasury. I've known Janet since she became president of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco in 2004. I believe she is an excellent nominee for this position.

Janet has an impressive record. She served twice on the Federal Reserve Board of Governors and was the first woman to chair the Fed from 2014 to 2018. She became a professor of economics at the University of California—Berkeley in 1980, she is now professor emeritus. Dr. Yellen served as Chair of the Council of Economic Advisors under President Clinton and has been very active as a distinguished fellow at the Brookings Institution.

As some have joked, Janet's husband of 42 years, George, won the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences, yet he is only the second-most accomplished economist in his own home.

All of these accomplishments did not come easily for a woman in the male-dominated field of economics.

Out of the 24 students who received doctorates in economics from Yale in 1971, Janet was the only woman. She has been a trailblazer her entire career.

Now, Janet brings the experience and leadership needed at the Treasury Department at this critical juncture.

I believe that Janet understands that the economy is not an abstract series of charts and figures, but a collection of real individuals, families, communities and businesses who need help now.

At the same time, she is pragmatic and recognizes the need for fiscal discipline. I believe she made that clear in her confirmation before the Finance Committee, where I had the honor of introducing her.

In short, she is the ideal candidate to head the Treasury Department at a time when we can afford nothing less. I urge the Senate to confirm her nomination. Thank you.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, as we face an economic crisis brought on by COVID–19, we will need steady, proven leadership at the Treasury Department. A highly respected economist, Dr. Yellen served first as Vice Chair and then Chair of the Federal Reserve. She has served under Democratic and Republican presidents and during periods of economic crisis and economic growth.

Last year, I worked with my colleagues to deliver bipartisan relief for those who have been harmed by the pandemic. We addressed the crisis in five bills totaling approximately $3 trillion. Through subsequent negotiations in November and December on an additional $900 billion package, we secured a second round of Paycheck Protection Program forgivable loans for the hardest hit small businesses and extended unemployment programs, assistance for schools, vaccine delivery, and more. But additional work remains.

During this crisis, Secretary Mnuchin proved himself to be an able partner to all of us in delivering this relief. It is my hope that Treasury Secretary-designate Yellen will build on our work. In her testimony before the Senate Finance Committee and during the subsequent questions, Dr. Yellen made clear that she understands these needs.

Our nation's eight living former Secretaries of the Treasury have provided their support for the nomination. I urge the swift confirmation of Janet Yellen to ensure that President Biden has a qualified economic team in place.

Thank you.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, I rise today to support the nomination of Janet Yellen, a dedicated public servant and world-renowned economist, as Secretary of the Treasury.

Janet Yellen's extensive background in economics and accomplished career in the field led her to Chair the Federal Reserve, where she served with distinction in the aftermath of the great recession. Ms. Yellen brought a steady hand and wisdom befitting her experience to her responsibilities at the helm of the Federal Reserve, and as a member of the Banking Committee, I always appreciated her frank testimony and thoughtful analysis.

In her new role as Treasury Secretary, she will inherit an economic crisis caused by a mismanaged pandemic. She will be charged not only with providing historic relief in close coordination with Congress, but also with building back better to create the conditions for a dynamic economy that harnesses the potential of each and every American. I am confident in her ability to take on these urgent challenges. I look forward to voting yes on her nomination and working closely with her in the years ahead to ensure that we build an economy that works for everyone.

Mr. CASSIDY. I yield the floor.

VOTE ON YELLEN NOMINATION

Mr. PETERS. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) would have voted ''nay.''

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

The result was announced—yeas 84, nays 15, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 6 Ex.]

YEAS—84

Baldwin	Hagerty	Padilla
Bennet	Hassan	Peters
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Portman
Blunt	Hickenlooper	Reed
Booker	Hirono	Romney
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Rosen
Brown	Inhofe	Rounds
Burr	Johnson	Sanders
Cantwell	Kaine	Sasse
Capito	Kelly	Schatz
Cardin	Kennedy	Schumer
Carper	King	Scott (SC)
Casey	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cassidy	Lankford	Sinema
Collins	Leahy	Smith
Coons	Luján	Stabenow
Cornyn	Lummis	Tester
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Thune
Crapo	Markey	Tillis
Daines	Marshall	Toomey
Duckworth	McConnell	Van Hollen
Durbin	Menendez	Warner
Ernst	Merkley	Warnock
Feinstein	Moran	Warren
Fischer	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Murphy	Wicker
Graham	Murray	Wyden
Grassley	Ossoff	Young

NAYS—15

Barrasso	Cruz	Risch
Blackburn	Hawley	Scott (FL)
Boozman	Hoeven	Shelby
Cotton	Lee	Sullivan
Cramer	Paul	Tuberville

NOT VOTING—1

Rubio

The nomination was confirmed.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Minnesota.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and

be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

CONFIRMATION OF JANET LOUISE YELLEN

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, I am going to be one of the first Senators to congratulate Dr. Yellen, now Secretary Yellen, to be Secretary of the Treasury of the United States.

You saw it was a strong vote, and there is no doubt that she has the credentials, the experience, the qualifications to be Secretary of the Treasury—former Chairman of the Fed. I mean, her resume is off the charts.

I know her nomination is historic for so many women across the country, including my three daughters. I am mentioning this because I certainly intended to vote for now-Secretary Yellen, and I was a ''no'' vote.

I want to explain my ''no'' vote because I had a very good conversation with her just the other day. We covered a whole bunch of topics—everything from Alaska Native corporations to the strength of the dollar, to our debt and deficit—big macroeconomic issues that are important to the country, particularly as we are in a recession. It is important to my State.

But we got to the topic of energy. We got to the topic of energy, and, reluctantly, I am saying this now because I was a bit shocked that despite a long, robust discussion, it was very difficult to get her, from my perspective, to commit to being a Secretary of the Treasury, the most important economic player in any Cabinet in any government—in the U.S. Government, besides, of course, the President—to commit to being a strong advocate for a robust, all-of-the-above energy sector for the U.S. economy.

This is not a radical proposition. I would argue that every Secretary of the Treasury since Alexander Hamilton has been a robust supporter of resource development in our energy sector—again, all of it—renewables, oil, gas. And the reason is that it has been such an important driver of economic growth and jobs for pretty much our Nation's entire existence.

Now that we are in this recession—deep recession—we need good job growth, and we need a strong recovery. To me, having the Secretary of the Treasury be a strong proponent in the debates about policy for the energy sector, I thought, was a no-brainer. As a matter of fact, I think pretty much every Secretary of the Treasury has been that person. Again, in the 2008–2009 recession—the deep, great recession—the No. 1 driver of economic growth and job growth and capital formation for the U.S. economy was the energy sector, and it was supported. Democrats and Republicans, for decades, have supported a strong energy sector.

But despite a long, respectful debate with now Secretary Yellen, with whom I certainly have a good relationship, I could not get that commitment, which I thought was surprising. As a matter of fact, I thought it was shocking, and it is the reason I reluctantly voted no because, again, she is very qualified.

What is going on here is we are starting to see policies that I believe need a national debate. We are starting to see policies—yes, we all want renewables, clean energy, but we have a really important, strong energy sector.

Prior to the pandemic, we were the world's superpower of energy again. One of the reasons we won World War II was our energy sector. The men and women who have been producing energy—''all of the above'' energy—are great patriotic workers who have been doing it for decades to the benefit of every single American.

We need a debate because what I am starting to see with the new administration, unfortunately—and I have had discussions, and, hopefully, they are not going to go down this path—are Executive actions that are going to target certain sectors of the energy sector, the U.S. economy.

Natural gas. We can be dominant in natural gas for 100 years. We are going to start targeting workers in the natural gas sector?

Oil. I know some people don't like oil, but it is important.

We can do all of this, but right now, there seems to be hostility toward the sector and the workers and no debate. We should have that debate. It is an important debate. It is really important in my State, but I think it is really important to America.

Every Secretary of the Treasury for the last three, four, five, six, seven decades—since World War II—has always sought the goal of getting America back to energy independence. That is good for jobs. It is good for low-cost manufacturing. It is good to reduce the heating and energy bills of American families. It is good for our national security. It is good for our foreign policy. We are pretty much on the verge of doing this. And now we are going to start to unilaterally disarm?

We have gotten to the point where I can't find anyone—and I hope I am wrong—in the Biden administration Cabinet who is going to be a proponent of a strong energy sector. Who is it? I was hoping it was going to be the Secretary of the Treasury. Maybe in our long discussion, I misinterpreted where she is going to be on this issue. Pretty much every previous Secretary—Democratic and Republican—in the history of our great Nation has really, really been an advocate for the men and women who work in the sector and for the economic growth it brings and for the help it brings to families and the good jobs it brings. So that is the rationale behind my vote.

Right now, I think we are starting to see, whether with the Keystone Pipeline decision or with the men and women in the building trades, who have built this country through hard work, that they are being laid off by the thousands. We had a big scare back home in my State. All weekend, I was working this issue of these Executive orders from the Biden administration, where it looked like it was going to send hundreds of people home, unemployed—oil and gas workers in my State. Why? I hope that is not the case, especially during a recession.

We need a debate on it, and I certainly hope somebody in this administration, in their principals' meetings, talk about how we get good jobs and a strong working class. I have noticed that the National Security Advisor, Jake Sullivan, keeps talking about basing our policies on working-class families. You can't get more blue-collar, strong middle class than these energy sector jobs.

I, certainly, want to have a good, constructive relationship with the Secretary of the Treasury and her team, but given the people I represent and what I am starting to see right now, I could not in good conscience vote yes when, on the basic question of ''Are you committed and will you be a strong advocate for a strong energy sector—you name it: renewables, natural gas, wind, solar—all of the above?'' I couldn't get that commitment. I reluctantly voted no on someone who has a background and experience in these other areas that are important for the country.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, I have hastened to the floor because I was upstairs, waiting for the House managers to bring the article over, and I heard my friend, the distinguished Senator from Alaska, talking about his concern about the fossil fuel part of the energy sector and his dissatisfaction with what the Secretary of the Treasury was able to assure him of in that regard.

I just wanted to note that I missed a moment of the Senator's remarks when I came walking down here, but as best as I could tell, the Senator never mentioned the term ''climate change,'' and he never referenced ''carbon emissions.'' I have to say, if we are going to deal with our energy sector, we have to deal with it in a way that takes into account carbon emissions and climate change. You can't just whistle past those things and pretend that they are not real and act as if we can continue to go forward in the way we always have—releasing carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, poisoning our oceans with acidification, warming the planet, and putting coastal communities like mine at grave risk from sea level rise and storm surge. We have to address those things.

As we go forward in this new Congress, I very much hope that my friend Senator SULLIVAN and I will be able to work together to address that exact problem to make sure that not only is our energy mix strong for our economy but to make absolutely sure that we are not sacrificing the safety of our planet, the economic security of our future generations, and the health of people all around the planet who have, really, no choice but to live close to the land and feel the pounding of climate change in their immediate lives every day. We have to address those things, and I hope we will.

So, in having heard his side of the argument, I just wanted to come back to the floor and offer the other side. Somewhere between us there is a resolution because I know perfectly well that the State of Alaska is getting hit by the acidification and warming side and by the sea level rise and storm surge side of this problem, just as much as Rhode Island is. Perhaps, because, as my friend constantly reminds me, Alaska has a huge advantage of size over Rhode Island, one could even imagine that it is having more of an effect than Rhode Island.

So with those comments and with affection and regard for my colleague from Alaska, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, as a lot of our colleagues here know, Senator WHITEHOUSE is not just a distinguished Senator but one of my very good friends here in the U.S. Senate. So I always respect what he has to say, and I appreciate his words. He and I have done a lot of work—some key work, particularly on issues of the environment and cleaning up our oceans—ocean acidification—and I look forward to continuing to work with him. Climate change is also, certainly, happening in my State. We are seeing it. No doubt about it.

My point is we have an economy that is in recession, and you have tens of thousands—literally, hundreds of thousands—of people out of work, and you have a sector that is important—critical, actually—the energy sector. There is no doubt about it. I know we can use words like spewing and polluters, but the energy sector has been one of the things that has made this country so strong, with great jobs—middle-class jobs—and people can't deny that. All I am asking for is for the new Secretary of the Treasury to look at that.

We are looking at the whole U.S. economy and the strength of our recovery and good-paying jobs. That has to be taken into account. What I worry about is that it is not. We need a debate, and I would welcome it with my good friend on: What is the strategy? The strategy out of the box can't be that we are going to go after these oil and gas jobs and put people out of work. And replace it with what?

We had a hearing in the Commerce Committee with the new, incoming Transportation Secretary. A lot of people asked: Well, what are you going to replace it with? What are you telling the 10,000 guys who just lost their jobs on the Keystone Pipeline their new jobs are going to be? They have mortgages and tuitions to pay. They are out of work right now. So we need a strategy.

Look, I look forward to working on all of these issues with my good friend from Rhode Island, but it is, I think, a first. If you look back at the great history of this Nation, if you don't have a U.S. Treasury Secretary or other members of the Cabinet who are for a robust, strong energy sector—which, of course, would include renewables—that is new, that is different, and, I think, it is very troubling, particularly as it relates to the jobs that, I think, are going to be sacrificed on a policy and a strategy that I have not seen the meat and bones of yet. I am just seeing the damage, and a lot of the damage is starting to happen to the people I care about, particularly in my State, who work in these sectors and who are great Americans who have helped build this country and build my State. We can't just disregard them and say: Don't worry; you are going to get a green job later.

It is tough to tell people that. It is tough to tell people that when they have mortgages and tuitions, and we are relying on them.

So I commit to continuing to work on these issues and others with my friend from Rhode Island. I appreciate his coming down here, but I wanted to explain my vote on an issue that I think we need to debate here in the Senate that is important for our Nation.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, I would just close by suggesting that perhaps my friend, the Senator from Alaska, can sympathize, since he fears that the interests that he came to the floor here to defend will not be listened to. Perhaps he can sympathize with the fact that, for 4 years, an entire administration wouldn't give the time of day to the sea level rise concerns that are threatening my State. We are talking about Freddie Mac. We are talking about a property value crash across all of our coasts that is going to cause enormous harm to Rhode Island, and we just left an administration that wouldn't pay one iota of attention to that. It had fossil fuel industry climate deniers, and there is such a thing. Not everybody in the fossil fuel industry is that way, but they picked the bottom feeders to bring into government.

I share the Senator's frustration, but let me say I have got it about 10,000 times over after having lived with the Trump administration for the past 4 years and gotten nothing and after having tried to bring serious climate debate to the floor, knowing that the Republican leader was going to block it. So, yes, I sympathize with his distress, and I hope he sympathizes with my, rather, greater, cumulative distress from the last 4 years.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The hour of 7 p.m. having arrived, the Acting Sergeant at Arms will present the managers on the part of the House of Representatives.

EXHIBITION OF ARTICLE OF IMPEACHMENT AGAINST DONALD JOHN TRUMP, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

At 7:03 p.m., the managers on the part of the House of Representatives of the impeachment of Donald John Trump appeared below the bar of the Senate, and the Acting Sergeant at Arms, Jennifer Hemingway, announced their presence, as follows:

Mr. President and Members of the Senate, I announce the presence of the managers on the part of the House of Representatives to conduct the proceedings on behalf of the House concerning the impeachment of Donald John Trump, former President of the United States.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The managers on the part of the House will be received and escorted to the well of the Senate.

The managers were thereupon escorted by the Acting Sergeant at Arms of the Senate, Jennifer Hemingway, to the well of the Senate.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Acting Sergeant at Arms will make the proclamation.

The Acting Sergeant at Arms, Jennifer Hemingway, made the proclamation as follows:

Hear ye! Hear ye! Hear ye! All persons are commanded to keep silent, on pain of imprisonment, while the House of Representatives is exhibiting to the Senate of the United States an Article of Impeachment against Donald John Trump, former President of the United States.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The managers on the part of the House will proceed.

Mr. Manager RASKIN. Mr. President, the managers on the part of the House of Representatives are here and present and ready to present the Article of Impeachment which has been preferred by the House of Representatives against Donald John Trump, former President of the United States.

The House adopted the following resolution, which, with the permission of the Senate, I will read.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 40

In the House of Representatives, U.S., January 13, 2021.

Resolved, That Mr. Raskin, Ms. DeGette, Mr. Cicilline, Mr. Castro of Texas, Mr. Swalwell, Mr. Lieu, Ms. Plaskett, Mr. Neguse, and Ms. Dean are appointed managers to conduct the impeachment trial against Donald John Trump, President of the United States, that a message be sent to the Senate to inform the Senate of these appointments, and that the managers so appointed may, in connection with the preparation and the conduct of the trial, exhibit the articles of impeachment to the Senate and take all other actions necessary, which may include the following:

(1) Employing legal, clerical, and other necessary assistants and incurring such other expenses as may be necessary, to be paid from amounts available to the Committee on the Judiciary under applicable expense resolutions or from the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives.

(2) Sending for persons and papers, and filing with the Secretary of the Senate, on the part of the House of Representatives, any pleadings, in conjunction with or subsequent to, the exhibition of the articles of impeachment that the managers consider necessary.

NANCY PELOSI, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

With the permission of the Senate, I will now read the Article of Impeachment, House Resolution 24.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 24

In the House of Representatives, U.S., January 13, 2021.

Impeaching Donald John Trump, President of the United States, for high crimes and misdemeanors.

Resolved, that Donald John Trump, President of the United States, is impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors and that the following article of impeachment be exhibited to the United States Senate:

Article of impeachment exhibited by the House of Representatives of the United States of America in the name of itself and of the people of the United States of America, against Donald John Trump, President of the United States of America, in maintenance and support of its impeachment against him for high crimes and misdemeanors.

Article I: Incitement of Insurrection

The Constitution provides that the House of Representatives ''shall have the sole Power of Impeachment'' and that the President ''shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors''. Further, section 3 of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution prohibits any person who has ''engaged in insurrection or rebellion against'' the United States from ''hold[ing] any office . . . under the United States''. In his conduct while President of the United States—and in violation of his constitutional oath faithfully to execute the office of President of the United States and, to the best of his ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States, and in violation of his constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed—Donald John Trump engaged in high Crimes and Misdemeanors by inciting violence against the Government of the United States, in that:

On January 6, 2021, pursuant to the 12th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, the Vice President of the United States, the House of Representatives, and the Senate met at the United States Capitol for a Joint Session of Congress to count the votes of the Electoral College. In the months preceding the Joint Session, President Trump repeatedly issued false statements asserting that the Presidential election results were the product of widespread fraud and should not be accepted by the American people or certified by State or Federal officials. Shortly before the Joint Session commenced, President Trump, addressed a crowd at the Ellipse in Washington, DC. There, he reiterated false claims that ''we won this election, and we won it by a landslide''. He also willfully made statements that, in context, encouraged—and foreseeable resulted in—lawless action at the Capitol, such as: ''if you don't fight like hell you're not going to have a country anymore''. Thus incited by President Trump, members of the crowd he had addressed, in an attempt to, among other objectives, interfere with the Joint Session's solemn constitutional duty to certify the results of the 2020 Presidential election, unlawfully breached and vandalized the Capitol, injured and killed law enforcement personnel, menaced Members of Congress, the Vice President, and Congressional personnel, and engaged in other violent, deadly, destructive, and seditious acts.

President Trump's conduct on January 6, 2021, followed his prior efforts to subvert and obstruct the certification of the results of the 202 Presidential election. Those prior efforts included a phone call on January 2, 2021, during which President Trump urged the secretary of state of Georgia, Brad Raffensperger, to ''find'' enough votes to overturn the Georgia Presidential election results and threatened Secretary Raffensperger if he failed to do so.

In all this, President Trump gravely endangered the security of the United States and its institutions of Government. He threatened the integrity of the democratic system, interfered with the peaceful transition of power, and imperiled a coequal branch of Government. He thereby betrayed his trust as President, to the manifest injury of the people of the United States.

Wherefore, Donald John Trump, by such conduct, has demonstrated that he will remain a threat to national security, democracy, and the Constitution if allowed to remain in office, and has acted in a manner grossly incompatible with self-governance and the rule of law. Donald John Trump thus warrants impeachment and trial, removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States.

NANCY PELOSI, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Mr. President, that completes the exhibition of the Article of Impeachment against Donald John Trump, President of the United States. The managers request that the Senate take order for the trial. The managers now request leave to withdraw.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Thank you, Mr. Manager RASKIN. The Senate will duly notify the House of Representatives when it is ready to proceed with the trial.

You may proceed to depart.

The majority leader.

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

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SMITH). Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding Rule III of the Senate Rules of Impeachment, at 2:30 p.m. tomorrow, January 26, 2021, the Senate proceed to the consideration of the Article of Impeachment of Donald John Trump, former President of the United States.

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

AUTHORIZING THE TAKING OF A PHOTOGRAPH IN THE CHAMBER OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 15, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 15) authorizing the taking of a photograph in the Chamber of the United States Senate.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 15) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

REMEMBERING PAUL SARBANES

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, all of us in this body mourn the recent passing of former Senator Paul Sarbanes. Those of us who served with him have known him as one of the finest and most accomplished Senators with whom we have served. And what a great pleasure it was to work with him, on so many issues.

In addition to his impressive legislative accomplishments, Paul Sarbanes was one of the Senate's keenest interrogators and one of the Senate's finest orators. In the Senate community, most of all we knew him for his wit, for his warmth and kindness, and for his decency.

I would like to call to the Senate's attention an insightful remembrance of Senator Sarbanes by Paul Glastris that was published this month by the Washington Monthly.

I ask unanimous consent that the article be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From the Washington Monthly, Jan. 1, 2021]

REMEMBERING PAUL SARBANES

HOW WIT, INTEGRITY AND EXPERTISE MADE AMERICA'S FIRST GREEK AMERICAN SENATOR A BEHIND-THE-SCENES WASHINGTON POWER PLAYER.

(By Paul Glastris)

There have been many fine tributes to former U.S. Senator Paul Sarbanes of Maryland, who passed away December 6 at age 87. These encomiums invariably note the near universal high regard he enjoyed in Washington for his intelligence, integrity, humor, and accomplishments—the latter consisting mostly of liberal legislation he managed, via his other attributes, to get Republicans to support. They include, while a young House member, the articles of impeachment against Richard Nixon and, in the Senate, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, which toughened regulations and created government oversight of corporate accounting practices after the Enron debacle. He also served on the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee for decades with Joe Biden and was a boss and mentor to a number of the president-elect's senior advisors, including Antony Blinken, his nominee for secretary of state.

But I want to focus on another set of his deeds, ones associated with his role as the leading Greek American in Congress. They begin with what has come to be known as the ''Sarbanes Rule.''

The rule dictates that ''any Greek American awards dinner should conclude on the same day it begins.'' The Senator devised this dictate after patiently sitting through countless such dinners. They would go on interminably due to the fact that the organizers, wanting to acknowledge as many benefactors as possible, would bring to the podium a speaker (usually a wealthy Greek-American businessman) whose job it was to introduce another such speaker, who would then introduce another speaker, who would finally present the award to the person who would then speak, typically at some length (these are Greeks we're talking about).

Since multiple honors were bestowed on any given evening, the result was awards ceremonies that began with cocktails at 6 PM but wouldn't end until well after midnight. At which point the priest would give the benediction, the color guard would march the U.S. and Greek flags out of the ballroom, the bouzouki band would come out, and everyone would dance for several more hours. Having attended these events regularly in DC from the 1990s until COVID–19, I can attest that after the Senator introduced his rule about a decade ago, the proceedings tightened considerably, with the dancing commencing at a more civilized 10 PM.

It was at one of these dinners that I got to know Sarbanes personally when my late wife Kukula found herself seated next to him. She asked him what kind of cocktail he liked and went to the bar to fetch it. The two of them spent the rest of the evening animatedly chatting about foreign affairs—Kuku, a journalist and the daughter of a diplomat, had strong and informed views on the subject. Our hosts Manny and Marilyn Rouvelas must have noticed, because the next year the place cards showed that Kuku was again seated next to the Senator. When she saw Sarbanes walk into the ballroom, she went to the bar and, remembering his drink of choice (it was one of her superpowers), had it waiting for him when he arrived at the table. He was charmed and delighted; she felt the same about him. For years thereafter the two of them were annual dinner mates. There were far more powerful people in the room than Kuku, but the fact that Sarbanes was content to spend the evening talking with her told me everything I needed to know about his character.

''Unlike many of his contemporary officeholders, Mr. Sarbanes was uncomfortable with the backslapping, glad-handing and grandstanding that often go with public office,'' his Washington Post obituary reads. ''He avoided the social and party circuit in the nation's capital and rarely spent a night in Washington, preferring instead to drive home to his wife and children in Baltimore.'' At these Greek dinners, however, Sarbanes was in his element. While other politicians would drop by (it was a target-rich donor environment), he would stay for hours, chatting with the scores of people who would come to the table to meet him, then eventually excusing himself to work the room, table by table, shaking every hand.

The way he brought order to those dinners with his Sarbanes rule is a small illustration of what made the Senator effective and respected in Washington. Born to Greek immigrant restaurant owners in 1933, Sarbanes earned scholarships and degrees from Princeton, Oxford, and Harvard. He had an intellectual gift for getting to the heart of knotty problems and formulating wise solutions with a wit that put his colleagues at ease. He deployed this genius throughout his career, often in the service of selling unpopular but vitally necessary policies like the return of the Panama Canal. As former Democratic Senate leader Thomas Daschle told the New York Times, when ''trying to persuade the caucus to do something difficult, I would use Paul to bring it home, to close the argument.''

In the Greek American community he is most remembered for spearheading—along with another young Greek-American congressman, John Brademus—a 1974 House effort to cut off U.S. arms sales to Turkey after that country invaded and occupied the independent majority-Greek-speaking nation of Cyprus. The Nixon and Ford administrations fiercely opposed the legislation because Turkey, a NATO ally, shared a militarized border with the Soviet Union. But Sarbanes, Brademus, and others in the newly-activated Greek American community countered on not only moral but legal grounds: U.S. statute, they correctly noted, specifically required the administration to cut off arms sales to any country that used such weapons offensively.

Several of the multiple House votes to pass the embargo and then override a presidential veto succeeded by only a one-vote margin, recalls Andy Manatos, then an aide to Senator Tom Eagleton, who was successfully championing similar embargo legislation in the Senate. ''It would never have passed in the House without the esteem Paul and John enjoyed,'' says Manatos, now the dean of Greek-American lobbyists, adding that Sarbanes and Brademus were two of the three Rhodes Scholars then serving in that body.

The Turkish arms embargo—the first time in modern U.S. history that Congress successfully overturned the White House on a major foreign policy issue—lasted three and a half years before the Carter administration managed to get it repealed. But it was replaced by an agreement in Washington to sell arms to Greece and Turkey on a 7-to-10 basis in order to achieve a military balance in the Aegean, an agreement Sarbanes vigorously defended for years after.

Being seen as a fierce advocate for your own minority ethnic constituency can be risky for any politician seeking higher office. Sarbanes managed to pull it off in 1976 when he became the first Greek American elected to the U.S. Senate (he would be followed by Paul Tsongas and Olympia Snowe). He was hardly a radical on the issue. ''I met today with a number of Cypriot foreign ministers'' he would joke to friends after rebuffing, say, a group of Greek diner owners demanding he take stronger actions than the Cypriot government itself wanted. But over the subsequent decades, through constant study and engagement with experts on the region, he built a reputation as the man to see on anything regarding the Eastern Mediterranean—from Turkish air threats to Greek territory in the Aegean to the besieged Greek Orthodox patriarchate in Istanbul. Greek prime ministers sought his counsel. So too did U.S. presidents, secretaries of state, and senior diplomats. ''In that cerebral way of his, he would analyze the whole situation and explain to people what to do, who to talk to, what to be careful of,'' recalls Manatos. ''He was hands down far ahead of anyone else in Congress in his thinking about these issues.''

People underestimate, especially in the age of Trump, the degree to which knowledge can be power in Washington. Sarbanes did not. He ''studied issues himself rather than rely on staff talking points,'' recalls John Sitilides, who worked with the Senator as a GOP staffer on the Senate Banking Committee before starting the Western Policy Center, a security think tank focused on the Eastern Mediterranean. His mastery of substance gave Sarbanes ''the freedom to argue and discern based on his own knowledge,'' says Sitilides, which in turn earned him the confidence of Senators on both sides of the aisle. That kind of power is typically witnessed only by insiders, though public glimpses of it can sometimes be caught. Nick Larigakis, executive director of the American Hellenic Institute, notes that Sarbanes could be ''relied upon to ask the tough and probing questions'' on issues important to Greek Americans at confirmation hearings for US ambassadors to the region—an effective way to keep Foggy Bottom on its toes.

If Sarbanes' mind was legendary, so too was his rectitude. He managed a 40-year career in politics—from his first election to the Maryland House of Delegates in 1967 to his retirement from the U.S. Senate in 2007—without a hint of personal scandal. That's no small feat for someone who rose through the often-corrupting culture of Maryland politics (Spiro Agnew, another Greek American politician from Maryland, was not so careful). Sarbanes enjoyed a 48-year marriage to his wife Christine, who passed away in 2009.

And he was famously averse to raising money, even for his own campaigns. (His son John Sarbanes, who represents his father's old congressional district, has carried on that tradition by sponsoring the House's leading campaign finance reform legislation.) Indeed, much of the Senator's career success was due to his savvy longtime chief of staff Peter Marudas, another Greek American who could not only go toe to toe with Sarbanes on the issues but ably manage the more transactional demands of his office.

Joe Biden has spoken optimistically—naively in the opinion of many—about his ability as president to work productively with Mitch McConnell and other Republicans on substantive issues. To the degree he honestly believes that, it is because he has done so in his own career, and watched others, like Paul Sarbanes, do so as well.

After the Senator died, Biden tweeted: ''Paul Sarbanes and I served together on the Foreign Relations Committee for 30 years. There was no one sharper, more committed, or with firmer principles. And he, too, returned to his family nearly every night. They meant the world to him. Rest In Peace, Paul.''

''DOMESTIC TERRORISM IN THE CAPITOL''

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, what our Nation witnessed and what Members of Congress and the dedicated staff that work in the Capitol witnessed on January 6 was a deadly attack on one of our most sacred and historic constitutional duties: the count and final certification of the results of our Presidential election. The violent insurrection that occurred in the Capitol, which took the lives of five people, including an officer of the U.S. Capitol Police, was an attack on our democracy. The votes cast in the 2020 Presidential election were counted and recounted. The results were challenged in the courts and ultimately were certified in every single State. Yet, citing the baseless chant that the election was ''stolen,'' an angry and violent mob stormed the Capitol in an effort to suspend the democratic process, overturn the will of the American people, and ensure that now-former President Trump remained in office. These insurrectionists vandalized the very heart of our government and threatened and harmed those sworn to protect it.

In a column in the VTDigger, Haviland Smith, a Vermonter and the first chief of counterterrorism operations for the Central Intelligence Agency, makes the strong case that the insurrection on January 6 was an act of domestic terrorism. I am certain that the FBI and the Department of Justice will continue to investigate and, where appropriate, to file charges and hold these people to account. But in this Chamber, we must heed Mr. Smith's wisdom. As legislative body, as public servants, we must reckon with the lies and anti-democratic discourse that fueled this attack and work to ensure that such an act of domestic terror never occurs again.

I ask unanimous consent that the piece written by Haviland Smith, titled ''Domestic Terrorism in the Capitol,'' be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From the VTDigger, Jan. 8, 2021]

DOMESTIC TERRORISM IN THE CAPITOL

(By Haviland Smith)

It is a fact that the best, noblest political movements often attract the worst kind of violent participants. These people barge in and commit the kinds of violent acts that ultimately change the focus of a previously benign movement to violent terrorist activities. These are viewed quite differently and are generally punished more severely than normal criminal activities.

That is what we are seeing today in the United States. Whether you agree with their goals or not, the vast majority of Trump supporters are non-violent Americans who seek basic changes in American life. They plan to reach their goals by supporting Trump. Right now, that means demonstrating peacefully on his behalf and agreeing with and backing his claims of fraud in the 2020 presidential election which he lost to Joe Biden.

The other part of this picture is the violent one. There is unquestionably a smaller group or groups who, for whatever reasons, see these peaceful demonstrations as an opportunity to raise havoc, to partake in the only form of protest that turns them on—violence.

What none of these folks seem to realize is that in the commission of felonies (entering the U.S. Capitol forcefully, etc.) in the pursuit of political goals (the illegal participation in maintaining Trump in power) they qualify nicely for classification as terrorists.

At one point during the invasion of the Capitol, it was announced by the TV commentators that the invaders were beginning to leave the area. Careful examination of the TV footage at the time shows that the people leaving the area were old, often female—a less fit, less bellicose group. In fact, they were the Capitol invaders who had no intention of getting involved in what clearly was becoming a potentially violent situation. They simply were not up to it politically, mentally or physically.

On the other hand, who stayed behind? Those who were actively interested in becoming involved in violence. Did you notice how many of them wore helmets? The only reason you wear a helmet is to protect yourself from violent attacks on your head and that is clearly what they were doing. They anticipated participating in violence. In addition, the stay-behinds were a major cut in age below those who were leaving. They were the sort who could climb vertical walls, break through windows and throw projectiles at the protecting police force. The fact that 5 people died, over 80 were arrested, and 50 police officers were injured bears eloquent testimony to the fact that this was a terrorist invasion encouraged by the sitting President of the United States, his family members and Republican colleagues.

Ever since the results of the November election became known, the President has created and maintained the fiction that widespread fraud was involved in the Biden win. Whether Trump knows that his major premise is all lies (which would make him a calculating criminal) or doesn't know that his positions are all lies (making him deranged) is almost irrelevant. In either case, calculating or deranged, he is a strangely questionable choice for leader of this country.

Terrorism is the use of fear (terror) and acts of violence to intimidate societies, governments or ideologies. Domestic terrorism is a form of terrorism in which victims within a country are targeted by a perpetrator with the same citizenship'' as the victims.

It is worth noting that in the middle of the January 6 invasion, the FBI became involved, presumably on the basis of a logical conclusion that they were looking at an act of domestic terrorism. The FBI's definition of domestic terrorism is ''violent, criminal acts committed by individuals and/or groups to further ideological goals stemming from domestic influences, such as those of a political, religious, social, racial or environmental nature.''

It is clear that the invasion of the Capitol building involved criminal activity. It is equally clear that if the criminals are to be identified and tried for their crimes, as has been clearly stated by all the government elements involved, it will be the FBI that will lead the way. They are, after all, the premier law enforcement organization in the United States. As such, they are most likely to be the only organization capable of resolving the many complicated issues involved in this crime, most emphatically including the issue of domestic terrorism, its initiators, motivators and perpetrators.

THE POWER OF HUMAN CHOICES

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, amid the chaos of the last 4 years, it is almost difficult to parse out the particular challenge that was 2020. Faced with deadly pandemic wrought by COVID–19 and the ensuing economic crisis, millions of Americans lost their jobs and found themselves in a newfound state of uncertainty and instability. Hundreds of thousands of Americans have died from the pandemic, and millions have been infected. Meanwhile, families across the country have lost their homes and businesses due to worsening hurricanes, floods, and wildfires brought on by intensifying climate change. And there are socioeconomic challenges, too, that linger and grow due to inequality, political division, and racial injustice, all things that have defined the last year.

George Will poignantly wrote on January 1 in the Washington Post about the challenges we faced throughout the past year and will continue to face moving forward. In his piece, Mr. Will highlights a greater overarching challenge as well: that we, as humans, do not have all encompassing control over our circumstances. There are greater forces in play; yet our choices and decisions can dictate to some degree the impact of those forces.

As we begin our work in the 117th Congress, I hope we can come together to better equip our families, communities, and society to respond to our current challenges and prepare our country to effectively combat similar challenges in the future.

I ask unanimous consent that Mr. Will's column, ''2020 was a booster shot against human hubris,'' be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From the Washington Post, Jan. 1, 2021]

2020 WAS A BOOSTER SHOT AGAINST HUMAN HUBRIS

(By George Will)

The plague year 2020 was yet another brutal rejoinder to the belief that brute forces can be pushed to the margins of, and eventually out of, humanity's experience. When today's pandemic recedes, what should linger is a quickened appreciation of the fragility of life and social arrangements. And an awareness that things much worse than covid–19 have happened before, and will continue to happen. The human story is not entirely about human choices.

The 1918–19 ''Spanish flu,'' which began in Kansas, killed between 50 million and 100 million people worldwide, lowered U.S. life expectancy by 12 years, and did not spare, as covid–19 largely does, the young. The Black Death—the bubonic plague—of 1346–1353 was much worse, killing 10 percent of the world's population, and more than one-third of Europe's, including 40,000 of London's 70,000 residents.

In the 1980s, AIDS was so shocking because it refuted the complacent belief that infectious disease epidemics had been banished. In 2019, however, 1.7 million people were newly infected with the AIDS virus, and 690,000 people who were already infected died. But of the 38 million living with the virus, 25.4 million were controlling it with antiviral drugs.

Astronomy lowered mankind's self-esteem (we are not the center of the universe), then biology did (our species has an undistinguished pedigree). Geology, too, has disturbed our sense of mastery. Genesis enjoins us to ''subdue'' the Earth, but this slowly cooling residue of the Big Bang gets a vote. As its continents wander—half an inch to four inches a year, according to plate tectonics—the planet's interior of boiling gas and molten rock occasionally is heard from.

Volcanic eruptions at what is now Yellowstone National Park some 630,000 years ago covered half of what is now the continental United States with ash. When the Indonesian volcano Krakatoa erupted in 1883, sea surges, which killed most of the eruption's eventual 36,000 victims, were felt in the English Channel. Krakatoa, was, however, only one-tenth as powerful as the April 1815 eruption of Indonesia's Mount Tambora, which killed 10,000 instantly—incandescent ash flowed 100 miles per hour—and generated winds that uprooted trees. Particulate matter blocking the sun's rays cooled the Earth: Water froze in some American cisterns on July 4. Today, a large majority of the one-eighth of the nation's population that lives in California resides near the San Andreas fault, and the question is not if but when it will lurch catastrophically.

A U.S. satellite poised between Earth and the sun can provide perhaps a 45-minute warning if the sun is going to plunge the planet into darkness. On Sept. 2, 1859, before there were light bulbs, a coronal mass ejection (CME) of 100 million tons of charged particles thrown off by the sun only produced spectacular sunsets. If—actually, when—it happens again, it can produce chaos in our thoroughly electrified, digitized world by induced electric currents: no functioning satellites, telephonic communications, water pumps, financial transactions, hospitals. No Netflix. That got your attention.

On March 13, 1989, a CME solar storm turned out the lights in the entire Canadian province of Quebec. Three days earlier, a NASA astronomer says, scientists had noticed ''a powerful explosion on the sun. Within minutes, tangled magnetic forces on the sun had released a billion-ton cloud of gas. It was like the energy of thousands of nuclear bombs exploding at the same time. The storm cloud rushed out from the sun, straight towards Earth, at 1 million miles an hour.'' This geomagnetic storm struck the Earth the evening of March 12, creating ''electrical currents in the ground beneath much of North America,'' crashing Quebec's power grid.

There are those who believe in a benevolent God because Earth, as they see it, is ''biophilic,'' meaning friendly to life. They must, however, reckon not only with nonbiophilic things (saber-toothed tigers, volcanoes, typhoons, viruses, etc.), but also with the fact that this (meaning: everything) is not going to end well. The universe will either continue to expand, ending in life-extinguishing cold, or will collapse into incinerating heat.

Meanwhile, here is some (sort of) good news, from the Economist. In history's bloodiest century, the last one, 100 million to 200 million people died as a result of war. Measles killed in the same range, influenza near the top of the range. Smallpox, however, killed 300 million to 500 million.

The eradication of smallpox, by globally coordinated vaccination campaigns, ''stands as one of the all-time-great humanitarian triumphs.''

Human choices cannot subdue all the brute forces that always lurk. Choices can, however, make a difference. And they can dignify us, a thinking, coping species.

NOMINATION OF ANTONY JOHN BLINKEN

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Madam President, I rise to speak in support of Tony Blinken's nomination to be Secretary of State.

I support Tony for Secretary of State for three key reasons. First, he has the diplomatic skills that our country needs at this pivotal moment to regain our leadership on the world stage. From 2015 to 2017, he served as Deputy Secretary of State, the Nation's second highest ranking diplomat. In that position, he helped lead U.S. efforts to combat terrorism, address rising concerns in Asia, and respond to Russian regional aggression. He is a crisis-tested leader who will hit the ground running at the State Department with critical knowledge and relationships with leaders worldwide.

Second, Tony has a longstanding and trusted personal relationship with President Biden that will enable him to advise the President on key foreign policy issues. During President Obama's first term in office, he was National Security Advisor to then-Vice President Biden. Previously, Tony served as the Democratic staff director for the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for 6 years when then-Senator Biden was committee chairman. It is because of his relationship with President Biden and his career as a public servant that Tony understands that the job of Secretary of State is not just to serve the American people, but to help improve the lives of people struggling all over the world.

Last but certainly not least, Tony has the experience of serving at the State Department that will help him rebuild the Department, recruiting needed Foreign Service Officers and civilians, ensuring State personnel have the training they need to be effective in their mission, restoring morale throughout the Department, and empowering our diplomats to speak on behalf of him and President Biden.

Tony will help our country repair the damage of the last 4 years and restore the United States as a leader and trusted ally. I look forward to working with him to advance our mutual objectives of promoting peace and security, and I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of his confirmation.

Thank you.

CONFIRMATION OF LLOYD JAMES AUSTIN

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, I was proud to vote in support of Lloyd Austin to serve as our next Secretary of Defense. I cast my vote with confidence that he will capably lead the Department of Defense through this difficult period in our Nation's history.

As a four-star general, Lloyd Austin was tasked with leading the drawdown of American troops from Iraq and helped bring 150,000 U.S. soldiers home. He demonstrated the logistical mastery that will be necessary to help lead the nationwide effort to vaccinate against COVID–19. Through his remarkable life and trailblazing career, he has gained the experience and perspective required of this office, and now, he has broken one more barrier as the first African-American Secretary of Defense in our Nation's history. I am confident he will ensure that our Armed Forces reflect and respect the diversity of our Nation and that everyone in our military upholds the oath they take to protect our Constitution.

I have made no secret of my concerns about the troubling trend of Congress granting waivers to allow recently retired officers to serve as Secretary of Defense, and I voted against such a waiver for Lloyd Austin as I did when that question was previously put before the Congress. Nevertheless, I believe once Congress speaks on the issue of a waiver, each Senator must evaluate the nominee on his or her merits alone. By that measure, Lloyd Austin is superbly qualified. He has the confidence of the President and is the right person for this moment. I support his confirmation.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING BARBARA HARDCASTLE

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Madman President, I rise today to honor the life of Mrs. Barbara Hardcastle, who passed away on January 13, 2020, at the age of 94.

Mrs. Hardcastle was trailblazer and a fierce advocate for her community and her State. A native of Fort Smith, AK, she also made her mark in politics and government in California. I was honored to know her, and so I join her friends and family in grieving her loss.

Barbara Turner was born in Fort Smith on April 6, 1927. She graduated from Fort Smith High School in 1944 and went on to earn a bachelor's degree from Fort Smith Junior College. She

married Ben Hardcastle, a banker and World War II veteran, in 1947, and they would spend almost 63 years together before his passing in 2010.

Early in their married life, Ben accepted a job at the Beverly Hills Savings and Loan, so they moved to North Hollywood, CA. They immediately became active in their local church and, as a result, made friends with many Hollywood actors, including Ronald and Nancy Reagan.

Their friendship with the Reagans led to Barbara's involvement in California politics, including playing a key role in his race for Governor of California. She is also credited by many as having introduced the future President to Jelly Belly candy as he attempted to stop smoking. Friends and family say she kept him stocked with the company's signature jelly beans throughout his Presidency.

During their time in California, Barbara became an ordained minister and public speaker. She was also a trailblazing professional, serving as a supervisor and one of the first female executives with the Federal housing agency, Fannie Mae.

Ben and Barbara decided to retire in 1991 and returned to Arkansas, where they continued to be active in local, State and national politics. In addition to helping candidates for all levels of public office, Barbara used her experience to make a difference in the community.

I had many opportunities to work with Barbara over the years, but no occasion stands out more than her determined efforts on behalf of the 188th Fighter Wing when its future was threatened by the Base Realignment and Closure Commission, BRAC. She used her organizing skills to rally the community and show visiting BRAC committee members how strong support was for the base. Her leadership and industry helped save the Wing and bring more opportunity to the region.

Barbara was truly a force. Her strong values, hard work, wonderful sense of humor and personal conviction made a difference. I am grateful to have counted her as a friend and hope her legacy will continue to inspire young Arkansans to fight for their communities and their causes with the same determination that she did throughout her life.●

REMEMBERING GARY SPEARS

● Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I rise today to honor the life of an outstanding Arkansan and Cleveland County leader, Judge Gary Spears. After a multiyear battle with cancer, Judge Spears passed away on January 10, 2021.

Judge Spears grew up on a small farm in New Edinburg, AR, and graduated with honors from New Edinburg High School in 1987. He attended the University of Arkansas at Monticello, where he studied agricultural business before marrying his wife Melody. The couple moved to Warren, AR, where Judge Spears worked as a distributor for Big R Ice. The couple eventually returned to New Edinburg in 1996 and purchased the New Edinburg County Store, which they operated together for 10 years.

In 2007, Judge Spears was elected Cleveland County Judge, marking the start of an illustrious 14-year career as the longest serving county judge in county history. His undeniable leadership while presiding over Cleveland County had ripple effects that extended beyond the county borders and brought tremendous benefit to the entire State. A few recent and notable achievements during his tenure include successful efforts to ensure an accurate 2020 census count for Cleveland County and directly overseeing the county's finances during the COVID–19 pandemic by authorizing and approving the disbursement of funds.

Representing the citizens of Cleveland County was a clear passion for Judge Spears. He was also dedicated to farming. On the exact 10-acre plot that his father once farmed, Judge Spears worked diligently to continue his family's unique tradition of ''truck-patch farming.'' He grew various crops, including tomatoes, beans, peas, squash, cucumbers, watermelons, peppers, and much more. In fact, his family's agriculture operation gained deserved recognition in 2019 when they were named Cleveland County Farm Family of the Year.

Judge Spears leaves behind a lasting legacy thanks to the confidence entrusted in him by his Cleveland County constituents. I am confident his selfless leadership as a Cleveland County judge, businessman, and family farmer will guide and inspire future generations of Arkansans.●

TRIBUTE TO GARLAND SHEPHEARD

● Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Garland Shepheard, who retired as the North Carolina House sergeant-in-arms at the beginning of the year. Mr. Shepheard is a proud North Carolinian who was committed to keeping North Carolina legislators safe.

Garland Shepheard is a lifelong resident of Tarboro, NC, where he resides with his wife Betty Jo. Mr. Shepheard was successful car salesman and additionally served as Edgecombe County Republican Party chairman. He also served two terms on the Tarboro Town Council and has contributed a lifetime of service to his community.

Before representing North Carolina in the U.S. Senate, I had the pleasure of interacting with Mr. Shepheard serving as North Carolina speaker of the house. Widely known for his brightly colored jackets and distinct Eastern North Carolina accent, Garland was loved by members from both sides of the aisle.

As the U.S. Senator from North Carolina, I am grateful for Garland's service to our State and Nation. I hope he enjoys his much-deserved retirement back in Eastern North Carolina, and we will never forget his commitment to keeping North Carolinians safe.●

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 2021

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. GRASSLEY for the Committee on Finance.

*Janet Louise Yellen, of California, to be Secretary of the Treasury.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 7:12 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. RASKIN (manager on the part of the House in the matter of impeachment of Donald John Trump), announced that the House has agreed to the following resolution:

H. RES. 24

Resolved, That Donald John Trump, President of the United States, is impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors and that the following article of impeachment be exhibited to the United States Senate:

Article of impeachment exhibited by the House of Representatives of the United States of America in the name of itself and of the people of the United States of America, against Donald John Trump, President of the United States of America, in maintenance and support of its impeachment against him for high crimes and misdemeanors.

ARTICLE I: INCITEMENT OF INSURRECTION

The Constitution provides that the House of Representatives ''shall have the sole Power of Impeachment'' and that the President ''shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors''. Further, section 3 of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution prohibits any person who has ''engaged in insurrection or rebellion against'' the United States from ''hold[ing] any office . . . under the United States''. In his conduct while President of the United States—and in violation of his constitutional oath faithfully to execute the office of President of the United States and, to the best of his ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States, and in violation of his constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed—Donald John Trump engaged in high Crimes and Misdemeanors by inciting violence against the Government of the United States, in that:

On January 6, 2021, pursuant to the 12th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, the Vice President of the United States, the House of Representatives, and the Senate met at the United States Capitol for a Joint Session of Congress to count the votes of the Electoral College. In the months preceding the Joint Session, President Trump repeatedly issued false statements asserting that the Presidential election results were the product of widespread fraud and should not be accepted by

the American people or certified by State or Federal officials. Shortly before the Joint Session commenced, President Trump, addressed a crowd at the Ellipse in Washington, DC. There, he reiterated false claims that ''we won this election, and we won it by a landslide''. He also willfully made statements that, in context, encouraged—and foreseeably resulted in—lawless action at the Capitol, such as: ''if you don't fight like hell you're not going to have a country anymore''. Thus incited by President Trump, members of the crowd he had addressed, in an attempt to, among other objectives, interfere with the Joint Session's solemn constitutional duty to certify the results of the 2020 Presidential election, unlawfully breached and vandalized the Capitol, injured and killed law enforcement personnel, menaced Members of Congress, the Vice President, and Congressional personnel, and engaged in other violent, deadly, destructive, and seditious acts.

President Trump's conduct on January 6, 2021, followed his prior efforts to subvert and obstruct the certification of the results of the 2020 Presidential election. Those prior efforts included a phone call on January 2, 2021, during which President Trump urged the secretary of state of Georgia, Brad Raffensperger, to ''find'' enough votes to overturn the Georgia Presidential election results and threatened Secretary Raffensperger if he failed to do so.

In all this, President Trump gravely endangered the security of the United States and its institutions of Government. He threatened the integrity of the democratic system, interfered with the peaceful transition of power, and imperiled a coequal branch of Government. He thereby betrayed his trust as President, to the manifest injury of the people of the United States.

Wherefore, Donald John Trump, by such conduct, has demonstrated that he will remain a threat to national security, democracy, and the Constitution if allowed to remain in office, and has acted in a manner grossly incompatible with self-governance and the rule of law. Donald John Trump thus warrants impeachment and trial, removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following resolution:

H. RES. 40

Resolved, That Mr. Raskin, Ms. DeGette, Mr. Cicilline, Mr. Castro of Texas, Mr. Swalwell, Mr. Lieu, Ms. Plaskett, Mr. Neguse, and Ms. Dean are appointed managers to conduct the impeachment trial against Donald John Trump, President of the United States, that a message be sent to the Senate to inform the Senate of these appointments, and that the managers so appointed may, in connection with the preparation and the conduct of the trial, exhibit the articles of impeachment to the Senate and take all other actions necessary, which may include the following:

(1) Employing legal, clerical, and other necessary assistants and incurring such other expenses as may be necessary, to be paid from amounts available to the Committee on the Judiciary under applicable expense resolutions or from the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives.

(2) Sending for persons and papers, and filing with the Secretary of the Senate, on the part of the House of Representatives, any pleadings, in conjunction with or subsequent to, the exhibition of the articles of impeachment that the managers consider necessary.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. RISCH for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

*Antony John Blinken, of New York, to be Secretary of State.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 36. A bill to require certain helicopters to be equipped with safety technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. CARPER):

S. 37. A bill to address the public health risks posed by wildlife markets, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. TESTER, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. PETERS):

S. 38. A bill to specify the Federal share of the costs of certain duty of the National Guard in connection with the Coronavirus Disease 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. INHOFE:

S. 39. A bill to ensure the continued strength and leadership of the United States in the research and development of key technologies for future wireless telecommunications standards and infrastructure by providing additional authority for sanctions against certain foreign entities that pose a threat to national security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. COONS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. WARREN, Mr. CASEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 40. A bill to address the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality, and inhumanity of slavery in the United States and the 13 American colonies between 1619 and 1865 and to establish a commission to study and consider a national apology and proposal for reparations for the institution of slavery, its subsequent de jure and de facto racial and economic discrimination against African Americans, and the impact of these forces on living African Americans, to make recommendations to the Congress on appropriate remedies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself and Ms. WARREN):

S. 41. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to require coverage of hearing devices and systems in certain private health insurance plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. Res. 15. A resolution authorizing the taking of a photograph in the Chamber of the United States Senate; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 35

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of S. 35, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Officer Eugene Goodman.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 15—AUTHORIZING THE TAKING OF A PHOTOGRAPH IN THE CHAMBER OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 15

Resolved,

SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION FOR PHOTOGRAPH.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph 1 of Rule IV of the Rules for the Regulation of the Senate Wing of the United States Capitol (prohibiting the taking of pictures in the Senate Chamber) shall be temporarily suspended for the sole and specific purpose of permitting an official photograph to be taken on January 26, 2021, of the swearing in of Members of the United States Senate for the impeachment trial of the former President of the United States.

(b) ADMINISTRATION.—The acting Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate is authorized an directed to make the necessary arrangements to carry out subsection (a), which arrangements shall provide for a minimum of disruption to Senate proceedings.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I have a request for one committee to meet during today's session of the Senate. It has the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committee is authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, January 25, 2021, at 6 p.m., to conduct a closed hearing.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that upon the conclusion of morning business on Tuesday, January 26, the Senate proceed to executive session, and the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of the nomination of Antony Blinken to be the Secretary of State; further, that the time until 12 noon be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees, with Senator MENENDEZ permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes; and that at 12 noon, the Senate vote without intervening action or debate on the nomination; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon table, and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2021

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, January 26; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the Blinken nomination, as provided under the previous order; that following the confirmation vote on Blinken, the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each and that Senator PAUL be recognized to speak for up to 15 minutes for debate only; finally, following the remarks of Senator PAUL, the Senate recess until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings.

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, for the information of all Senators, there will be a live quorum at 2:15 p.m.; Senators are asked to report to the floor at that time; at 2:30, the oath will be administered to the Presiding Officer and Members of the Senate for the impeachment trial of Donald John Trump, former President of the United States.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. SCHUMER. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, at 8:06 p.m., the Senate adjourned until Tuesday, January 26, 2021, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate January 25, 2021:

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

JANET LOUISE YELLEN, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MEMORANDUM REGARDING AUTHORIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 25, 2021

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I submit the following memorandum regarding authorization of the Department of Homeland Security:

We, the chairs of the committees with jurisdiction over the Department of Homeland Security or its components, are hereby recording our agreement on the following principles for the 117th Congress:

1. The Department of Homeland Security (''the Department'') and its components should be authorized on a regular basis to ensure robust oversight and improve its operation.

2. Committees with jurisdiction over the Department and its components will prioritize any expired or expiring authorizations within the Department and its components in that committee's jurisdiction.

3. To the maximum extent practicable, the committees with jurisdiction over components of the Department will coordinate with the Committee on Homeland Security to produce comprehensive authorization legislation for the Department and consult with the Committee on Homeland Security prior to consideration of component authorization legislation in a committee markup. Prior to consideration of component authorization legislation in a committee markup, the Committee on Homeland Security will consult with any other committee that is a party to this agreement that is a committee with jurisdiction over that component.

4. The Committee on Homeland Security will coordinate with the committees with jurisdiction over components of the Department in the development of any comprehensive authorization bill for the Department.

5. The committees will work in good faith to expeditiously consider any bill to comprehensively authorize the Department, including timely resolution of any matters subject to a sequential or additional referral.

6. To the extent that there are policy differences between the committees regarding a provision of a bill or comprehensive authorization bill for the Department, the committees will make best efforts to resolve any such dispute and where the Committee on Homeland Security has policy differences regarding a measure to be advanced by another committee that is a party to this agreement, the Committee on Homeland Security will make best efforts to achieve a timely resolution of such dispute.

7. Consistent with existing rules and precedents of the House, the Committee on Homeland Security Committee shall not include any provision in a bill that the chair of the Committee on Ways and Means has determined to be a revenue provision or a provision affecting revenue. Nothing in this agreement shall be construed to preclude the Committee on Ways and Means from exercising an additional or sequential referral over any measure or to waive clause 5(a) of Rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives .

8. Nothing in this agreement shall be construed as altering or expanding any committee's jurisdiction under rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives or the referral of any measure thereunder and will not be construed as support for any claim for sequential referral on legislation pertaining to the Department generally, including policies, programs, and general management of component agencies.

9. Further, nothing in this agreement shall be construed to affect the provision of information by the Executive Branch to committees of jurisdiction pursuant to law or otherwise.

10. Further, nothing in this agreement shall be construed as altering any responsibilities or authority of any committee under Rule XI of the House of Representatives.

11. Further, nothing in this agreement precludes a further agreement between the committees with regard to the implementation of a process to collaborate on comprehensive authorization legislation and component-specific measures.

12. Consistent with past practice, committees that are party to this agreement will consult with the Committee on Oversight and Reform when statutes under its Rule X jurisdiction are implicated by comprehensive reauthorization legislation.

Signed,

DAVID SCOTT,
Chair, Committee on Agriculture.

FRANK PALLONE, Jr.,
Chair, Committee on Energy and Commerce.

MAXINE WATERS,
Chair, Committee on Financial Services.

BENNIE G. THOMPSON,
Chair Committee on Homeland Security.

ADAM SCHIFF,
Chair, Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

JERROLD NADLER,
Chair, Committee on the Judiciary.

CAROLYN B. MALONEY,
Chair, Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON,
Chair, Committee on Science, Space and Technology.

PETER A. DEFAZIO,
Chair, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

RICHARD NEAL,
Chair, Committee on Ways and Means.

WELCOMING THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 25, 2021

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the newly inaugurated Biden Administration.

I have every confidence that my friend, and a good man, President Joseph R. Biden, will serve as the head of state that this weighty moment deserves. With Vice President Kamala Harris by his side, America will heal, America will innovate, and America will lead.

My partnership with President Biden began on the campaign trail in 2008, and it continued to the U.S. Auto Rescue Task Force, where he showed every day his care for the needs of hardworking Michigan families and our manufacturing economy. I am ready to work alongside the Biden Administration and my colleagues in Congress to defeat the COVID–19 pandemic, get our economy back on track, and help Michiganders get back on their feet.

I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the new Administration and welcoming the first family to the White House.

Now, we begin a new chapter in American history—one of innovative, collaborative, and forward-thinking leadership to strengthen our nation for generations to come.

We will build a future for our children that is guided by truth and science, energized by the will of the people, and fortified by love for our resilient republic. May we be successful in this endeavor, and may we never lose faith in America's promise.

WISHING TREVA GREEN A HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. TOM RICE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 25, 2021

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary South Carolinian, Ms. Treva Green of Conway and wish her a happy 100th birthday.

Ms. Green was 18 years old when she volunteered to become a nurse with the U.S Army. She served our nation in England, France, and Germany during World War II. Following the war, Treva and her husband moved to Conway and served the Grand Strand community as a nurse for over four decades. Wow.

Her commitment to her nation and community are truly admirable. She is a shining example of the best of our country. Ms. Green is now enjoying retirement in Conway. Treva recently said ''I've done everything the Lord wants me to do, or at least I tried to and asked for forgiveness for everything I couldn't

get by. I'm happy to be alive and I'm happy to be able to tell my story." We should all live by this sentiment.

Madam Speaker, I join her family and friends in wishing Treva Green happy 100th birthday! I am sure they are excited to see her reach this incredible milestone.

REMARKS ON TERRI FREEMAN LEAVING THE NATIONAL CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 25, 2021

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bid a reluctant farewell to Terri Lee Freeman, who for the past six years has served as President of the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis. Ms. Freeman has done an exceptional job leading the nation's premiere Civil Rights museum, located in the Lorraine Motel where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated in 1968. During her tenure, Ms. Freeman organized the 50th anniversary of that seminal event in American history—"MLK50—Where Do We Go From Here?"—featuring such national figures as our late Congressional colleague, John Lewis; the Reverend Jesse Jackson, former Polish President and 1983 Nobel Peace Prize laureate Lech Walesa; the Reverend William Barber of the Poor People's Campaign, and many others who traveled from around the world to spend time in our showcase institution. In her six years, she saw the museum's budget double to $9.7 million while overseeing a staff of 50 and an increased physical footprint. She also helped affiliate the museum with the Smithsonian Institution and its traveling exhibits. Also while at the museum, she began "Unpacking Racism in Action," a series of community dialogues aimed at confronting implicit and structural bias. Last year, she was named "Memphian of the Year" by Memphis Magazine. Before moving to Memphis, she was president of what is now the Greater Washington Community Foundation. In her 18 years with that organization, she increased the organization's assets from $52 million in 1996 to more than $350 million in 2014. A proven leader, Ms. Freeman was a 2016 graduate of Leadership Memphis and served on the boards of the Community Foundation of Greater Memphis, the New Memphis Institute and the Memphis Convention and Visitors Bureau, as well as being a member of the Tennessee Educational Equity Coalition Steering Committee. Born in Chicago, Ms. Freeman is a graduate of Hamtramck High School (1977) and the University of Dayton (1981 through 1983) and received a Master's degree in organizational communications from Howard University. Ms. Freeman is married to Dr. Bowyer G. Freeman, senior pastor of the New Saint Mark Baptist Church in Baltimore, and the mother of three grown daughters. I wish Ms. Freeman every success in her new post as executive director of the Reginald Lewis Museum of African American History and Culture in Baltimore. I'm pleased to read that Ms. Freeman will always consider herself an "adopted child" of our city where her work and dedication will remain her lasting legacy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 25, 2021

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I had intended to vote "Yea" on Roll Call No. 18.

SUPPORTING H.R. 335, THE LEGAL EXCEPTION NECESSARY TO APPOINT LLOYD J. AUSTIN III AS PRESIDENT BIDEN'S SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 25, 2021

Mr. DEFAZIO. Madam Speaker, on January 21, I voted in support of H.R. 335, legislation to provide a waiver for former General Lloyd J. Austin III to serve as President Biden's Secretary of Defense. The Senate confirmed Austin as Secretary of Defense on January 22.

Civilian control of the military is a foundational tenet of our constitutional democracy, and I fully support all efforts to maintain and reinforce this essential principle.

Federal law requires that any Secretary of Defense nominee who has served in the military must be retired from the military for at least seven years, unless Congress grants a waiver. Until Congress granted a waiver for President Trump's nominee for Secretary of Defense, former General Jim Mattis, in 2017, a waiver of this kind had only occurred one other time: for former General George Marshall in 1950.

I believe this seven-year "cooling off" period for former military officials is an important mechanism to ensure continued civilian control of the U.S. military, and I believe Congress should not make a habit of granting these waivers.

However, I am confident that Secretary Austin is committed to upholding civilian control of the military. As he indicated in his Senate confirmation testimony on January 19, Austin believes that "the safety and security of our democracy demands competent civilian control of our Armed Forces, the subordination of military power to the civil. I know that being a member of the president's Cabinet—a political appointee—requires a different perspective and unique duties from a career in uniform."

I am also encouraged by Secretary Austin's statements of belief in military restraint, rather than interventionism, as well as aspects of his service under the Obama administration, including overseeing the withdrawal of 150,000 U.S. troops from Iraq, his opposition to a U.S. war and regime change in Syria, his dedication to diplomacy, and his support for avoiding civilian casualties.

Austin is also the first Black Secretary of Defense in U.S. history. While there is still a significant lack of diversity in the top ranks of the military, Austin's appointment is an important step in the right direction.

It is also notable that Austin will lead the Pentagon during a time when white supremacy and ideological extremism are on the rise among military ranks. In his January 19 Senate confirmation hearing, Austin pledged to "fight hard to stamp out sexual assault, to rid our ranks of racists and extremists, and to create a climate where everyone fit and willing has the opportunity to serve this country with dignity."

Civilian control of the military is not only achieved via the Secretary of Defense. Unlike President Trump, who appointed former generals to serve in numerous civilian and national security roles in the White House, President Biden has demonstrated a clear commitment to civilian control of the military by appointing non-military civilians in key national security posts.

While I support Congress's waiver for Secretary Austin, I strongly encourage the Biden administration and future administrations to avoid appointing additional former military officials as Secretary of Defense if they have not completed their seven-year cooling off period. I also will not hesitate to criticize Secretary Austin and the Biden administration—as I have done with previous Republican and Democratic administrations—when I disagree with their policies and actions. It is essential we rein in our bloated and wasteful defense spending, tackle the massive waste, fraud, and abuse within the Pentagon, and that Congress reassert its Constitutional war powers and put an end to our endless wars.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BUILDING UNITED STATES INFRASTRUCTURE AND LEVERAGING DEVELOPMENT (BUILD) ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 25, 2021

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I introduced the Building United States Infrastructure and Leveraging Development (BUILD) Act. This bipartisan legislation will spur billions of dollars in private investment toward surface transportation and freight transfer facilities, while giving state and local governments an important instrument to improve their communities.

It is no secret that America's infrastructure is falling apart while we fall behind our global competitors. America's roads, bridges, tunnels, and transit systems face a funding gap of more than $1.1 trillion by 2025. One in five miles of highway pavement is in poor condition and congestion costs the U.S. economy nearly $305 billion annually. Continued underinvestment will lead to longer trips to work or school, more costly maintenance expenses, and unsafe road conditions. We must do better.

As of December 1, 2020, the Department of Transportation doesn't have any additional surface transportation private activity bonds available, as the entire $15 billion statutory cap has been issued or allocated. This legislation builds on the success of these bonds by doubling the federal volume cap and clarifying that the use of the bonds must maintain strong labor standards. While public-private partnerships are not a panacea for solving all of our transportation challenges, they are an important piece of rebuilding and renewing America. I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House and Senate to enact this legislation as part of an infrastructure investment bill.

PASSING THROUGH THE FIERY TRIALS OF DEMOCRACY TO SAVE AND RENEW OUR REPUBLIC

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 25, 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the Committees on the Judiciary and on Homeland Security, as the descendant of patriotic and heroic veterans who risked their lives to defend our nation and our freedoms, as a parent with the fervent hope and determination to pass on this great democracy to the next generation, and as a citizen of the greatest republic in world history, I rise to reflect on the state of our democracy as it is about to open a new chapter in the remarkable story of America.

In 1776, the Framers declared the self-evident and later the universal truth that all persons are created equal and endowed by their Creator with the inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. As important, the Framers declared that "to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just power from the consent of the governed." This genius of self-government is the Framers' gift to us and America's gift to the world, and for nearly 250 years the world has looked upon the United States with wonder, awe, and envy not just for its awesome powers and achievements, but for being the exemplar to which most freedom-loving nations aspire.

But as President Lincoln reminded us at Gettysburg, the proposition that a people can govern themselves is not to be taken for granted; it is a proposition that will be tested time and again and it for us, the living, to highly resolve to commit ourselves to the great task always before us, that government of the people, by the people, and for the people not perish from the earth.

As Thomas Paine said in his time, the past four years were times that tried one's soul. The nation was tested, severely so, by what can only be described as the modern-day Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse: a deadly pandemic, economic devastation unseen since the Great Depression, social justice unrest, and the very real threat of authoritarianism. While the threat posed by these challenges are still with us to varying extent, we can all rejoice that the nation withstood the challenge, *e pluribus unum*, by standing together as "We The People." President Lincoln reminded us that in times of testing and challenge that "the fiery trial through which we pass will mark us down in honor or dishonor until the latest generation" but that so long as the people "retain their virtue and vigilance, no administration, by any extreme of wickedness or folly, can very seriously injure the government in the short space of four years."

And Lincoln was right, for on Election Day 2020, Americans by a substantial majority, voted to withhold consent to govern from an incumbent administration and confer it upon another. That act of self-government and sovereign expression was solemnized on January 20, 2021, at noon when Joseph R. Biden and KAMALA D. HARRIS took the oath of office as the 46th President and 49th Vice-President of the United States.

The Philadelphia Miracle of 1789 endures but only because we Americans resolve that it does and work to make it so. The President takes the oath of office pledging to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution. As does every one of my congressional colleagues, I have sacredly pledged true faith and allegiance in defending the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic and to well and faithfully execute the duties of the office I hold. I do this ever mindful that the purpose of our form of government is "to form a more perfect union, to establish justice, to insure domestic tranquility, to provide for the common defense, to promote the general welfare, and to secure the blessings of liberty for posterity."

But we all have a responsibility to preserve and strengthen this constitutional republic and pass it on to the next generation by engaging in robust, lawful, and peaceful civic activity to hold our government to account and to peaceably assemble when necessary to petition for a redress of grievances as shown by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the March on Washington, following the example of Mahatma Gandhi; by John Lewis and the Civil Rights foot soldiers at the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama; by Elizabeth Cady Staton and Lucretia Mott at Seneca Falls; by Cesar Chavez leading the fight for human dignity of farmworkers, and by Black Lives Matter demonstrators protesting inequalities in the criminal justice system. For the work of democracy is never complete, our union is always in the process of being made more perfect.

Americans have suffered, endured, and survived much pain and heartbreak over the past four years. But Psalms 30:5 teaches that "weeping lasteth for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." So, let us all be of good cheer, for tomorrow, at the end of morning, a new day dawns in America with the inauguration of President Biden and Vice-President HARRIS and our collective journey towards the beloved community continues inexorably forward.

REMEMBERING KEITH E. FREELAND

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 25, 2021

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I would like to include in the Record the following obituary for Keith E. Freeland.

With deep sorrow we pronounce the passing of Keith E. Freeland of Lewiston, NY on Friday, January 1, 2021. He passed away peacefully at the age of 67. Born in Niagara Falls, NY, he was the son of the late Edward C. and Norma E. (Klipfel) Freeland. He was raised along with his three sisters in Ransomville, NY. Keith married Christine A. (Covatta) Freeland in Lewiston, NY on October 18, 1975 and was a devoted and loving husband for 45 years.

Keith attended Lewiston-Porter High School and graduated from Buffalo State College with a degree in business education. He ultimately pursued his life-long career in manufacturing and sales, founding Package Design and Supply in 1995. Viewed as a kind, selfless and devoted leader, he demonstrated unwavering loyalty and compassion to all of his beloved employees and colleagues.

Keith not only excelled in his career but he was devoted to several hobbies. Boating was his ultimate passion and anytime the sun was shining in the summer you could find him at the boat docks in Lewiston or cruising along the Lower Niagara River. He was fervent about the community of friends who shared his desire for being on the water; often traveling and seeking new adventures each summer. Keith was a dedicated board member of the Youngstown Yacht Club aiding in annual fundraising events. He also enjoyed vintage car restoration, proudly displaying vehicles he worked so tirelessly on at various local shows. Keith found solace in meticulously maintaining his yard in Thornwood Forest and working diligently on various projects around the home he so cherished. He was an avid Buffalo sports fan and longtime season ticket holder for his beloved Bills and Sabres, for whom he shared in the joys and sorrows with his two sons.

Above all, Keith cared about family and he would stop at nothing to be there for them. He instilled in them the value of hard work, honesty, loyalty and simply to be thankful and appreciative. In addition to his wife of 45 years, Keith is survived by his children, Dr. Erik Freeland, Jeffrey Freeland, and Julie Freeland; his siblings, Kathy (late Dr. F. Craig) Fisher of Chicago, IL and Jane (Greg) DiPietro of League City, TX. He was predeceased by his sister, Linda (James) Giardino of Scottsdale, AZ. He is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, and countless friends.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROSEMARY HEARD, FORMER PRESIDENT OF CATCH NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 25, 2021

Ms. KUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Rosemary Heard's life, career and many years of service as President and Chief Executive Officer of CATCH Neighborhood Housing.

As President, Rosemary was responsible for the administration and management of CATCH Neighborhood Housing, an organization whose mission is to make sure every person is confident in having a place to call home. Rosemary's ingenuity led to the construction of numerous new affordable housing units and revitalized existing housing in areas where affordable options are limited.

Rosemary's dedication to her community and bettering the lives of others did not stop at CATCH. She also served on the Municipal Housing Commission for the City of Concord, the Public Policy Committee for the National NeighborWorks Association, the City of Concord's Plan to End Homelessness, and Concord Hospital's Board of Trustees. Recognized for her professional excellence, Rosemary was the recipient of a Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce 2019 Business Leader of the Year award.

On behalf of New Hampshire's Second Congressional District and all those who have been impacted by Rosemary's important work, I'd like to thank Rosemary for her commitment to and passion for housing security that will continue to benefit Granite Staters for years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 25, 2021

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam, Speaker, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 18.

PROVIDING FOR EXCEPTION TO LIMITATION AGAINST APPOINTMENT OF PERSONS AS SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WITHIN SEVEN YEARS OF RELIEF FROM ACTIVE DUTY

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 21, 2021

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, through the National Security Act, Congress required that the Secretary of Defense be from civilian life and placed a limitation on the appointment of former military personnel to that position mandating that a nominee be retired from military service for ten years. In 2008, Congress shortened that period to seven years.

I have several concerns which I would like to express and go on record in opposition to providing a waiver. First, I thank the General for his service to our nation in uniform. I have reservations about providing yet another waiver from the law intended to preserve civilian leadership in the role of Secretary of Defense. If confirmed as Secretary of Defense by the U.S. Senate, after fewer than five years from his last military assignment, General Lloyd Austin (Ret.) will be expected to uphold the principles of civilian control of the military.

My hope is that General Austin's focus will be ensuring that our nation is prepared to meet head-on the threat posed by adversaries including China, Russia, and Iran. He should follow and focus on the bipartisan 2018 National Defense Strategy that stresses the need to strengthen our military for potential major conflict. Mr. Austin should work to preserve the strategic nuclear triad, protect and ensure American space superiority, and maintain Naval supremacy as cornerstones of our freedom.

Serving as our nation's Secretary of Defense is an awesome responsibility and I await the U.S. Senate vetting General Austin as the U.S. Senate has the responsibility under the Constitution of reviewing Presidential nominees.

IN RECOGNITION OF HER SERVICE: MS. JUDITH MITCHELL

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 25, 2021

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Judith Mitchell and her career of public service.

After 11 years of dedicated public service, Ms. Mitchell will be retiring from public service.

Ms. Mitchell served with honor as Rolling Hills Estate Mayor and Council Member for her city, Southland, her state and the nation. Ms. Mitchell showed her fairness, depth of knowledge and dedication to improving the quality of life for all.

During her political career, Ms. Mitchell was elected to represent 51 cities in the western portion of Los Angeles County which she represented through the Governing Board of the South Coast Air Quality Management District. Ms. Mitchell was then appointed to the California Air Resources Board under Governor Edmund J. Brown, and additionally served as the President of the League of California Cities where she chaired several key environmental committees. Her work on these two agencies, helped to spur technological innovation to create jobs and economic growth in the Southland and across the nation.

Ms. Mitchell's legacy for clean air policies and her unwavering support for green technologies has not only helped those most impacted in her community, but these efforts have a direct impact on my Congressional District. These clean air advancements will also assist other States and regions to help meet federal public health standards and build a foundation for the United States technological and industrial leadership.

It is with great pride and gratitude that I extend my best wishes to Ms. Judith Mitchell upon her retirement and ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring her.

CONDEMNING IRRESPONSIBLE DEFAMATION IN CONGRESS

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 25, 2021

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my dismay that members of Congress are making unfounded claims of treason and sedition against their colleagues without evidence to back their outlandish claims. By this, I mean the numerous members alleging that members aided in ''reconnaissance'' tours for those individuals who would storm the Capitol during the Electoral College certification.

These accusations leveled by several members make these bold statements without offering a shred of evidence. In fact, over 30 members put their names on a letter which made these allegations without even an indication to whom they were referring to. In the absence of fact, these accusations have allowed conspiracy to permeate the narrative from the deepest enclaves of the Internet. Leftist media sources, from major 24 hour broadcast companies to biogs, have picked up on these hollow accusations, and the effects have been damaging.

Since evidence and due process have been replaced with speculation, members of Congress are being deemed guilty of these crimes, including myself. In fact, there is now a narrative running that since I supported the objection to the certification of the count, I must be one of the members guilty of this treason. Multiple media sources have reported as ''fact'' that me and other objectors conducted tours of the Capitol to do some type of ''reconnaissance''. This is patently and unequivocally false. They offered no proof of this scurrilous and defamatory falsehood. I asked Capitol Police to pull and preserve all video footage from House security cameras which can establish with finality who, if anyone, gave even one tour during the days leading to the unrest. I can say this: my office has not given a tour since February 2020. The continuing publication of this defamation by members of Congress and media is unprofessional, unethical, and actionable.

The increase in violent, threatening messages received in our offices because of the irresponsible political messaging from my colleagues in coordination with their media pals is sickening and indicative of our larger societal issues, such as a media which tells their viewers what they know to be true, not what the facts are. So, let me set the record straight. I have not given a tour of the Capitol since 2017, and my staff has not given a tour since they closed to the public early in 2020 as a COVID–19 response. Further, at no time did anyone with Stop the Steal talk to me about violence, and my efforts to speak to the American people and fight for my constituents were guided by the First Amendment and the Electoral Count Act of 1878.

Madam Speaker, the purpose of this body is to serve as the voice of the American people, a voice which speaks with honesty to conduct the business of this country and contribute to the overall good. Yet, the passions of humanity can undermine these principles, and these unfounded accusations are a menace to the traditions of this body. Therefore, Madam Speaker, I condemn my colleagues irresponsible actions and their use of their official powers to fuel a media spectacle for their own political benefit. Their willingness to set these mistruths into the public and not interject when the truth is deviated from and innocent people are blamed is defamation, conspiratorial, and faulty justice. Much like McCarthyism or the witch hunt conducted these last four years, history will not look kindly on this abuse of Congressional power, and therefore I implore my colleagues to either set the record straight with evidence or retract these claims immediately to resecure their position in history.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE BREAST RECONSTRUCTION ACT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 25, 2021

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce the Comprehensive Breast Reconstruction Act. This legislation will bring Medicaid and Medicare programs into compliance with the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998, and will expand post-mastectomy breast reconstruction patients' access to modern and innovative procedures, products, and therapies to support their return to a healthy normal.

In 2020 alone, almost 280,000 new instances of breast cancer were estimated to have been diagnosed, and anticipated deaths from breast cancer were over 42,000. However, the breast cancer survival rate has steadily increased faster than the rate of new diagnoses, which is believed to be related to

new treatments and procedures, such as early detection screening.

My legislation builds on past advancements and successes to heal the whole patient following a medically-necessary mastectomy. Deciding to receive a mastectomy is undoubtedly an emotional decision in an impossible situation. In order to alleviate the toll this decision has on breast cancer patients, breast reconstruction is an option for them to build a sense of well-being and confidence as well as regain a sense of wholeness.

More patients are opting for breast reconstruction, with over 107,000 in 2019, a 36 percent growth since 2000. Unfortunately, many patients face a complex landscape of what exactly a breast reconstruction entails, and laws and policies intended to provide healthcare coverage for this procedure are antiquated and do not account for advances in this area.

My legislation will establish a more uniform and comprehensive breast reconstruction process that can be tailored to fit each patient's needs. Medicaid and Medicare beneficiaries will be guaranteed access to post-mastectomy reconstruction under the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act and by expanding coverage to include nipple-areola complex tattoos for those who elect to undergo this procedure. The goal is to expand access to scientifically proven healthcare that increase patient well-being and satisfaction with their results.

Madam Speaker, breast reconstruction and the nipple-areola complex tattoo are not about cosmetic change. They are about holistic outcomes and choice in what the patient and provider decide is best physically, emotionally, and mentally to attain the ideal outcome and long-term health.

I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this long-overdue legislation.

AMERICAN FOOD FOR AMERICAN SCHOOLS ACT OF 2021

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 25, 2021

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I reintroduce the ''American Food for American Schools Act,'' which I have sponsored since the 114th Congress. I want to thank Representatives KAPTUR (D–OH), FORTENBERRY (R–NE), RYAN (D–OH), LAMALFA (R–CA), CARBAJAL (D–CA), YOUNG (R–AK), and KILMER (D–WA) for their support as original cosponsors.

Our ''American Food for American Schools Act'' would strengthen enforcement of the existing ''Buy American'' requirements under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) school breakfast, special milk, and national school lunch programs. This will ensure that school districts use federal taxpayer dollars to purchase domestically sourced food products for all in-school meals and afterschool snacks. Our bipartisan bill would also increase public transparency by allowing parents to know from where the food served to their children in school comes.

Even in California's Central Valley, which includes many of the most productive agricultural communities in the nation, school districts continue to misuse taxpayer dollars to buy imported foods, unnecessarily, without informing parents. In numerous cases, these same imported foods have been recalled due to safety concerns and outbreaks of food borne diseases. This is especially troubling as those same foods could have been sourced locally in the first place as required by federal law.

Under our bill, school districts would be required to obtain a written waiver from USDA to use federal taxpayer dollars to purchase foreign-sourced food products. Any such waivers would only be granted by USDA if the domestically produced food was cost prohibitive or simply unavailable. Our bill would also require that school districts notify parents of all foreign-sourced foods served to students, by posting any such waivers obtained from USDA on the school's website. This would increase public transparency and provide American farmers the opportunity to seek out school districts in need of affordable, domestically grown foods. Our nation's schoolchildren should be served nutritious, American-grown foods produced under the strictest food safety standards in the world, as required by federal law. That is exactly what our bill would accomplish.

In the 115th Congress, we included a ''Buy American'' enforcement provision for the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Program in the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–334), commonly known as the 2018 Farm Bill. This was a first step in addressing this critical issue for American farmers and parents with school-age children. Now, Congress needs to finish the job by passing our ''American Food for American Schools Act'' into law.

Madam Speaker, I hope all members of the House will join us in cosponsoring the ''American Food for American Schools Act of 2021.'' I look forward to working with the Committee on Education and Labor to ensure that our bipartisan bill is included in any future Child Nutrition Reauthorization legislation.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF SGT. MAJ. JERRY BELL

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 25, 2021

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Sergeant Major Jerry Bell, a decorated veteran of the United States Army, who sadly passed away Sunday, January 10, 2021.

Jerry Lynn Bell was born May 2, 1943 to parents William Ernest and Mary Adeline (Johnson) Bell in Leon County, Texas. Jerry Bell's entire life has been defined by bravery and selfless service. At the age of 17, he enlisted in the U.S. Army. During his time in the military, he rose to the rank of Sergeant Major and proved himself to be a true American hero, receiving the Purple Heart, the Distinguished Flying Cross, three Air Medals for valor, two Bronze Stars for valor, and an Army Commendation Medal for valor during his service in the Vietnam War as a tanker and helicopter gunner. His nephew, Texas State Representative Cecil Bell Jr., describes Sgt. Maj. Bell as a ''true warrior who fought with valor and distinction.''

While his military service took him from Alaska to Germany, Sgt. Maj. Bell could not help but return to his home of Leon County. After returning to Texas, he worked for B–5 Construction, the U.S. Postal Service, and was the owner and operator of Bell Alley Gun Shop.

Sgt. Maj. Bell was a mainstay of the community. At his gun shop, he did what he loved most, selling guns and working as a gunsmith while sharing thoughts on conservatism, 2nd amendment rights, and religion. While Sgt. Maj. Bell leaves behind a military legacy to be heralded, it comes second to his legacy as a man who placed God first in his life, a man who loved his country and state, and a man who was a devoted husband, father, and great-grandfather. Sgt. Maj. Bell's favorite times were those spent with family at Bell family reunions and Christmas parties at his home in Leona. The Bell family shared their lives with each other and the entire community, making everyone feel like they were a part of this tight-knit family.

In the words of his nephew, Cecil Bell Jr., ''On January 10, 2021, as the cold rains fell in Leon County, Texas, the chopping sounds of an Army helicopter landing were heard as Jerry Bell, age 77, Sergeant Major, U.S. Army Retired, deployed to Heaven's shore.'' Sgt. Maj. is remembered by his loving wife, Alice Cothron Bell of Leona and a host of loving children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

I join the entire community in honoring Sgt. Maj. Bell for a lifetime of service both overseas and stateside. His service to our nation will never be forgotten.

IMPEACHMENT OF PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP

HON. CAROLYN BOURDEAUX

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 25, 2021

Ms. BOURDEAUX. Madam Speaker, I teach a class called Public Service and Democracy where often I point out that our democracy is not self-executing, it requires people of good faith and ethics to make it work.

Our President and those who enable him are not operating in good faith. I come from Georgia, one of the most contested states during this election cycle and I'm no stranger to fighting for voting rights or concerns about election results.

I've fought for years to protect our elections in Georgia and expand access to the ballot box—so I know a thing or two about free and fair elections.

Let's be clear: Georgia's elections were administered by Republicans who themselves voted for and campaigned for President Trump. So if there was fraud, I'm sure they would have found it. At the request of the President and his surrogates, Republicans have looked high and low for voter fraud and have found nothing.

Georgia officials, at significant cost to the taxpayers I might add, have counted the five million votes in Georgia three times, once by hand, and only found minor errors that would not change the outcome of the election.

They have audited 15,000 voter signatures and again only found the most trivial of problems, and nothing that would indicate voter fraud.

They have investigated every charge, every conspiracy with diligence and have come up with nothing.

The idea that Georgia's vote was illegitimate is a lie. There is no way around it.

But the President didn't like the results, so he tried to extort, bully, and threaten our Secretary of State to change the election results. Now, we actually have attempted election fraud—but from our President. And we have his conversation on tape.

When his plan to solicit fraud failed, the President then incited a violent mob on the basis of lies to come to the Capitol and try to disrupt the constitutionally required certification of the election. This was a mob with zip tie handcuffs, tactical military gear, and weapons. A mob that hung a noose on the mall for Vice President Mike Pence. Then as the Capitol Police made desperate pleas for the deployment of the national guard to help respond to the insurrection, their request was denied by the President.

A democracy requires people of good faith and ethics to make it work. I ask my colleagues to reject the lies and to support the article of impeachment against President Donald Trump.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, January 26, 2021 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JANUARY 27

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Jennifer Mulhern Granholm, of Michigan, to be Secretary of Energy.

SD–106

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider the nomination of Peter Paul Montgomery Buttigieg, of Indiana, to be Secretary of Transportation.

SR–325

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Linda Thomas-Greenfield, of Louisiana, to be the Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, with the rank and status of the Ambassador, and the Representative of the United States of America in the Security Council of the United Nations, and to be Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations.

SD–G50/VTC

2 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SVC–217

3 p.m.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Organizational business meeting to consider committee rules and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee for the 117th Congress; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nomination of Denis Richard McDonough, of Maryland, to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

SD–106

JANUARY 28

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Marcia Louise Fudge, of Ohio, to be Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and Cecilia Elena Rouse, of New Jersey, to be Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers.

WEBEX

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

See Interim Résumé of Congressional Activity.

Senate confirmed the nomination of Janet Louise Yellen, of California, to be Secretary of the Treasury.

Senate received the House managers to exhibit the Article of Impeachment.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S113–S131

Measures Introduced: Six bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 36–41, and S. Res. 15. **Page S130**

Measures Passed:

Authorizing Photograph in the Senate Chamber: Senate agreed to S. Res. 15, authorizing the taking of a photograph in the Chamber of the United States Senate. **Page S125**

Impeachment of Former President Trump: Senate proceeded to the consideration of the Article of Impeachment against Donald John Trump, former President of the United States, taking the following actions: **Pages S124–25**

Receiving the House Managers: The Senate received the managers appointed by the House of Representatives who presented and exhibited Article of Impeachment against Donald John Trump, former President of the United States. **Pages S124–25**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding Rule III of the Senate Rules of Impeachment, at 2:30 p.m., on Tuesday, January 26, 2021, Senate continue consideration of the Article of Impeachment of Donald John Trump, former President of the United States. **Page S125**

Blinken Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that upon the conclusion of morning business on Tuesday, January 26, 2021, Senate begin consideration of the nomination of Antony John Blinken, of New York, to be Secretary of State; that the time until 12 noon be divided equally between the two Leaders or their designees, with Senator Menendez permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes; and that at 12 noon, Senate vote without intervening action or debate on confirmation of the nomination. **Page S131**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 84 yeas to 15 nays (Vote No. EX. 6), Janet Louise Yellen, of California, to be Secretary of the Treasury. **Pages S115–22**

Messages from the House: **Pages S129–30**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S130**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S130**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Page S130**

Additional Statements: **Pages S128–29**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S130–31**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—6) **Page S122**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 8:06 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, January 26, 2021. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S131.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Antony John Blinken, of New York, to be Secretary of State.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 47 public bills, H.R. 44609492; 3 private bills, H.R. 49309495; and 5 resolutions, H.J. Res. 180919; H. Con. Res. 8; and H. Res. 55, 61, were introduced.

Pages H230–32

Additional Cosponsors: Page H234

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appear on page H229.

Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no Yea and Nay votes, and there were no Recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 1:30 p.m. and adjourned at 1:36 p.m.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2021

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Gina Marie Raimondo, of Rhode Island, to be Secretary of Commerce, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: business meeting to consider the nomination of Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, of the District of Columbia, to be Secretary of Homeland Security, 11 a.m., SD–342.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Interim Résumé of Congressional Activity

SECOND SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

The first table gives a comprehensive résumé of all legislative business transacted by the Senate and House. The second table accounts for all nominations submitted to the Senate by the President for Senate confirmation.

DATA ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

January 3, 2020 through January 3, 2021

	Senate	*House*	*Total*
Days in session	192	163	..
Time in session	963 hrs., 52′	565 hrs., 26′	..
Congressional Record:			
Pages of proceedings	8,017	9,184	..
Extensions of Remarks	..	1,224	..
Public bills enacted into law	88	90	..
Private bills enacted into law	..	..	..
Bills in conference	..	..	..
Measures passed, total	510	559	1,069
Senate bills	155	91	..
House bills	143	351	..
Senate joint resolutions	5	4	..
House joint resolutions	6	8	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	6	5	..
House concurrent resolutions	9	11	..
Simple resolutions	186	89	..
Measures reported, total	* 196	324	520
Senate bills	160	3	..
House bills	25	289	..
Senate joint resolutions	..	..	..
House joint resolutions	..	1	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	..	..	..
House concurrent resolutions	..	2	..
Simple resolutions	11	29	..
Special reports	6	31	..
Conference reports	1	1	..
Measures pending on calendar	401	145	..
Measures introduced, total	2,325	4,108	6,433
Bills	1,938	3,535	..
Joint resolutions	20	29	..
Concurrent resolutions	21	46	..
Simple resolutions	346	498	..
Quorum calls	5	1	..
Yea-and-nay votes	292	218	..
Recorded votes	..	34	..
Bills vetoed	2	2	..
Vetoes overridden	1	1	..

* These figures include all measures reported, even if there was no accompanying report. A total of 147 written reports have been filed in the Senate, 356 reports have been filed in the House.

DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

January 3, 2020 through January 3, 2021

Civilian nominees, totaling 373 (including 87 nominees carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	172
Unconfirmed	0
Withdrawn	19
Returned to White House	182
Other Civilian nominees, totaling 1,860 (including 1 nominees carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	1,857
Returned to White House	3
Air Force nominees, totaling 5,669, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	5,654
Returned to White House	15
Army nominees, totaling 6,389 (including 3 nominees carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	6,381
Withdrawn	2
Returned to White House	6
Navy nominees, totaling 4,682 (including 2 nominees carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	4,680
Returned to White House	2
Marine Corps nominees, totaling 2,258, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	2,157
Returned to White House	101
Space Force nominees, totaling 716, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	716

Summary

Total nominees carried over from the First Session	3
Total nominees received this Session	21,854
Total confirmed	21,617
Total unconfirmed	0
Total withdrawn	21
Total returned to the White House	309

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, January 26

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will begin consideration of the nomination of Antony John Blinken, of New York, to be Secretary of State, with a vote on confirmation thereon at 12 noon.

At 2:15 p.m., there will be a live quorum. Senators are asked to report to the floor at that time. At 2:30 p.m., Senate will proceed to the consideration of the Article of Impeachment against Donald John Trump, former President of the United States. At this time, the oath will be administered to the Presiding Officer and Members of the Senate. An official photograph will be taken during the swearing in.

(Following the remarks of Senator Paul after the confirmation vote, Senate will recess until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Thursday, January 28

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 9 a.m.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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