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

PRAYER

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

Eternal God, today, as we celebrate the 117th Congress, we come forward and lead the House in 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.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina 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.

In the face of the enormity of these figures, we come to You this day at a loss for words, few answers, and in some cases no hope.

Speak to us, O infinite Lord. How precious are Your thoughts, how vast is Your understanding.

Cover us with Your eternity. May we kenhearted and bind up their wounds.

In Your attention to us, You have feared, and is hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Ms. Tenney (to rank immediately after Mr. Meuser).
Committee on Small Business: Ms. Tenney (to rank immediately after Mr. Meuser).

The resolution was agreed to. A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

EDUCATORS OWED BASIC PUBLIC HEALTH PROTECTION

(Ms. BOURDEAUX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)
Ms. BOURDEAUX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, as we celebrate Public Schools Week, to talk about the urgent need to protect our teachers, educational support staff, all of their families, and the community at large in our schools.

While the national debate has centered around schools that are closed, in many States, such as Georgia, school districts with high COVID transmission rates are back to in-person teaching, but often without basic safety standards in place, such as requiring students to wear masks on school property.

Teachers and staff in Georgia do not enjoy the protection of strong teacher unions, and the State has exempted schools from liability around COVID. A teacher recognized for excellence in Forsyth County, in my district, chose to quit her job.

She wrote me, saying: Fortunately, my family earns enough money for me not to return to teach, but there are some others who don’t have this blessing and are forced into dangerous circumstances. They can’t speak up. They know their employment would be on the line if they did. So unless others like me speak up and out, this mess will continue.

Mr. Speaker, I join this teacher in speaking out. We owe our educators the courtesy of basic public health protection. We owe them prioritization in receiving the vaccine.

PARIS ACCORD DESTROYS JOBS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)
Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, it has been estimated the Paris Accord adopted by President Joe Biden will destroy 2.7 million American jobs.

The Washington Examiner, on January 26, exposes more dangers to American families:

"President Biden’s decision to rejoin the Paris climate accord immediately delivered... a gift to China."
“It commits the United States . . . that will entangle American businesses and jobs in new lengths of red tape, and will also probably increase electricity prices.”

“China, which emits twice as much carbon each year as we do, has given the rest of the world nothing but empty promises.”

“Biden is giving away the store for nothing . . . he should demand external verification of emissions data.”

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

I appreciate President Biden last night recognizing the lives lost by the Wuhan virus, joining President Trump last year, who took the first action to ban travel from China.

UNRELATED COVID RELIEF BILL

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

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I have been reading the COVID “unrelated” relief bill. At least when President Trump was borrowing money to keep the economy from crashing, he was creating jobs, making America energy independent—lowering gasoline and fuel prices for every American family—lowering unemployment, protecting our borders, rebuilding our military, and so on.

Now, however, with the assistance of this Chamber, this administration is doing just the opposite. It sounds like something right from the pages of Saul Alinsky’s book, “Rules for Radicals,” how malcontents propose to destroy America.

This COVID “unrelated” relief bill is more about keeping America closed and funding liberal policies than getting past this virus, and it is outrageous.

RECOGNIZING LUKA GARZA

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of someone in my district who is not as vertically challenged as I am.

This past weekend, University of Iowa men’s basketball player Luka Garza broke the University of Iowa’s all-time scoring record in basketball. The new record of 2,126 points put Luka ahead of the late Roy Marble, who held the previous record of 2,116 points for over 30 years.

A native of the D.C. area, Luka was a star player for the Maret School, leading the Frogs to a city championship while being named Gatorade D.C. Player of the Year and setting the school points record.

Luka has been a dominant player in college basketball since his first game as a University of Iowa Hawkeye against Chicago State. Since then, he has gone on to win numerous conference and national awards, including Big Ten Player of Year and the Sporting News Player of the Year last season.

As a former faculty member at the university, I was thrilled when Luka decided to return to Iowa City for his senior season instead of heading to the NBA draft. With four regular season games, the Big Ten Tournament, and March Madness left, I have no doubt that Luka will continue to break his own record and make Iowa proud and the best place to live, work, play, and raise a family.

PRESERVING OUR CIVIL RIGHTS

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

Mrs. GREENE. Mr. Speaker, as we convene this week, I would like to ask all of my fellow colleagues and Members of the 117th Congress to reflect on the words right there on the wall: In God We Trust.

God created us male and female. In His image, He created us. The Equality Act that we are to vote on this week destroys God’s creation. It also completely annihilates women’s rights and religious freedoms.

It can be handled completely differently to stop discrimination without destroying women’s rights, little girls’ rights in sports, and religious freedoms violating everything that we hold dear in God’s creation.

As we are reflecting on the 500,000 people who have died from COVID–19, I would like to remind everyone that over 62 million people have been murdered in the womb in our country and that our tax dollars many times have funded it. This is an evil that should not exist in our land, and I ask all Members of Congress to stop this evil now.

HONORING SHARON SANDERS

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

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Sharon Sanders, one of Charlotte’s most prominent philanthropists and the founder of Kids First, the organization was able to expand outreach, providing for more than 2,000 children every Christmas and raising about $80,000 a year.

Even as she endured treatment for cancer, Sharon remained devoted to Kids First. Despite her hospitalization, she was overjoyed that they were, once again, able to help over 1,000 families during the holidays past.

Mr. Speaker, the Charlotte community will miss Sharon greatly. It is a privilege to honor her memory today.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o’clock and 11 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

RECOGNIZING LUKA GARZA

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.
Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues here in the House in consideration of H.R. 264 to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1101 Charlotte Street in Georgetown, South Carolina, as the Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office Building.

Joseph Rainey was the first African-American Member of the United States House of Representatives and one of 14 Black Representatives elected before the end of Reconstruction in 1877.

In 1886, he returned to Georgetown where he became the county’s Republican Party Chairman. Just a few years later, in 1870, he was elected to the United States Congress where he served until 1879, making him the longest-serving African-American Member of Congress in the 19th century.

Following his time in Congress, Rainey was appointed as a Federal agent of the U.S. Treasury Department. He returned to South Carolina in 1886 and, unfortunately, passed away the following year in Georgetown.

Representative Joe Rainey fought tirelessly for civil rights, education, and economic opportunity for all people. He left behind a legacy that will never be forgotten. So, at the very least, the Postal Office in his honor will continually help all of us to remember the contributions of this remarkable trailblazer.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RICE. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. RICE) for his remarks.

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the First District of South Carolina for her remarks.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 264.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will suspend. Will the gentleman put on his mask, please.

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Oh, I thought you could take it off when you are speaking. I am sorry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman may continue.

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 264, to rename the Post Office in Georgetown, South Carolina, the Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office.

A man, a trailblazer of many firsts, a civil rights pioneer, an American hero that I had never heard of before I got to Congress; I first learned of him because his portrait hangs on the wall in the halls of the House of Representatives.

Joseph Rainey was the first African-American Member of the United States House of Representatives. Rainey was born into slavery in Georgetown in 1832. His father was a slave, but also a barber, and used his earnings to buy freedom for himself and his family, including Joseph.

Following the Civil War, Joseph Rainey was conscripted into the Confederate Army, but he escaped to Bermuda with his family and built a prosperous business as a barber.

In 1866, he returned to Georgetown, where he became the county’s Republican Party Chairman. In 1870, he was elected to the United States Congress, where he served until 1879. Think about that for a moment. The first African American to serve in the United States Congress was a former slave and a Republican from Georgetown, South Carolina.

His tenure in Congress was distinguished by its advancement of civil rights, equality, and opportunity for all. He fought against violence and intimidation toward African Americans. In 1878, as Reconstruction was ending, he was defeated in his last race for Congress. He was one of 14 Black Representatives elected before the end of Reconstruction in 1877. He was the longest-serving African-American Member of Congress, a record which stood until the 1950s.

Following his time in Congress, Rainey was appointed as a Federal agent of the United States Treasury Department for the Internal Revenue Service in South Carolina.

In 1886, he returned to South Carolina for good and passed away the following year in Georgetown. Rainey fought tirelessly for equal rights, education, and economic opportunity for all. He left behind a legacy that has improved the lives of generations, not just in South Carolina, but across the country.

Representative Rainey’s house still stands in historic Georgetown. It is located at 921 Prince Street. It was designated a national historic landmark in 1964, and it provides an opportunity to visit just last year. The next time you are close by, stroll by the modest home in downtown Georgetown and pause for a moment to marvel at the life of an American hero; a man born a slave, a successful entrepreneur, escaped conscription in the Civil War, and served as a Representative in the United States Congress. What a remarkable life.

It was a privilege to introduce this bill that honors a true American patriot like Mr. Rainey. All South Carolinians, all Americans, can look up to Joseph Rainey as a trailblazer of civil rights.

I would like to thank Lorna Rainey, the great-granddaughter of Joseph Rainey, for her support in this effort.

I also want to thank Representative Clyburn and Representative Mace, who helped move this through committee and bring it to the floor, along with the whole South Carolina House delegation for their cosponsorship of this bill.

This is a much-deserved honor for an accomplished American patriot from South Carolina, Joseph Rainey. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD).

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, when I was first elected to Congress, I visited Congressman Clyburn’s office seeking his assistance with committee assignments. While there, I noticed the pictures of eight former South Carolina Congressmen, all African American, hanging prominently in his outer office.

Among those was Joseph Rainey, the first African American elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. I was unaware of Mr. Rainey, and so I became curious about this man.

Joseph Rainey was born on June 21, 1832, in Georgetown, South Carolina, a community heavily dominated with slaves.

As the years went on, Joseph Rainey’s father was permitted by his master to work independently and save a little money. Using his accumulated funds, Edward Rainey purchased freedom for little Joseph and his family.

When President Lincoln was elected in 1860, 11 States seceded from the Union; South Carolina was the first. A civil war erupts.

Joseph Rainey, now 28 years of age, was conscripted, or drafted, to work on fortifications in Charleston. This was unacceptable to Joseph, and so, with his family, he escaped to St. George, Bermuda.

Madam Speaker, St. George is a small parish on the island of Bermuda. While there, Rainey undoubtedly became acquainted with my grandfather, James Peter Butterfield, born 1853, who lived his entire life in St. George.

On December 6, 1865, the 13th Amendment was added to the Constitution, ending slavery in America. 400,000 slaves in South Carolina are free: 37,000 in Charleston, 32,000 in Beaufort, 18,000 in Georgetown.

The same year, the Civil War ends. South Carolina desires to be readmitted to the Union. As a condition, South Carolina was required to adopt a Constitution that repudiated secession, acknowledged the end of slavery and repudiated debts that the State and its White citizens had incurred.

The South Carolina Constitutional Convention convened on January 14, 1868. A very prominent delegate to the convention was Joseph H. Rainey. The convention’s minutes, Madam Speaker, reflect that Rainey advocated for free public education for all South Carolina citizens. He advocated for relieving White landowners of their insurmountable debts that had accumulated during the war.

The convention was successful; a new constitution was adopted, and on July
9, 1868, South Carolina was readmitted to the Union. Joseph Rainey was recognized for his brilliance during the convention.

The following year, 1869, Congress passed the 15th Amendment granting the former slaves the right to vote and hold office. On February 3, 1870, the 15th Amendment was finally ratified by the States.

Joseph Rainey seized the opportunity; ran for Congress in the First District. Elected on December 12, 1870, Congressman Rainey remained a Member of this body until after President Rutherford B. Hayes ended Reconstruction, which gave rise to violence against African Americans.

Though Rainey was reelected in 1876, he did not seek office again, making him the longest-serving African-American Congressman during Reconstruction.

Madam Speaker, this is a remarkable story. I appreciate Mr. RICE, and Mr. CLYBURN, and the entire South Carolina delegation for offering this legislation to name the Post Office located at 1101 Charlotte Street in Georgetown as the Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office Building.

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers and I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to review and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 264.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN), the distinguished whip of the House of Representatives.

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 264, which will designate the post office located on Charlotte Street in Georgetown, South Carolina, as the Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office Building.

I am proud to join with the bill’s lead sponsor, Congressman Tom Rice, and the other Members of the South Carolina congressional delegation in cosponsoring this important legislation.

This action builds on our efforts in the last Congress to honor the life and legacy of Joseph Rainey by naming H-156, the former House Committee on Indian Affairs room in the Capitol, in his honor.

These are just two of the long-overdue actions needed to amplify the historical significance of the first African American to serve in the United States House of Representatives.

Congressman Rainey was a trailblazer whose story and place in history have been overlooked. As a former history teacher who believes knowing our history is instructive so that we don’t repeat the mistakes of our past, I would like to share with you my fellow South Carolinian’s legacy.

Joseph Rainey, as you heard, was born enslaved in Georgetown, South Carolina. His father was able to buy his family’s freedom with earnings he made as a barber. As a freeman living in Charleston, Rainey was conscripted by the Confederacy in 1862. Rather than fighting to preserve slavery, Rainey fled to Bermuda, where he worked as a barber until the end of the war.

Rainey returned to South Carolina after the Civil War and served, as you heard, as a delegate to the 1869 South Carolina Constitutional Convention. He was elected to the State senate in 1870. Later that year, he was elected to Congress in a special election and was sworn into Congress on December 12, 150 years ago, becoming the first Black to serve in the House of Representatives.

He was the first of several African-American Members of this body during Reconstruction, when the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments were enforced, however imperfectly, by the power of the Federal Government.

But Reconstruction was short-lived. Jim Crow laws and white supremacists dismantled multiracial democracy with voter suppression, nullifications, and violence. Federal troops were withdrawn from the South following widespread white supremacist violence during the 1876 election and the subsequent election of Rutherford B. Hayes as President.

Joseph Rainey spoke out against the removal of Federal protection of voting rights, but in 1878, he lost reelection to former Confederate officer John Smythe Richardson in a district that was, like South Carolina, majority Black.

Severe gerrymandering reduced the number of Black South Carolinians in Congress to one in the 1890s. When George Washington Murray lost his bid for reelection in 1897, South Carolina’s representation in Congress was again all White and remained all White for the next 95 years.

Segregation and Black disenfranchisement were the law of the land until the 1960s. But thanks to the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and its 1962 amendments, I was elected to this august body in 1992.

Today, Congress is still grappling with racial issues, voter suppression, and, as we witnessed last month, domestic terrorism.

It is fitting and proper that we are taking this step as we are celebrating Black History Month. I believe we would do well to learn some of the lessons of American history through Joseph Rainey’s experiences and I hope today’s actions will help illuminate his story and cause us all to reflect on his legacy. We must not allow the progress we have made toward racial equity since the 1960s to retrogress, as it did after the 1860s.

To truly honor the contributions of Joseph Rainey and all African Americans, we must build on this progress by working together to address our country’s longstanding racial inequities and fulfill the promise of liberty and justice for all.

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers and am prepared to close.

It is a real honor to be here today, and the distinguished whip is correct that this is long overdue, to recognize Joseph Rainey and his accomplishments.

He fought tirelessly for civil rights and education and opportunity. He fought for freedom for every working American in this country. To be here today in Black History Month to recognize his legacy and his legend, he will not be forgotten, and we ensure that today.

I hope that future generations of South Carolinians and Americans across the country can be inspired by his courageous leadership here in this House. I urge my colleagues to support this bill today.

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

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I want to make sure that I mention my appreciation to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) for the way they succinctly captured a great swath of American history over the period of time that followed Lincoln’s signing of the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863 all the way up to the beginning of the Black Codes and the fall of Reconstruction, an era that held great hope for this country but did not come to pass and really was not evidenced until many, many decades later, as Mr. CLYBURN pointed out.

I am happy and honored to bring this measure forward. I want to thank the gentlewoman from South Carolina for all of her efforts and the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. RICE) for their work advancing this.

Madam Speaker, I strongly urge the passage of H.R. 264. I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I move that the motion to reconsider be laid on the table.

JIM RAMSTAD POST OFFICE

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 772) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 229 Minnetonka Avenue South Minneapolis, Minnesota, as the Jim Ramstad Post Office.
Congressional Record — House


Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The Speaker pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME) for his leadership on this effort, for his leadership in the House, and for reminding me, especially, that the post office will reside in Wayzata, appropriately.

Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers on this side. I urge passage of this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Speaker pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill. H.R. 772.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 772) was agreed to by the yeas and nays: Yea—339; Nay—17;

The Speaker pro tempore. The motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JOSE HERNANDEZ POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 813) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1050 Sunset Road Southwest in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as the "José Hernandez Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 813

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

SECTION 1. JOSE HERNANDEZ POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1050 Sunset Road Southwest in Albuquerque, New Mexico, is hereby designated as the "José Hernandez Post Office Building".

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.
Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 813, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service at 1050 Sunset Road Southwest in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as the Jose Hernandez Post Office Building.

Jose Hernandez was born in 1971, in Arizona. He enlisted in the Army after graduating from Arizona State University in 1993 and was stationed in Germany. In 2003, he deployed to Iraq for 1 year. When he was discharged from the Army, Mr. Hernandez moved to New Mexico with his wife and continued his career in public service at the U.S. Postal Service.

New Mexicans on his mail route remember the days when they were in a rush and Mr. Hernandez would quickly go through his mailbag just to get them their mail before they had to rush to work. And they remember the slower days when he would join them for a short chat or simply sit for a moment to enjoy the weather.

In April of 2019, letter carrier Jose Hernandez was tragically killed while protecting a mother in an argument with her son. Mr. Hernandez intervened to try to peacefully end the dispute, but was, instead, shot and killed by the young man.

Mailboxes along his former route quickly became memorials, while his colleagues made their own memorial at his former post office. So naming a post office after this distinguished woman, I think is the very least that this body can do.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 813, a bill that would name an Albuquerque, New Mexico, post office after Jose Hernandez.

Mr. Hernandez enlisted in the Army after graduating from Arizona State University and was then stationed in Germany and deployed to Iraq in 2003. After his discharge from the Army, Jose Hernandez moved to New Mexico and began working at the U.S. Postal Service as a civil engineer and letter carrier.

In 2009, he was tragically killed while protecting a mother in a domestic dispute. He intervened to try to peacefully end the fight, but was shot by the woman's son. His hometown mourns this tragic loss.

I urge my colleagues today to support this legislation honoring a true American hero.

Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the distinguished gentleman from New Mexico (Ms. HAAKANSEN).

Ms. HAAKANSEN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jose Hernandez, a beloved letter carrier and local hero who was killed on the job trying to resolve an argument along his route.

Residents who live along his route remember Jose as the type of letter carrier who would go above and beyond the call of duty. His shocking death was devastating for our community, and more than a year later, we continue to mourn the loss.

To honor his legacy, I introduced a bill to rename his old workplace in his honor.

Jose Hernandez has served proudly in the Army. He has four beautiful children and a loving wife, Nikki. He served the Albuquerque area U.S. Postal Service for 12 years.

Our letter carriers and postal workers shouldn't have to worry about their safety when they go to work. Those who will see Jose's name on the Five Points Post Office will remember him as the hero that he was who went above and beyond his duty.

For these reasons and many more, I am thankful first for the entire New Mexico delegation for their support, and for Chairwoman Maloney's and Chairwoman Raskin's swift work to move my bill that will name the post office in 1050 Sunset Road Southwest in Albuquerque to the floor, and I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 813 honoring Mr. Hernandez.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers on this side. I thank the gentlewoman from New Mexico for being here as the Secretary-Designate of the Interior Department. This is a confirmation day. So to be at both places at the same time is very important, and I think it underscores her real heartfelt appreciation with respect to this legislation.

Having said that, I urge passage of H.R. 813, and I yield back the balance of my time.
On April 4, 1965, just a week before his 36th birthday, he was on a combat mission over North Vietnam to bomb the Thanh Hoa Bridge.

Smitty was successful in destroying the bridge, but his F-105 fighter plane was hit and he was forced to bail out over North Vietnam. He was captured immediately and spent the next 8 years as a prisoner of war in various prisons, where he was confined, mistreated, and tortured.

He is credited with introducing the tap code so that they could communicate surreptitiously between their cell walls.

During his distinguished Air Force career, Smitty earned two Silver Medals, three Legion of Merits, the Distinguished Flying Cross, two Bronze Stars for valor, two Purple Hearts, and two Air Medals as well.

Smitty retired from the Air Force in August of 1979, and entered directly into the University of Mississippi School of Law, graduating from the Mississippi bar in December of 1981. His post-Air Force employment included banking law and marketing. In October of 2012, Colonel Harris was awarded the Life-time Achievement Award from the Air Force Association.

Tupelo, Mississippi, is the home to Smitty and to Louise, their two daughters, and a son who was born in Okinawa shortly after Smitty was shot down. Their spouses, as well as others in their family, reside in Tupelo.

Madam Speaker, we are urging today an extra honor for Smitty Harris, a true American, by naming this postal facility after him.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 208, a bill to name a Mississippi post office for Colonel Carlyle “Smitty” Harris, my friend.

Madam Speaker, he served with one of our colleagues and friends here. Mr. Sam Johnson, and was in the Hanoi Hilton with him for much of the time they shared together. I have this long speech written, but I want to talk about who Carlyle Smitty Harris is.

He is Smitty to all his friends. You would never know that he was a lawyer; you would never know that he was a pilot; you would never know that he was a retired colonel. He is such a gentle- man and such a role model for our entire community. His family are key people in the Tupelo area.

Smitty was shot down and spent almost 8 years in the Hanoi Hilton. During that time, he had learned many, many years ago, from a sergeant, about a tap code they used to communicate in World War II. Being one of the first 10 or 12 prisoners in the Hanoi Hilton, they would separate them so that they couldn’t communicate. And Smitty taught this to all the other members when they came in so that they could communicate when they were separated and segregated as prisoners.

You would think that 8 years serving in the Hanoi Hilton that you would be bitter, that you would hate humanity, that when you were tortured, you would want to be tortured or be mean to other people. But Colonel Harris, Colo- nel Harris is a gentleman of all gentle- men. He took it, and now he uses his faith and all the strength that he gained from all those years being away from the people and the things that he loved, and he is not necessarily happy about it, but he is so content with his life, and he passes on the lessons that he learned.

I think back when I went to the govern- or’s mansion many years ago, and I had my—my oldest—7-year-old son. Smitty spent about 2 1/2 hours on the tour bus with my son talking to him about life, about what it meant to be a man.

Madam Speaker, there are not enough words to describe what Smitty Harris has done for this Nation. He is a true hero, just like our former colleague and friend, Sam Johnson, was. These guys gave their best to this Na- tion during the Vietnam war during their captivity, but he continues to give to his community even today. Mr. MFUME, Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I thank the distin- guished gentleman for his remarks, and I thank him for his service, as well. The distinguished gentleman also is a Major General of the Army National Guard Element, Joint Force in Missis- sippi. I don’t take that lightly. I ap- preciate all he has done, and I appre- ciate him calling the name of Sam Johnson, who I served with previously in this body.

Madam Speaker, I went to the Hanoi Hilton as a tourist and stood there in- piration looking at what he and Senator McCain, and so many others went through in that facility. I mean, it just brings you back to Earth. And some- times we take lightly the service. Sometimes, we take lightly the fact that some of our servicemen and women were captured. And sometimes, we take lightly the fact that war can happen at any time. And when it does happen, we hope that it will continue to always bring out the best in all of us.

Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to stand here and to give these remarks from our side of the aisle about Smitty. I talk about him as if I know him, but when I read about him, I feel like I do know him.

My thanks to the gentleman from Mississippi and the gentlewoman from South Carolina for leading this discussion on the other side.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the bal- ance of my time.

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close.

Madam Speaker, I urge my col- leagues today to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question was taken.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to read the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 546

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Rep- resentatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
This Act may be cited as the “Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act”.

SEC. 2. ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN INCARCERATED PERSON AND THE PERSON'S ATTORNEY.

(a) PROHIBITION ON MONITORING.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall establish or modify any program or system that exists on the date of enactment of this Act, through which an incarcerated person sends or receives an electronic communication, to exclude from monitoring the contents of any privileged electronic communication. In the case that the Attorney General establishes or modifies a program or system in accordance with this subsection, the Attorney General shall, upon implementing such system, discontinue using any program or system that exists on the date of enactment of this Act through which an incarcerated person sends or receives a privileged electronic communication, except that any program or system that may continue to be used for any other electronic communication.

(b) RETENTION OF CONTENTS.—A program or system established or modified under subsection (a) may allow for retention by the Bureau of Prisons of, and access by an incarcerated person to, the contents of privileged electronic communications, of the person until the date on which the person is released from prison.

(c) ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE.—Attorney-client privilege, and the protections and limitations associated with such privilege (including the crime fraud exception), applies to electronic communications sent or received through the program or system established or modified under subsection (a).

(d) ACCESSING RETAINED CONTENTS.—Contents retained under subsection (b) may only be accessed by a person other than the incarcerated person for whom such contents are retained under the following circumstances:

(1) ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The Attorney General may only access retained contents if necessary for the purpose of creating and maintaining the program or system, or any modification to the program or system, through which an incarcerated person sends or receives electronic communications. The Attorney General may not review retained contents that are accessed pursuant to this paragraph.

(2) INVESTIGATIVE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.—

(A) WARRANT.—(i) In general.—Retained contents may only be accessed by an investigative or law enforcement officer pursuant to a warrant issued by a court pursuant to the procedures described in the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

(ii) APPROVAL.—No application for a warrant may be made to a court without the express approval of a United States Attorney or an Assistant Attorney General.

(B) PRIVILEGED INFORMATION.—(i) Review.—Before retained contents may be accessed pursuant to a warrant obtained under subparagraph (A), such contents shall be reviewed by a United States Attorney to ensure that privileged electronic communications are not accessible.

(ii) BARRING PARTICIPATION.—A United States Attorney who reviews retained contents pursuant to clause (i) shall be barred from—

(I) sharing the retained contents with an attorney who is participating in such a legal proceeding; (II) sharing the retained contents with an attorney who is participating in such a legal proceeding.

(3) MOTION TO SUPPRESS.—In a case in which retained contents have been accessed in violation of this subsection, a court may suppress evidence obtained or derived from access to such contents upon motion of the defendant.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act—

(1) the term “agent of an attorney or legal representative” includes any person employed by or contracting with an attorney or legal representative, including law clerks, interns, investigators, paraprofessionals, and administrative staff;

(2) the term “contents” has the meaning given such term in section 2510 of title 18, United States Code;

(3) the term “electronic communication” has the meaning given such term in section 2510 of title 18, United States Code, and includes the Trust Fund Limited Inmate Computer System;

(4) the term “monitoring” means accessing the contents of an electronic communication at any time after such communication is sent;

(5) the term “incarcerated person” means any individual in the custody of the Bureau of Prisons or the United States Marshals Service who has been charged with or convicted of an offense against the United States, including such an individual who is imprisoned in a State institution; and

(6) the term “privileged electronic communication” means—

(A) any electronic communication between an incarcerated person and a potential, current, or former attorney or legal representative of such a person; and

(B) any electronic communication between an incarcerated person and the agent of an attorney or legal representative described in subparagraph (A).

(f) The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Gentlewoman from Texas. Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, the first thing I would like to do is thank our distinguished chair of the Democratic Caucus, Mr. DINGELL, for working with us and moving forward on this bill, along with the chairman of the full committee, Mr. NADLER.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 546, the Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act requires the Federal Bureau of Prisons to establish a system that ensures the confidentiality of all privileged electronic communications between incarcerated individuals and their attorneys or legal representatives.

H.R. 546 is identical to bipartisan legislation sponsored by Representative Hakeem Jeffries last Congress. Last September, the House approved this bill by vote voice. However, the Senate failed to take up the measure prior to adjournment. As we move forward today, I hope that the House will approve this bill with broad support, again, one that the Senate will take swift action and President Biden can sign this much-needed proposal into law.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 546 addresses important constitutional protections for criminal defendants, and all of these I support. The Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution provides the right to counsel, to assist in the defense of those accused of criminal offenses. In order to their clients in an effective manner, defense attorneys must have the ability to communicate candidly with their clients.

The attorney-client privilege, which keeps communications between individuals and their attorneys confidential, exists in part to foster open communications. This privilege is a fundamental component of the effective assistance of counsel guaranteed by the Constitution. Of course, this privilege does not protect communications between a client and an attorney made in furtherance of or in order to cover up a crime or fraud, also known as the crime-fraud exception. We understand that.

Outside of any custody setting, defendants are less constrained in their ability to have candid conversations with their attorneys. Generally, out-of-office defendants can go to their attorneys’ offices, speak with them freely on the phone, or send written or electronic correspondence without fear of interference or monitoring. To an extent, in-custody defendants also have these protections.

For example, in the Federal system, Bureau of Prisons’ regulations ensure that inmates can meet with their attorneys without auditory supervision. Certain regulations also require that confidential phone calls and letters between inmates and their attorneys. But these same protections do not apply to email communications for the nearly 132,000 individuals currently in Federal custody, including those in pretrial detention who have not been convicted of any crime.

I know that my colleagues can see that that is definitively a denial of the civil rights, civil liberties, and the constitutional justice rights that these individuals should have access to.

H.R. 546 would ensure that all communications between attorneys and their clients remain confidential, including emails.

Madam Speaker, over a decade ago, the Federal Bureau of Prisons recognized the growing importance of email, which is important in providing efficient and swift communications between inmates and individuals on the outside.

Since 2009, Bureau of Prisons’ inmates have been able to access emails...
through a system known as TRULINCs. However, TRULINCs requires inmates and their contacts to consent to monitoring of all communications, even email exchanges between inmates and their attorneys. That, I think we all understand, is unfair.

Madam Speaker, during the last decade, email has grown rapidly and is the primary means of communication between inmates and their attorneys. During the current pandemic, emails have become even more important given how difficult it is for attorneys to meet with their clients.

Without appropriate safeguards, the Bureau of Prisons risks severely hindering the effective representation of inmates by limiting attorney-client privilege for electronic communications. Therefore, H.R. 546 would require the Bureau to implement an adequate system to ensure that these attorney-client communications remain confidential. Again, institutional pro

H.R. 546 also includes additional protections, including the requirement of the contents of electronic communications when an inmate is released from prison, as well as authorizing the suppression of evidence obtained or derived from access to information that is in violation of the provisions set forth in the bill.

Madam Speaker, this is an important bill. Its time is now. I commend our colleague, Representative JEFFRIES, for his effort and leadership in developing this bipartisan legislation. This proposal has already received broad support by the House during the last Congress, and now we must act swiftly to see it enacted into law, moving to the United States Senate, and seeing the United States Senate act quickly for it to be signed by President Joe Biden.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join us in support of this bill today, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the Judiciary, Committee, I rise in strong support of H.R. 546, the bipartisan "Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act," reintroduced by Congressman JEFFRIES of New York, legislation that ensures that email communications between people in Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) custody and their legal teams are protected with the same privilege as legal visits, letters, and phone calls.

This legislation was reported out of the Judiciary Committee unanimously in the 116th Congress and was passed in the House twice—once as part of a COVID relief bill and later without objection on the House floor.

The principle of justice, fairness, and due process upon which our legal system is built necessitates confidentiality between the accused and their defense counsel.

Attorney-client privilege is one of the oldest privileges for confidential communications and has been an important part of the American legal system for hundreds of years.

This privilege is critical when clients are in custody, and the form of communication—whether it be in person, by letter, by telephone, or by email—should have no bearing on that protection.

Currently, individuals held in BOP facilities are uniformly denied the ability to have privileged communications with their lawyers through TRULINCs, the only email system available to them.

In order to use the BOP system, incarcerated individuals must sign a waiver acknowledging that their communications may be monitored.

Without signing the waiver, they cannot use the email system, cutting off any opportunity to communicate electronically.

The need for access to privileged email is long overdue, and it is more critical than ever today.

As the COVID pandemic has raged across the country and spread through detention facilities, BOP has restricted in-person visits, and monitored calls and legal mail are more difficult to use.

But incarcerated clients need to have access to their lawyers is undiminished, and in many instances is heightened by delays and fears brought on by the pandemic.

Email is the safest and most cost-effective means of communicating.

The Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act remedies many of these concerns by ensuring that incarcerated individuals are uniformly denied the ability to have access to the retained emails if the emails were accessed in violation of the crime-fraud exception, apply to electronic communications received through the BOP email system. The BOP will be allowed to retain electronic communications until the incarcerated person is released, but the bill specifies that the contents may only be accessed under very limited circumstances.

Finally, H.R. 546 allows a court to suppress evidence obtained or derived from access to the retained emails if the emails were accessed in violation of the act.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for H.R. 546, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES), the sponsor and author of this bill, the chairman of the Democratic Caucus.

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 546, the Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act.

This bill will modernize our criminal justice system by extending attorney-client privilege to electronic communications received through the Bureau of Prisons' email system.

This will ensure that incarcerated individuals can communicate with their attorneys efficiently and privately, as it should be.

Under the legislation, the Bureau of Prisons will be prohibited from monitoring privileged email communications between incarcerated individuals and that individual's attorney.

The attorney-client privilege is a vital component of our legal system that ensures a criminal defendant has an effective advocate in the courtroom.

Emails between incarcerated individuals and their attorneys should fall under the attorney-client protections, but currently, that is not the case.

This bill will protect the rights of incarcerated men and women to speak openly and honestly with their attorneys via email, without fear that the prosecution is monitoring those communications. Other forms of communication, such as in-person meetings and letters, can be particularly burdensome and time-consuming. Even if an attorney is near the incarcerated client, it can take hours to travel to a detention facility and visit with the client.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 546 requires the Attorney General to ensure that BOP's email system excludes the contents of electronic communications between an incarcerated person and his or her attorney from the current email monitoring process.

The bill stipulates that the protections and limitations associated with the attorney-client privilege, including the crime-fraud exception, apply to electronic communications received through the BOP email system.

The BOP will be allowed to retain electronic communications until the incarcerated person is released, but the bill specifies that the contents may only be accessed under very limited circumstances.

Finally, H.R. 546 allows a court to suppress evidence obtained or derived from access to the retained emails if the emails were accessed in violation of the act.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for H.R. 546, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Madam Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentlewoman, my good friend from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE), for yielding and for her tremendous leadership on so many different criminal justice issues, including with respect to this particular piece of legislation. I thank the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP) for his support as well.

I rise to support H.R. 546, the Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act, a critical bipartisan bill to protect the constitutional right to effective representation. This legislation passed the House last Congress, and I urge my colleagues to pass it once again today.

The Sixth Amendment to the Constitution provides that in all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall have the assistance of counsel for his or her defense. An attorney must be fully informed about the facts of the case in order to effectively represent a client.
and provide the best possible legal advice and guidance. That is why confidential communication between attorneys and their clients is so critical and why the attorney-client privilege must be protected.

In Lanza v. New York, the Supreme Court stated that even in a jail, or perhaps especially there, the relationships which the law has endowed with particularized confidentiality must continue to receive unceasing protection.

There are currently 124,000 individuals incarcerated in BOP custody, many of whom are in pretrial detention and have not been convicted of a crime. In our system, defendants, American citizens, who are innocent until proven guilty. Like any person involved in a criminal proceeding, these individuals who are incarcerated must be able to confidentially communicate with their attorneys.

The bipartisan Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act would enable incarcerated individuals to communicate with their legal representatives privately, safely, and efficiently by prohibiting the Bureau of Prisons from terminating any privileged electronic communications.

While BOP regulations do protect the confidentiality of in-person attorney visits, phone calls, and traditional mail, no such protections exist in the context of email communications sent through the BOP’s electronic mail system. This system, known as TRULINGOS, has become the easiest, fastest, and most efficient method of communication available to incarcerated individuals and their attorneys.

Let’s consider the alternatives. Even a brief client visit can take hours when you factor in travel and wait times. Confidential phone calls are perhaps useful, but they are subject to time limitations and can be difficult to schedule even for urgent legal matters. Postal mail must first be opened and inspected by staff for physical contraband, which can significantly extend the time it takes for the communication to reach an incarcerated individual.

These delays should be unnecessary in a prison system that permits electronic communications and would be available if the attorney-client privilege was consistently applied.

To address this serious problem, H.R. 546 would require the Attorney General to ensure that the BOP email system excludes from monitoring the contents of electronic communications between an incarcerated person and their attorney.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES) an additional 1 minute.

Mr. JEFFRIES. The BOP will be permitted to retain the contents of these messages until the incarcerated person is released, but they would be accessible only under limited circumstances. The bill is supported by a wide variety of groups, including the American Bar Association, ACLU, Americans for Prosperity, Dream Corps, Due Process Institute, National Action Network, Prison Fellowship, Right on Crime, Faith and Freedom Coalition, FAMM, Federal public and community defenders organizations, and so many others. I wanted to thank all the sponsors of this bill, most particularly Representatives VAN TAYLOR, JERRY NADLER, TOM MCCINTOCK, DON BACON, NANCY MACE, and SHELLA JACKSON LEE, as well as DAN CRENSHAW and DUSTY JOHNSON. This has truly been a bipartisan journey.

Our criminal justice system depends on the attorney-client privilege to ensure effective representation. I urge my colleagues to vote ‘yes’ on H.R. 546.

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield myself the balance of my time.

I wanted to say my compliments to the gentleman from New York in pursuit of this bill. He spoke a lot about the presumption of innocence and the right to counsel, among those sacred core rights that our Constitution guarantees to every individual in this country. This important bipartisan bill is that.

That is what we do in this Chamber. That is what this Congress should always do. So my compliments to the gentleman from New York and the co-sponsors on this piece of legislation. I encourage my fellow Members to support it.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time. Let me thank the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. Bishop) for his collegial response and his very important remarks on collaboration for important legislation like this.

Let me also thank the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. Nadler) for finding an Achilles’ heel that would really and continues to undermine the true sense of attorney-client privilege and to respect that privilege, whether you are in custody or not, and also recognizes the increasing utilization of the digital world to file briefs, to make arguments, and, of course, to find that divide between those in-custody inmates incarcerated and those that are not in custody. We are now moving to extensive virtual legal proceedings.

As we well know, individuals in custody are making a number of efforts to prove their innocence. They are appealing. They are seeking new trials. They, too, have rights that should be respected under both the Criminal Code and the Constitution.

So, again, I thank the gentleman for his thoughtfulness and all the bipartisan cosponsors that he has.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 546 would ensure that the attorney-client privilege, again, is safeguarded in all communications between criminal defendants and their attorneys. This bipartisan legislation addresses an issue that is essential to the fair administration of the criminal justice system.

During this ongoing pandemic, this measure has become even more urgent when there is even more reliance on electronic communications between attorneys and incarcerated individuals. For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bipartisan legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 546.

The question was taken.

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

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(c) of House Resolution 5, the yeas and nays are ordered.

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

PUERTO RICO RECOVERY ACCURACY IN DISCLOSURES ACT OF 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1192) to impose requirements on the payment to professional persons employed in voluntary cases commenced under title III of the Puerto Rico Oversight Management and Economic Stability Act (commonly known as “PROMESA”). The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1192

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021” or “PRADA”.

SEC. 2. DISCLOSURE BY PROFESSIONAL PERSONS SEEKING APPROVAL OF COMPENSATION UNDER SECTION 316 OR 317 OF PROMESA.

(a) REQUIRED DISCLOSURE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In a voluntary case commenced under section 304 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2164), no attorney, accountant, appraiser, auctioneer, agent, consultant, or other professional person may be compensated under section 316 or 317 of that Act (48 U.S.C. 2176, 2177) unless prior to making a request for compensation a professional person has submitted a verified statement of the identity of the debtor or the person intended to be compensated, the nature of the professional services rendered, the amount of compensation sought, and the amount of compensation previously paid and the reasons for any prior payment.

(b) REQUEST FOR PAYMENT.—In a voluntary case commenced under section 304 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2164), no attorney, accountant, appraiser, auctioneer, agent, consultant, or other professional person may be compensated under section 316 or 317 of that Act (48 U.S.C. 2176, 2177) unless prior to making a request for compensation a professional person has submitted a verified statement of the identity of the debtor or the person intended to be compensated, the nature of the professional services rendered, the amount of compensation sought, and the amount of compensation previously paid and the reasons for any prior payment.
(2) OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—A professional person that submits a statement under paragraph (1) shall—
(A) supplement the statement with any additional information that becomes known to the person; and
(B) file annually a notice confirming the accuracy of the statement.

(b) OBJECTION.—(1) IN GENERAL.—The United States Trustee shall review each verified statement submitted pursuant to subsection (a) and may file with the court comments on such verified statements before the professionals filing such statements seek compensation under section 316 or 317 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2176, 2177).

(2) OBJECTION.—The United States Trustee may object to compensation applications under section 316 or 317 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2176, 2177) that fail to satisfy the requirements of subsection (e).

(3) RIGHT TO BE HEARD.—Each person described in section 1109 of title 11, United States Code, may appear and be heard on any issue in a case under this section.

(c) JURISDICTION.—The district courts of the United States shall have jurisdiction of all cases under this section.

(d) Time for Statement.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—If a court has entered an order approving compensation under a case commenced under section 304 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2164), each professional person subject to the order shall file a verified statement in accordance with subsection (a) not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) NO DELAY.—A court may not delay any proceeding in connection with a case commenced under section 304 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2164) pending the filing of a verified statement under paragraph (1).

(e) LIMITATION ON COMPENSATION.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—In a voluntary case commenced under section 304 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2164), in connection with the review and approval of professional compensation under section 316 or 317 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2176, 2177), the court may deny allowance of such services and reimbursement of expenses, accruing after the date of the enactment of this Act of a professional person if the professional person—
(A) failed to file a statement of connections required by section 405(f) or has filed inadequate statements of connections;
(B) except as provided in paragraph (3), is on or is a disinterested person, or represented or held an interest adverse to, the disclosure requirement, was not a disinterested person, as defined in section 101 of title 11, United States Code; or
(C) except as provided in paragraph (3), represents, or holds an interest adverse to, the interest of the estate with respect to the matter on which such professional person is employed.

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In making a determination under paragraph (1), the court may take into consideration whether the services and expenses are in the best interests of creditors and the estate.

(3) COMMITTEE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS.—An attorney or accountant described in section 1109(b) of title 11, United States Code, shall be deemed to have violated paragraph (1) if the attorney or accountant violates section 1109(b) of title 11, United States Code.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to this rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.
I rise today in support of the Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act.

In 2016, Puerto Rico was experiencing significant financial pressures brought on by sizable debt and related obligations. In response to Puerto Rico’s financial crisis, Congress enacted the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act of 2016. The 2016 law established a bankruptcy mechanism for Puerto Rico to address its obligations.

Like the general bankruptcy law, the 2016 law enables bankruptcy professionals, like accountants, consultants, and lawyers, to apply for payment for their services upon court approval. But the 2016 law omitted disclosure requirements that apply to compensated professionals in proceedings under the general Bankruptcy Code, title 11 of the United States Code, pursuant to rule 2014(a) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure.

Moreover, the gap in the 2016 law created a potential for undislosed compensation terms and undisclosed conflicts of interest vis-a-vis parties of interest for professionals serving in Puerto Rico’s bankruptcy.

To address this concern, this bill applies the disclosure requirements of rule 2014(a) to professionals serving in connection with Puerto Rico’s bankruptcy and seeking compensation for those services.

The bill also requires oversight of the disclosures that bankruptcy professionals make.

This bill’s disclosure and oversight requirements increase the likelihood that conflicts of interest will be caught and timely addressed before compensation decisions are made.

Taken as a whole, this added transparency will benefit important interests, such as those of creditors and taxpayers—and ultimately, of Puerto Rico itself.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELAZQUEZ), the author of this legislation and also a champion, as all Members of the United States Congress know, during the very trying and difficult times of our friends in Puerto Rico. It is her voice that has been the most singularly powerful in their advocacy, along with her wonderful colleague, the distinguished representative, the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico.

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1192. I was proud to introduce this bill with bipartisan support in the House.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Speaker of the House NANCY PELOSI, Chair JENNY NADLER for bringing this legislation to the floor, and Mr. BISHOP, the ranking member of the subcommittee, and Senator BOB MENENDEZ for introducing a companion bill in the Senate.

The Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021, or PRRADA, eliminates a double standard currently facing Puerto Rico. Under U.S. Code and Federal bankruptcy rules, any conflicts of interest, or even the perception of such conflict, between those working on the bankruptcy and the debtor are required to be disclosed. However, a loophole in the current law prevents this from being extended to the people of Puerto Rico.

In 2016, Congress passed the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act, or PROMESA, to set up an orderly bankruptcy process to restructure its debt, stimulate economic development, and put the island on a path to financial recovery. This bill will extend current U.S. law, requiring disclosures of conflicts of interest to Puerto Rico, thereby improving transparency and restoring confidence in the island’s future.

Puerto Ricans should be confident that the board’s bankruptcy advisers do not have their thumb on the scale to favor certain creditors, but to have a self-interest. This bipartisan bill ensures integrity of the PROMESA process.

While we can have different opinions on how effectively the oversight board is carrying out its mission, one thing should be clear: The island’s residents should be entitled to the same rights and protections as any debtor on the mainland.

Once more, I would like to thank Chairman NADLER, the staff, and the bipartisan cosponsors of the bill. I strongly encourage all Members to vote “yes” on this critical piece of legislation. I also would like to recognize the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico (Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN), who is a co-sponsor of the bill.

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico (Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN).

Representative VELAZQUEZ and myself have proposed this bipartisan initiative in the last two Congresses, having achieved passage in the House during the last session. I think Congresswoman VELAZQUEZ is very thoughtful in terms of how important this is and the effects on PROMESA regarding this bill.

We support this bill as an important component in ensuring the restructuring process under PROMESA, and it looks out for Puerto Rico’s interests.

This legislation requires any counsel and professional personnel that the financial oversight board may hire to disclose in detail their connections to any entity involved in the issuance of Puerto Rico’s debt and in any claims involving Puerto Rico’s debt, informing the identity of each one. Anyone who is serving in the board—and I repeat, anyone serving in the board—working to inform its decisions, or representing it before the title III court, must have the trust of all parties that they are committed to defending the interests of Puerto Rico to the best of their ability in accordance to the law and justice.

A lack of transparency in personnel decisions creates a lack of confidence and distrust. Learning that someone was involved in the business of one of the parties in the case, only after they are named and working on the case, does not create assurance of their commitment to the best interests of Puerto Rico or even managing the debt.

Our goal must be to reach the day that we will no longer have provisions of PROMESA or the fiscal oversight board, and we can dedicate ourselves to rebuild our economy and provide for growth. But until that happens, we must demand that those instruments created by PROMESA be accountable and transparent in their processes. Anything else should be unacceptable.

That is the reason this bill, H.R. 1192, is important, and I ask my colleagues to support and pass this bill.

Madam Speaker, I say thank you to the Congresswoman from New York (Ms. VELAZQUEZ) for this bill and for allowing this initiative to be a bipartisan one.

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico, and I thank the gentlewomen from Texas and New York.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.
February 23, 2021

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE

Madam Speaker, let me indicate again, this is a very vital initiative to continue to help in Puerto Rico’s recovery. Let me thank the gentleman from New York for her leadership and, of course, the gentleman from Puerto Rico. This partnership and bipartisan collaboration with the House sponsors is very crucial as we continue to work as a Congress to do our job for the people of Puerto Rico.

H. R. 1192 closes a loophole under current law by establishing disclosure requirements regarding actual or potential conflicts of interest in the bankruptcy process under PROMESA. In doing so, this legislation promotes transparency and accountability in the Puerto Rico restructuring process.

Again, I thank my colleague, Ms. VELAZQUEZ from New York, the author of the bill, for her leadership on this issue, and Mr. NADLER and his work.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this commonsense measure. This, of course, along with the gentleman from Puerto Rico, is helping the people of Puerto Rico, our neighbors and our fellow Americans.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore.

The question is on the motion offered by Mr. BRUCE of New York, the author of section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were — yeas 406, nays 15, not voting 10, as follows:

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RECESS

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

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o’clock and 25 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR) at 6 o’clock and 31 minutes p.m.

COLONEL CARLYLE "SMITTY" HARRIS POST OFFICE

The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the order of the House pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR) at 6 o’clock and 31 minutes p.m.

Mr. CARLOTTA of Missouri moves the suspension of the rules and pass the bill.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by Mr. BRUCE of New York, the author of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as yeas 406, nays 15, not voting 10.

Mr. HARRIS POST OFFICE AFTERT RECESS

NAYS — 15

NATIONAL VOICE NOT VOTING — 10

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois moved the suspension of the rules and favor the motion of the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR).

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDS PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois changed his vote from "nay" to "aye.

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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the coronavirus: an unimaginable human toll in our modern era of medical and technological advances. These deaths are of staggering proportions and cause incomprehensible sadness, but we cannot think of them as the end of COVID–19. As we have learned, words like “Precious Lord, take my hand” and lead me on. We will together win the battle.

PENN STATE THON

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to give a big thank-you to Penn State students for their commitment to an incredible cause.

Each year, students spend countless hours raising awareness and money in the fight against pediatric cancer. Every February, their efforts culminate in a 24-hour dance marathon known as THON.

THON provides financial and emotional support to thousands of families across the Commonwealth who have a child battling pediatric cancer.

THON is normally a celebration of thousands in the Bryce Jordan Center on campus—an opportunity for children with cancer to focus on simply being a kid even just for the weekend.

Sadly, the pandemic forced this prestigious tradition online this year. However, despite a global pandemic, students still managed to raise $10.6 million this year.

Since 1973, Penn State students have raised more than $180 million. Those figures, combined with nearly 17,000 student volunteers, makes Penn State THON the largest student-run philanthropic effort in the world.

I am proud of the Penn State students who are so committed to this cause, and I am even more proud of the children and families who keep fighting.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH: HONORING COBB COUNTY SHERIFF CRAIG OWENS

(Mrs. McBATH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. McBATH. Madam Speaker, as we celebrate Black History Month, I rise today in honor of a trailblazer in our history.

Owens has served over 30 years in the American military, including 12 years in the Air Force and 18 years in the Army. He also has served over 30 years in the American military, including 12 years in the Air Force and 18 years in the Army. He is the first African American to be elected sheriff in Cobb County, in my district.

Born and raised in Atlanta, Sheriff Owens has served over 30 years in the Army, the National Guard, the Army Reserve, and Cobb County Police Department. His career has taught him that leadership is one of the most important lessons in life.

He has served as the county sheriff in Cobb County, and he serves as a mentor to young people in his community. His commitment to serving his community is evident in the way he leads his department and the way he leads his community. He is a true leader, and he is an inspiration to all of us.

The House has debated this Biden Administration reform bill for the past 15 years, and it is clear that this bill is an important step forward in addressing the issue of racial and ethnic disparities in healthcare.

As a member of the Black Male Nurses Association, I have seen firsthand the impact that healthcare disparities can have on communities of color. These disparities are not only a matter of access to care, but also a matter of life and death.

As we continue to work towards eliminating these disparities, I urge all of my colleagues to support this important legislation. It is not only the right thing to do, but it is also the responsible thing to do.

Additionally, it is important to acknowledge the contributions of Black nurses and healthcare professionals, who have played a vital role in addressing these disparities and improving healthcare outcomes for all Americans.

As we move forward, I urge all of my colleagues to continue to work towards eliminating healthcare disparities and ensuring that all Americans have access to quality care.

I thank you for your time, and I look forward to continuing this important work in the future.
Sheriff Owens leads by putting people first, and I am so proud of the work he is doing to unite Cobb County and instill faith and trust in its police department. As one of his constituents and as a partner in service to Cobb County, it is my honor and privilege to recognize Sheriff Owens today.

REMEMBERING TOM SEIPEL, JR.

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor Tom Seipel, Jr., who passed away on February 13.

Tom had a heart for enriching the lives of countless children, and it shined in all he did.

After graduating from Ohio State University, he moved to Seoul, South Korea, to teach English to kindergartners. Tom then returned to the U.S. to serve as a children’s minister in Kentucky for several years.

He later selflessly moved to Nicaragua, where he opened and operated a children’s ministry to provide meals and after-school tutoring for the poor children of Managua. While there, Tom also taught at Nicaragua Christian Academy.

In his final years before losing his hard-fought battle with cancer, he received treatment in Savannah, Georgia.

Tom’s legacy will surely live on for many years to come, and I am thankful for the positive impact he made on countless lives. My thoughts and prayers go out to all who knew and loved him, especially the love of his life, Margarita, and their daughter, Mia Isabella.

RECOGNIZING MACOMB AND OAKLAND COUNTY STUDENTS

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

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Macomb and Oakland County students who participated in my inaugural Ninth District MLK Jr. Day Youth Conference. These students brought their heart, talent, and idealistic selves to the table to zero in on what Dr. King’s life is really about: transforming society to be more just.

COVID-19 has exposed deep inequalities in every facet of life, especially for Black Americans, who are nearly two times as likely as White Americans to die of COVID-19. Imagine what we could do to end these disparities if we honor Dr. King by emulating his work.

Having watched these students sponge up lessons on the true premise of MLK Day—achieving social justice—and make plans to fight for change in their own lives and communities, I am energized and hopeful that we can boldly champion justice and equality in Congress. I can think of no better way of marking Black History Month than that.

RECOGNIZING PARRY MCCLUER HIGH SCHOOL BOYS’ BASKETBALL TEAM

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

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Parry McCluer High School boys’ basketball team that won the Virginia Class 1 State championship this weekend.

After trailing by 8 in the first quarter to Altavista, the Fighting Blues lived up to their name and battled back—leading by 2 at halftime. In the locker room, Coach Cartolaro told his team to go out and attack in the third quarter. And attack they did. Quickly outscoring 10–2, the Blues opened up their lead and never looked back. When the final buzzer sounded, Parry McCluer had pulled off a 17-point victory, securing the school’s best-ever boys’ basketball championship and closing the season with an impressive 12–1 record.

I applaud Coach Cartolaro and the entire team for their fortitude and perseverance these past few months. They overcame every obstacle presented to them and brought home the trophy to Buena Vista.

Congratulations to the Blues. This achievement is well-deserved and their community is proud of their hard work.

EQUAL JUSTICE UNDER LAW

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

Ms. TITUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Equality Act.

For far too long our Nation has failed to read and live up to the words that adorn the front of the United States Supreme Court: Equal Justice Under Law.

We now have a rare opportunity to explicitly push our Nation to live up to its founding ideals and make that phrase ring true for all Americans. No matter who you are or whom you love, under the Equality Act you will be guaranteed the exact same protections in most of it States, she could be disqualified from truly a humble heart to try to get a message out to what America was about, his love for this country, and a love for its ideals.

So I know that many will miss him, and I am glad to be honored to help touch on his legacy here tonight.

LIVING UP TO THE PRINCIPLES OF FREEDOM AND EQUITY

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

Ms. NEWMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the millions of Americans who continue to be denied housing, education, public services, and much, much more because they identify as members of the LGBTQ community; Americans like my own daughter who, years ago, bravely came out to her parents as transgender.

I knew from that day on, my daughter would be living in a nation where, in most of it States, she could be discriminated against merely because of who she is. And yet, it was still the happiest day of my life, because my daughter has found her authentic self.

And as any mother would, I swore that I would fight to ensure this country changes for the better. Without the Equality Act, this Nation will never live up to its principles of freedom and equality. The right time to pass this act was decades ago. The second best time is right now.

I am voting yes on the Equality Act for Evie Newman, my daughter, and the strongest, bravest person I know.
HONORING THE LIFE OF LUKE LETLOW

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

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, coming from Illinois, it is often a question I get here in this Chamber—have you have a pin of the State of Louisiana on your lapel? I have the pin on my lapel because there is a void, a void in this institution because one of our colleagues wasn’t able to get sworn in. Luke Letlow would have made a tremendous Member of this institution. And I want to thank my colleague, MIKE JOHNSON, and the entire Louisiana delegation, and what would have been his freshman class, for honoring him tonight in a Special Order.

Luke Luke, I was a district staffer for years, trying to make this House be a better place for every single American. I was looking forward to serving with him. Unfortunately, tragedy took his life, and we are without his service. My heart goes out to his wife, Julia, and their two kids, and the entire State of Louisiana, and this institution, for not having the opportunity to see the true leadership of Congressman Luke Letlow.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LUKE LETLOW

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. BOURDEAUX). Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JOHNSON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, our Special Order tonight is to honor a dear friend, one who would have been a colleague of ours here, and a great tragedy.

Congressman-elect Luke Joshua Letlow, from Start, Louisiana, passed away from complications due to COVID-19 on December 29, 2020. He had just been elected to Congress December 5, and he was only, as we know, weeks away from taking the oath of office and serving here with us.

He was 41 years old. He was in the prime of his life and, so far as any of us could tell, otherwise the picture of health and energy and excitement and positivity. He was excited to serve with us here, and it came as a terrible shock to all the people of Louisiana and to millions of people around this country.

Luke was known in Louisiana for having a servant’s heart. He had a peaceful nature about him. When he talked to a constituent, or a friend, or anyone, he made them feel they were the most important person in the world. He was one of those guys who loved the Lord and would have left a big mark here.

I have also been encouraged since his passing to know that my friend was guided by his faith in Christ. A good friend of ours told me shortly after his passing that Luke was chosen to be a closer to the Lord in his final days. In fact, he called this trusted prayer warrior to share briefly about an experience he had just a few nights before he passed away.

He was in the hospital, and Luke said he felt the certain presence of God and his peace. Luke Letlow knew the truth of Christ and the peace of his salvation, and we all have taken great comfort in that.

Luke leaves behind his devoted wife, Julia, and their two young children, Jeremiah and Jacqueline. He leaves his parents, Johnny and Dianne Letlow; his grandmother, Mary Taylor; his brothers, Paul and Matt, and their families; and a huge network of people who were like family to Luke and loved him as their own.

He was raised in Start, Louisiana, just east of Monroe. For the people who don’t know the geography, it is northeast Louisiana. Throughout his entire adult life, it was very clear how deeply he cared about the people of our State and those who live in the Fifth Congressional District, which is a sprawling 24 parishes, the largest by land area in our State.

He worked for Bobby Jindal during Jindal’s stint here in the U.S. House, and also later when Bobby was elected Louisiana’s Governor.

Luke also worked as chief of staff for his predecessor and our good friend, Dr. Ralph Abraham, who just retired and left the seat open.

Throughout Luke’s time in each of those positions, he made it a priority to work every day to benefit those that he served. He wanted to make life better for the people of his home State and, in those efforts, he worked closely with our farmers and the oil and gas industry and countless small businesses to ensure they were given every opportunity to succeed.

Judging from his accomplishments and a remarkable record of public service, there is no doubt at all that he would have made an outstanding Member of Congress.

Many people are aware now that there will be a special election in March, March 20, to fill that seat that he has left open, and we are delighted to tell you that his beloved bride, his widow, Dr. Julia Barnhill Letlow, will run for that seat, and we expect that she will be taking her place here shortly thereafter.

She is a native of Monroe, a dedicated mother, of course, and an education professional who has dedicated her life to promote and advocate for higher education, traditional family values, and our quality of life in Louisiana. We are excited to soon welcome her here to fill the giant void that our dear friend and brother, Luke, has left us.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. HIGGINS), another member of our delegation.

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, Congresswoman-elect Luke Letlow was called home far too soon. He was a friend and we were looking forward to working together here in the people’s House.

His passing was so sudden and unexpected that it caused many of us—it certainly caused me to reflect upon my life and to be renewed in my determination to serve the people and to become a better man every day, because that is the kind of spirit that Luke delivered to the world.

He was a charming and brilliant man with a beautiful smile, a wonderful spirit, a compassionate man, driven to serve.

I had the opportunity to break bread with Julia, Luke’s wife, last week, and I saw in speaking to her that Luke lives in the light in her eye, in her children, and everyone that Luke touched during the course of his life. So I am prayerful that this child of God’s presence will be felt, that Representative-elect Luke Letlow’s service will, indeed, be felt within this Chamber, if we can just take a moment to seek that guidance that he clearly pursued and listened to during the course of his life. He brought that to those that he worked with and the citizens that he served. So I thank my colleagues for arranging this Special Order tonight.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Louisiana for yielding.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today as the president of the 117th Congress Republican freshman class to express our profound sadness that we all share for the loss of our friend and colleague, Luke Letlow.

Luke was a great American who was committed to serving his country and the people of his home State of Louisiana. Sadly, Luke was taken from us way too early.

I would have actually had the chance to meet Luke. He was elected on December 5, which was the last day of the second week of New Member orientation.
But as the freshman class president, I felt it my duty to make sure that he felt included by texting him, connecting him with other members, and making sure that he had all of his needs met as he joined this 117th freshman class.

Our entire class looked forward to being sworn in together on January 3, and we were devastated by the news of his passing on December 29 of 2020. We all knew that Luke would have been a tremendous addition and someone who would have made a positive impact on this great Nation.

I join with all of my colleagues in sending our thoughts and support to Luke’s family, including his wife, Julia, son, Jeremiah, daughter, Jacqueline, and I am keeping them all in my prayers.

It is interesting to see In God We Trust above the Speaker’s chair because one thing I do know is that Luke trusted God.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her leadership of the freshman class and for those kind remarks.

I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER), another leader from that class.

Mr. PFLUGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of my friend, Luke Letlow.

Luke and I spoke many times as we both prepared to enter Congress, and we shared the privilege of both representing districts that are centered around a couple of very important things—agriculture and family. I looked forward to serving with him and working together to better the lives of our farmers and our ranchers across the country.

Luke led a life of public service to the good people in the great State of Louisiana from a young age, beginning as a young college graduate serving on the staff of Congressman John Cooksey, representing Florida’s Fifth District at that time.

He went on to serve the people in multiple capacities before launching a successful Congressional bid of his own. He was a man of faith in Jesus Christ, and he lived his life in accordance with His guiding principles. There is no way for us to know the thousands of lives that he had already touched before he entered into a plan to run for Congress, and how many lives he touched in those years of service, and the countless others who were blessed just by knowing him.

There was nothing that he loved more than serving others and primarily, his love of being a husband and a father to his husband, Julia, and a father to their two children, Jeremiah and Jacqueline, something that his legacy will live on forever in our hearts.

Today, I give glory to God for his life and pause to reflect on that legacy which will live on through Julia, Jeremiah, and Jacqueline. My prayers are with all of them.

His passing is a tremendous loss to this U.S. Congress, to the State of Louisiana, and, more importantly, to his family and friends who loved him and cherished him.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, we have a few others from the class that Luke Letlow would have been proud to serve in, some of the rising leaders here. I will call on them in no particular order, but I yield to another gentleman from Texas (Mr. FALLON), if he is ready.

Mr. FALLON. Madam Speaker, I never had the privilege and blessing to meet Luke Letlow in person and to share our hearts and enjoy the blessed gift of fellowship. But to be honest, I still feel a bond and a connection and a friendship with Luke because we were both married to beautiful, successful women, and we certainly outkicked our coverage; we both had two children; and we both chose public service and eventually ran for Congress.

Luke left this world far too early, only 41. The scourge of an evil virus whose growth across the globe was fostered by the nefarious denial and negligence of a Communist regime in Beijing.

COVID-19 has claimed millions, 500,000 here at home, and it stole Luke and Julia from us. Luke Letlow, a man in his prime who had everything to live for, is now gone. And it shouldn’t be that way.

He should be with us today. He should be with us here, voting, visiting, talking, learning, and leading. But COVID robbed our country and this Chamber of Luke Letlow.

This same scourge, Madam Speaker, crossed my path 3 1/2 weeks ago, and it damn near killed me. I experienced the worst pain in my life. I had bacterial and viral pneumonia, along with the virus thriving in my body at the same time. I thought I was going to die. Prayers and terrific American medical care spared me. So I am not going to hold back, and I am just going to talk frankly and from the heart.

I am consumed today, right now, this very moment, with why. Why is Luke gone? Why was I spared? Why are 500,000 Americans dead? I don’t know. But I do have a strong belief that we all have a purpose, and everyone in this Chamber has a purpose as the Almighty has for us, and we just don’t know what it is yet.

I feel, now that I have been gifted bonus decades, I want to know what I should do with those years. How should I lead my life? The bottom line is, we all should ask ourselves that question and exercise the power that we have within each of our souls to be kinder, to be gentler, to be more understanding, to smile when somebody walks on an elevator. It costs us nothing to do those things, and you should live to love and live to love for others. And above all, we should love and never be ashamed to be vulnerable and love our neighbor.

We want to honor Luke Letlow? You want to honor his legacy and his life? Then live and love and be joyous and be kind. Live for others with all of your hearts. I am not the least bit ashamed to say that I am going to try.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. HINSON), another classmate of Luke’s.

Mrs. HINSON. Madam Speaker, tonight, we are here to honor the life of Luke Letlow, who was taken from us far too soon.

Luke led a life of public service, and he was dedicated to bettering the lives of Louisianans. I know he was so looking forward to serving the great people of the State of Louisiana here in Congress.

Most importantly, though, he was a devoted father to his two young children. We are all grieving with them during this time, their entire family. I hope the Letlow family can seek some comfort in knowing that so many people here in D.C., back in Iowa, Georgia, and around the country are lifting up prayers for them every single day.

Although Luke is no longer with us, he does leaves behind, and he reminds us about a remarkable legacy that we and, most importantly, his two children will always be able to remember him by long after we are all gone from this place, too.

Thank you, Madam Speaker, for letting me speak tonight on behalf of our classmate, Luke Letlow, and his entire family.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida, Mrs. Koerner, another bright light in this class and my friend.

Mrs. CAMMACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life of Luke Letlow.

As a Member-elect of this freshman class, Luke was one of us. We didn’t get the privilege of serving alongside him, but in getting to know his family, I have no doubt that he would have been an energetic leader among us.

In talking with Luke’s wife, Julia, I have come to know the very best of what Luke stood for and why he will forever be with us as a Member of this body.

Luke’s love of Louisiana ran as deep as the roots of generations that came before him. Luke revered leaders ranging from Ronald Reagan, whose optimistic vision of conservatism transformed the Republican Party and the world, to the local Richland Parish police jurors who ensured residents received the essential services that local
government was charged with providing.

Luke loved studying Louisiana political history and voraciously read every out-of-print book on the subject that he could get his hands on. Luke’s passion for preserving the history of Richland Parish and his forebears took him from documenting gravesites and local churches to building a website that chronicled the history of the rural community where he was raised.

Lumberton, Louisiana, and Richland Parish defined him as a person and motivated him to pursue a career in the noble profession of public service.

Tonight, we honor his memory. But moving forward, we will strive to embody his passion for people, our history, and our Nation.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I am delighted to introduce another member of the Louisiana delegation for remarks in our Special Order tonight. I do want to clarify, I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES), my friend. He knew Luke very well, and I know he will bring some good thoughts to us tonight.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman, Mr. JOHNSON, for yielding and for organizing this.

Madam Speaker, I sat here and listened to all of these people talk about Luke Letlow, and I don’t know who they are talking about.

Luke was a redneck. There is this iconic picture of Luke where he is wearing this hat, and it says: “Start Fire.” The only thing that comes to mind is this is parent material, right?

Luke was a good ol’ boy, and I know, in many instances, that term is associated with negativity. That is not Luke. Luke was a force for good, and he did that before the Navy even coined that term.

I have known him for 15, 20 years. We staffed together up here in Congress. We worked together in the Governor’s staff. We worked together up here in Congress.

Before I leave you all with the wrong impression, I should have clarified that my colleague, Congressman GRAVES, the whip, my dear friend, and one of the guys who helped guide Luke on his path to get here.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Louisiana for organizing this. It was absolutely well deserved. Filling the void Ralph Abraham’s retirement created was a big void, but, certainly, Luke was absolutely up for that task. He was going to do an amazing job.

Julia, to Jeremiah, to Jacqueline: Luke is looking down at us from heaven right now probably playing Xbox or PlayStation, and he is looking over this place. He is looking over this family. What Louisiana lost was heaven’s gain.

God bless you, brother.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, GARRET GRAVES of Louisiana, for those poignant words. The funeral service was like that, with recollections from close friends. We could have sat there all afternoon and reveled in it.

Madam Speaker, I am delighted to yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE), the whip, my dear friend, and one of the guys who helped guide Luke on his path to get here.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Louisiana for yielding.

Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I stand here today to pay tribute to Luke Letlow. Just like earlier tonight when we stood out on the steps of the Capitol to pay respects to the 500,000 people who we have lost from COVID–19, Luke, unfortunately, is in that number. He is not somebody you would have expected. He was young, healthy, and he had his whole life in front of him.

He had already lived a rich life. He had already left such a powerful impact on people in the right kind of way, like my colleague, Congressman GRAVES, talked about. He had a big heart.

Madam Speaker, Luke was the kind of person who you want to get into public service to do it for the right reasons, to actually bring something and want to make people’s lives better.

When he would go through the rural communities of his district—which is a
very rural district—he would just talk to people, strike up conversations. He would want to hear their stories and he would want to help people. He had a lot of opportunities to do that, Madam Speaker.

He started working for Congressman John Cooksey out of college at Louisiana Tech. He had already garnished a desire for public service.

After he worked for Congressman Cooksey, I met him in 2004, when he was working on the campaign of my predecessor, Bobby Jindal, who got elected to Congress. Luke served with him there. When Bobby got elected Governor, Luke went to serve with him in the State to make our State a better place.

And then when Ralph Abraham came to Congress, Luke spent the last 6 years working for Ralph as his chief of staff, going around the rural parts of that district in northeast Louisiana, just reaching out, finding out about people.

He was very much into genealogy. He wanted to know not just about people, but about their history where they came from, what made people tick, and how he could keep making a difference.

Ultimately, when Ralph retired, Luke made that decision to run. And he didn’t make that decision alone. His lovely wife, Julia, was all in. They were a family that was a partnership. They were a true love story of two people who cared deeply about each other and who cared deeply about their young children: young Jeremiah; and young Jacqueline, who we also grieve for.

It is heartbreakingly when you think of the promise and what was lost, what we as colleagues lost. You hear members of his own freshman class who never got to serve with him—soms, just reaching out, finding out about people.

So, Madam Speaker, when we remember Luke Letlow, it is that big smile that he brought to the people of the district in northeast Louisiana. It is that servant’s heart, the heart of a person who cares about other people and wanted to make a difference for all of the right reasons. Thank God we still have people like Luke Letlow who care enough to want to get out into public service for the right reasons.

It is sad that we didn’t get that opportunity to serve with him. I so looked forward to serving with him as a colleague in the Louisiana delegation. He was only 5 days away from getting sworn in when we lost him.

So, Madam Speaker, as we remember the life of Luke Letlow, I know he is up in heaven now. He was a man of deep, deep faith, and that faith carried him and his family through those difficulties in the last few days when he was struggling and fighting for his life. I know that faith is what got him into heaven. He would probably be looking down and saying, ‘Y’all shouldn’t be making such a big fuss.’

But you know what? He deserves this kind of tribute because this would have been a richer body if we had Luke Letlow.

We will all remember him and keep him in our thoughts and our prayers.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank the whip for those great remarks and his great leadership, and I know Luke appreciated that as well.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT).

Mrs. BOEBERT. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana for yielding up this Special Order to honor Congressman-elect Luke Letlow.

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Congressman-elect Luke Letlow, whose tireless work for his constituents and his community, public service, and love for his constituents will long be an inspiration to many Americans.

He spoke glowingly of the mighty Mississippi and his district’s rich Louisiana soil, both of which flowed freely through his veins as he passionately advocated for the people who elected him to be their voice.

His life of service working for Governor Bobby Jindal, serving as chief of staff to Congressman Ralph Abraham, and then successfully running for Congress himself, exemplified his commitment to win the day.

Congressman-elect Letlow shared my great love for our Western States, and he was a fierce advocate for the issues facing everyday Americans. His calling to public service was only surpassed by his calling to be a loving husband, father, brother, and son. He cared deeply for his beloved wife, Julia; son, Jeremiah; and daughter.

After he won his race, Congressman-elect Letlow’s wife, Julia, spoke of God’s sovereignty over the life of her husband, quoting the words from scripture: “Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you; before you were born, I set you apart.”

God set Luke apart with an anointing, and that same calling and anointing is now in that Godly heritage that he has left behind. God’s Wraparound presence is surrounding the Letlow family.

God’s plan for Luke’s life was one of service, and his legacy will live on through his family. His wife, Julia, is a woman of deep faith. A calling to public service is on her life. She was his rock for all of his years in public life. I am honored to call her my friend now.

May his family find comfort in the words of the scripture: “The Lord is close to the brokenhearted. . . .” and in knowing that Congressman-elect Letlow fought the good fight, finished his race, and kept the faith.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Colorado for her words. That was very appropriate. I was going to cite the same scripture.

I will just say this as we close tonight. The night we got word of Luke’s passing was December 29, and that word, the phone call we got shook my whole family, as it did everybody in the State.

As we were putting our children to bed that night, I reminded my youngest son, my 10-year-old son, that while grieving is part of our human experience, the Lord mourns with us. We know that from Isaiah 53:4. And as Lauren just said, He always remains close to the brokenhearted. Psalm 34.

So many are mourning this loss and so many remain brokenhearted. But I will close with these words from the Apostle Paul, as he wrote to the church in Rome, Romans 8:38-39: “For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present or the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Luke believed that and he lived it, and he would want us to remember it, too.

Madam Speaker, this concludes our Special Order tonight, and I yield back the balance of my time.

DANGER OF GENDER IDENTITY POLITICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. HARTZLER) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the minority leader.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, the gentleman from Louisiana, for the heartfelt time recognizing Mr. Letlow and his family. Our hearts are with them.

I now move on to another topic that is also very, very important to all of us and to America, and it deals with a bill that will be on the floor this week.

It is shamefully called the Equality Act, but it shreds the principles of protecting our children. In fact, under this
bill, children, beginning with the womb, will be targeted and victimized.

Under this bill, children in the classroom will be bombarded with unscientific, confusing materials questioning the reality of their biological sex.

Children struggling with gender dysphoria will be pushed toward medical treatments and even surgical procedures, which will disrupt their natural development and leave them sterile and physically altered for life.

Under this bill, children’s privacy will be violated when locker rooms, restrooms, and homeless shelters will no longer be single sex.

Under this bill, parents may face custody battles for making healthy, wholesome choices for their children’s health.

This scenario was not hypothetical for the Ohio couple who lost custody of their daughter for not affirming hormone treatments.

Under this bill, foster care and adoption agencies will be forced to shutter. And this is just the tip of the iceberg.

The so-called Equality Act jeopardizes the well-being of our children. It jeopardizes the role of parents, the privacy of vulnerable women, the competitive edge of female athletes, the livelihood of charities and businesses, and the integrity of our healthcare system.

We demand better for our children and their futures, and we will not be silenced. We are here tonight to expose the Equality Act for what it is, a far-reaching attempt to attack and coerce discrimination.

I appreciate my colleagues who have joined me tonight to let America know why this bill must be defeated.

Madam Speaker, first, I would like to yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HARRIS), my friend and colleague who has practicing anesthesiologist.

Mr. HARRIS. Madam Speaker, this bill, the Equality Act, is nothing more than an identity politico sellout, a thinly veiled attempt to attack and coerce individuals who hold serious and legitimate concerns or objections to things like parental rights to make healthcare decisions for their children; the ability of women to compete on an equal athletic playing field; and even medical procedures like sterilization and abortion.

I am a physician and I have been practicing medicine for over 35 years. This bill, if enacted, would mandate that healthcare practitioners and even facilities like Catholic hospitals would be forced to provide and participate in procedures like abortion, which ends a human life.

We should all be able to agree that a Catholic hospital should never be compelled by the government to offer procedures like abortion that they morally object to in the strongest possible terms.

Furthermore, if society continues to support politically correct gender identity politics, the science is becoming clearer that gender dysphoria, especially in children, is a psychiatric condition that in most cases will resolve itself with time.

Instead, however, this bill would require parents to allow irreversible medical interventions for their children, children who may even be prepubescent, resulting in sterilization, and oftentimes later regret.

Madam Speaker, in response, I will be reintroducing the Conscience Protection Act this week. My bill will protect healthcare providers from being required to perform abortions or sterilizations and allow them to continue practicing medicine without duress or coercion from their employer or perhaps even their patients.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to cosponsor my bill, and I oppose the so-called Equality Act on the floor this week.

Mrs. HARTZELL. Madam Speaker, I thank Dr. HARRIS, and I appreciate his firsthand experience and thoughts on this very, very, serious matter.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN), cochair of the Values Action Team.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Missouri for her courage and backbone in supporting these vital social issues.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak on the dangers of H.R. 5, the so-called Equality Act. This bill would have disastrous effects on our culture. H.R. 5 will not only turn the Civil Rights Act on its head, it will harass individuals and entities who are merely seeking to exercise their sincerely held religious beliefs.

Under the current text, countless faith-based businesses and nonprofits across the country would simply cease to exist. I am not convinced that my colleagues across the aisle understand the far-reaching consequences of the so-called Equality Act. The reality is that churches could be forced to violate their beliefs simply to stay open if it were enforced as written.

This awful legislation also creates fundamental inequalities for many Americans. Parents sending their kids to public schools would live in fear that their young daughter would have to use the same locker room or restroom as a man because the Equality Act would open the door to biological males in women’s facilities.

I have introduced an amendment to the Equality Act protecting accommodations choosing to designate private, single-sex spaces, such as restrooms or locker rooms. I hope the Democrat majority allows a vote on this commonsense amendment that tens of millions of American parents want.

In addition, the so-called Equality Act would significantly disadvantage women participating in sex-specific sports leagues. That is why I have also introduced an amendment, originally filed as a bill last Congress by Democratic Representative Tulsi GABBARD, allowing equal play for women and girls in high school and college sports. This amendment of mine seeks to protect women and girls simply wanting to compete against other biological women and girls on a level playing field.

Women and children suffer when Democrat policies are enacted. Women’s sports, and the girls and young women who just simply want to compete with other females on an equal playing field will be the victims of Democrat policies.

Madam Speaker, I adamantly oppose the radical Equality Act, and I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will take a stand and oppose it as well.

Mr. GREEN. Madam Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentlewoman from Missouri for her leadership on this very important issue.

Madam Speaker, as a physician, I know firsthand that this bill, H.R. 5, will force medical providers to surrender sound medical judgment and their sincerely held convictions to politically fashionable dogmas.

According to the radical activists who seek to enshrine gender identity in the Federal civil rights law, the only appropriate treatment for a child struggling with gender dysphoria is gender reassignment. That is it. Such procedures often lead to irreversible damage, especially in adolescents. But under the Equality Act, medical providers who object to performing these procedures will face crushing legal liability.

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Madam Speaker, if H.R. 5 becomes law, a doctor who refuses to perform a mastectomy or a hysterectomy on an otherwise healthy teenage girl seeking gender reassignment surgery, will be held liable for violating the Federal law.

H.R. 5 even goes so far as to exempt itself from longstanding, bipartisan Federal religious liberty protections— protections both Congress and the Supreme Court have consistently upheld. A Catholic hospital, following the commands of Scripture to serve the frail and the poor will be forced to violate...
their very faith to comply and perform abortions or face financial ruin.

Madam Speaker, as a physician, I took a sacred oath to do no harm and to preserve the health of those in my care. If this bill becomes law, many doctors will be forced to go against both their conscience and their medical judgment.

Make no mistake, this is a death sentence for medicine and for the sacred rights of conscience. Biology is not bigotry, and medicine is not discrimination.

All Americans who do not wish to see medicine sacrificed to the politically correct orthodoxy should stand up and oppose this bill.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Thank you, Dr. Green. That is excellent. "Biology is not bigotry." It seems like common sense, but we are not talking about common sense with the Equality Act.

And that is why we are here tonight, to let the American people know about the very serious, permanent ramifications of this bill.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN), another doctor, who I am proud to be joined by, who is a dentist from Texas.

Please think about forcing medical professionals to misgender someone.

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I thank my distinguished colleague from Missouri for this opportunity.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in objection to the so-called Equality Act. Once again, under the guise of equality, the left is prioritizing its radical agenda over religious freedom, the well-being of children, and the safety of women and girls.

As the father of three daughters and the grandfather of nine granddaughters, I am outraged at the assault that this bill launches on women in sports. And furthermore, as a healthcare practitioner, I am infuriated at its blatant attack on the conscience rights and religious freedoms of those in the healthcare industry.

This bill is not about preventing discrimination in medical treatment, it is about forcing medical professionals to abandon their conscience rights and medical judgment to comply with the left’s extreme views on gender.

The Equality Act would prohibit physicians from counseling children with gender dysphoria. Instead, they would be required to administer dangerous medical treatments, including puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones, and surgeries.

This mandate contradicts science. Increasingly, we are finding that these treatments compound these children’s confusion rather than solving it. The catastrophic effects leave children physically and psychologically scarred and often render them sterile. It is nothing short of child abuse.

The left will not tolerate disagreement with its view on gender. They provide no conscience protections and explicitly state that the Religious Freedom Restoration Act does not apply to this new definition of sex.

Physicians refusing to perform these harmful treatments would be punished, even if they object because of religious or moral convictions.

The Equality Act is another attempt by the left to promote its radical agenda and suppress everyone else who disagrees. We must fight for the conscience rights and religious freedoms of our medical professionals, and we must stop our children from being used as pawns in the game of political correctness.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Well said, and I thank the gentleman so much.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Mrs. FISCHBACH), the first female president of the Minnesota Senate. She is a mother of two and grandmother of five.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I thank Congresswoman HARTZLER for putting this together. I appreciate the opportunity to tell the people in the country understand what is in this bill.

Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 5, the so-called Equality Act. The reality of this bill is anything but equality. It is a thinly veiled attempt to force unreasonable mandates on our institutions and restrict the liberties of the American people.

Here is how this becomes law. Americans can expect government-imposed limits on the free exercise of religious liberty, businesses forced to cover the costs of abortions, and medical providers required to perform abortions, even if it conflicts with their deeply held beliefs.

Unfortunately, this is just the tip of the iceberg. So today, I rise to speak on behalf of pro-life Americans in my district and across the country who fear this legislation will be manipulated by the radical left to impose its will and create a right to abortion right up to the moment of birth.

Madam Speaker, a majority of Americans support at least some restrictions on abortion, including making sure taxpayer funds are not used to fund abortions. Instead of respecting the rights of all Americans, this bill will impose a top-down abortion mandate that interferes with the State and Federal laws that protect the right to life and will force doctors, nurses, and healthcare workers to participate in abortion procedures, even if it goes against their own sincerely held beliefs.

The previous administration made great strides in protecting religious freedom and the liberties of all Americans. Unfortunately, the new administration does not seem to value those cherished beliefs.

This bill will relegate the pro-life view to discrimination, redefine gender, and require faith-based employers to pay for abortion in their insurance offerings.

Madam Speaker, I oppose this legislation on behalf of the unborn who do not have a voice. I oppose this legislation on behalf of my constituents, many of whom hold beliefs that are in conflict with this bill's radical ideology. And I oppose this bill on behalf of the millions of Americans who know that life is a God-given gift worth fighting for.

Madam Speaker, I oppose this bill and ask Members to do the same.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Thank you, Representative FISCHBACH. Life is precious, and it is jeopardized under this very bill, and so thank you for raising those points.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT), a volunteer counselor to incarcerated women.

Mrs. BOEBERT. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman so much.

Under this legislation, their crisis counselor may be “Alexis” who was actually born “Alex.” And they will have to talk to him about their assault.

Where is the equality for parents who want to raise their children, free from government overreach?

Under this proposal, Congress seeks to replace mom and dad with bureaucrats. This isn’t hyperbole. In Ohio, a mom and dad had their child removed from their custody because they didn’t allow their daughter to undergo gender transition. Removed from their custody.

And so here we are. The left will lay down the rights and security of millions of Americans, particularly young women, at the altar of gender ideology.

Following the lead of liberal indoctrination camps, also called colleges and universities, my colleagues on the left are committed to advancing this radical ideology, the rights and sovereignty of individual States be darned. So much for Federalism.

The power-hungry left will not slow down until every school, every church, work place, every State, and every community adheres to the left’s definition of gender.

You disagree? They will find you. They will imprison you. Or as we have seen, they will even take your children. And let’s make sure the American people know this is only the beginning.

The Equality Act requires doctors to perform abortions, and they are going to use your tax dollars to pay for them. Once the left codifies their ideology, they will come for your speech. It is already happening in Canada, where you can be fined and imprisoned for misgendering someone.
Madam Speaker, they won’t stop there. Nothing will ever satisfy the left until there is complete and total compliance.

Madam Speaker, Scripture says, when speaking of those who have turned their back on God, who have traded a Lie Professing to be wise, they became fools. I can think of no better description of the so-called Equality Act, or inequality act, than this. The utter foolishness is astounding. Up is down. Wrong is right. Boys are girls and vice versa.

Madam Speaker, for the sake of our sons and daughters, for the sake of parent rights, privacy, decency, and so much more, I urge my colleagues to vote “no” on this horrendous legislation.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, so well said. Up is down, and right is wrong.

Our next speaker is the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. Foxx), a doctor of education.

I want to thank the other colleagues who are here. We are running out of time, but I want to thank Representative RICK ALLEN, who objects to this bill, for being here as well.

Dr. Foxx, will you share, in closing, why we should oppose this bill this week? I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina.

Ms. Foxx. Madam Speaker, our First Amendment is a powerful instrument that has protected our most sacred freedoms for hundreds of years. Few other countries provide the same protections and freedoms that our First Amendment guarantees. Yet, today, these essential rights are under attack.

H.R. 5 is the latest example of Democrats’ misleading and partisan manner of legislating. As a former educator and the Republican leader of the Education and Labor Committee, I can tell you that the bill may have “equality” in the title, but it certainly does not serve ALL Americans.

This legislation has a clever name and an allegedly noble purpose, but it is a vehicle for serious, harmful consequences.

The Equality Act would empower the government to infringe on the most sacred freedoms that our First Amendment guarantees. As a former educator and the Republican leader of the Education and Labor Committee, I can tell you that the bill may have “equality” in the title, but it certainly does not serve ALL Americans.

The Equality Act would empower the government to interfere in how regular Americans think, speak, and act. Specifically, it would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to make sexual orientation and gender identity protected classes. According to the National Review, this extreme legislation “redefines sex to include gender identity, undermines religious freedom, gives males who identify as females the right to women’s spaces, and sets a dangerous political precedent for the medicalization of gender-confused youth.”

Under H.R. 5, our nation’s K–12 schools would be forced to treat gender as being fluid, subjective, and not tied to biological reality.

The bill would undermine Title IX protections for girls by outlawing sex-based athletic competitions.

Even more troubling is the bill’s malicious and intentional destruction of religious freedom protections.

Religiously affiliated colleges and universities that maintain student codes of conduct, hiring practices, or housing rules reflecting sincerely held beliefs about marriage and sexuality risk losing federal funding under the Equality Act, as such policies would be deemed discriminatory.

Beloved secular private colleges that maintain single sex admissions policies, like Smith College and Morehouse College, could be forced to change their policies or forego federal funding.

In Virginia, we’ve already seen the displeasure amongst parents regarding such policy implementation. In an opinion piece published by the Washington Post in 2019, a former middle and high school teacher whose children attended Arlington Public Schools said, “It would erode parents’ rights over their children’s education, corrode Title IX protections for girls and risk convincing healthy, normally developing boys and girls that their bodies are wrong and must be altered with hormones and sexuality would lose federal funding under the Equality Act, as such policies would be deemed discriminatory and open them to countless lawsuits to threaten their very existence.”

For years, supporters of Title IX have fought to encourage and empower girls through athletic competition. Democrats would like to erase those gains, shattering countless girls’ dreams and dignity, to appease the woke mob.

Americans of faith would suffer too. Religiously affiliated colleges and universities that maintain student codes of conduct, hiring practices, or housing rules reflecting their faith’s sincerely held beliefs about marriage and sexuality would lose federal funding under the Equality Act, as such policies would be deemed discriminatory and open them to countless lawsuits to threaten their very existence.

All-female universities, whether religious or secular, would be required to accept male students from discrimination, but in reality it makes schools more dangerous and unfair for everyone.

By expanding the definition of “sex” to include self-declared gender identity, it requires schools to allow biological males into girls’ restrooms, locker rooms, showers, and sport events usually reserved for women.

And by incorporating sexual orientation and gender identity into Title IV of the Civil Rights Act, which appropriately mandates the desegregation of public schools, this bill could order the incorporation of radical gender ideology in sex education or other aspects of curriculum, far outside the original law’s scope. Activists are already pushing graphic, age-inappropriate content on these topics on students in places like Arlington, Virginia.

This bill puts teachers and administrators at risk too. Those who “misgender” a student or fail to use the individual’s preferred pronouns could be accused of harassment and subject to discipline or even lose their jobs.

Girls would also face unfair competition in sports. The Equality Act would force schools to allow biological males to compete on female-only teams.

We have already seen consequences of this. One transgender MMA fighter has broken the skulls of two female opponents (and counting), and transgender runners and basketball players are dominating female competitors, leaving many females’ long-anticipated gender trophies and scholarships dashed.

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OUR POWER, OUR MESSAGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. BEATTY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. BEATTY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous materials on the subject of my Special Order hour.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. BEATTY. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to open our first Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour of this year, during Black History Month, utilizing to the fullest extent possible: Our Power, Our Message.

I would like to thank the Congressional Black Caucus members for having the confidence to elect me to be chairwoman during the 117th Congress. I stand on the shoulders of greatness as I acknowledge the past members and chairs for their tremendous leadership.

For the next 60 minutes, we have an opportunity to speak directly to the American people about the issues of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus and the millions of constituents we represent.

Tonight’s Special Order hour topic will serve as part of a rollout of our policy agenda and celebrate our 50th anniversary in the context of the many critical issues facing the Black community.

The Congressional Black Caucus kicked off Black History Month, Madam Speaker, with the powerful Travon Free film, “Two Distant Stars,” a moving story about a young Black man caught in a George Floyd type of nightmare with his local police department.

During tomorrow’s CBC meeting to be held at 12 p.m., the “Living Black History” vignette, featuring all 58 members of the CBC, will be unveiled to the public via Facebook, TheGrio, and my YouTube page.

We are also hosting a virtual film screening of director Lee Daniels’ film, “The United States vs. Billie Holiday,” tomorrow evening.

In that spirit, later this week, I will be introducing the Black History is American History Act to close out our Black History Month.

The year before the 50th anniversary of the CBC with the largest CBC group ever, 58 members who represent the diversity, hope, and promise of this great Nation. It has been stated before, and it certainly bears repeating, the CBC is commonly referred to as the conscience of the Congress and over the decades has forcefully advocated on policies that our Nation cares about, ranging from economic justice and reparations, healthcare, voting rights, consumer protection, education, and fair policing to far beyond.

The killing of Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and George Floyd drew America closer to another watershed moment last year, amid a pandemic that has disrupted life as we knew it, triggering an intergenerational cross-class collective of people demanding change, which led to the passage of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, a bill that is the first-ever bold, comprehensive approach to hold police accountable, change the culture of law enforcement, empower our communities, and build trust between law enforcement and our communities by addressing systemic racism and biases to help save lives.

I also wear another hat, and that is as chairwoman of the Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee of the House Financial Services Committee. Though it may speak for itself, I appreciate that kind of transformative change which is seeking to policy, legislation, and regulation that will, hopefully, result in building a record that we can use as we promote diversity and inclusion in our democracy. As CBC founder member Bill Clay noted, we have no permanent friends or enemies, just permanent interests.

The CBC’s priorities will allow us, in many instances, to work with the Biden administration to deliver relief to our constituents who have been so devastated by the COVID–19 pandemic and to work on long-term plans for recovery. To that end, we are so pleased that we will announce our domestic policy team tomorrow, as we have met with Ambassador Susan Rice, who is head of the Biden domestic policy team.

It is so important that I end by saying the Congressional Black Caucus is committed to dramatically reversing this alarming trends by working with our community leaders, allies, and colleagues in Congress to pass critical legislation and by working with the Biden-Harris administration to encourage responsible executive branch policies and actions using Our Power, Our Message.

Now, I am honored to announce our CBC anchors for tonight: Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE, a scholar, a strategist, an orator, a woman who has sponsored legislation and helped craft much of the changes that we will be talking about through the 117th Congress; and I am equally as proud to say that the Special Order hour will be co-chaired by her coanchor, Congresswoman RITCIE TORRES, a freshman, a member of the Financial Services Committee, a giant in public housing legislation. Tonight, you will hear from them.

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

OUR POWER, OUR MESSAGE DURING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the majority leader.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, let me thank our illustrious leader of the Congressional Black Caucus, whose visionary leadership is going to carry us into the 117th Congress.

Congresswoman BEATTY acts legislatively on her history. She is from Ohio, one of the major stops of the Underground Railroad. In fact, Cincinnati, Ohio, has one of the most monumental monuments, if you will, to that freedom train, that courage, of Harriet Tubman. I might say that our chairwoman’s actions are in resemblance to Harriet Tubman. We are grateful for her vision.

We will tomorrow, at the Congressional Black Caucus, unveil the talent of tens upon tens of members of the Congressional Black Caucus and lay out our legacy, Our Power, Our Message. I thank the gentlewoman for her leadership.

It is as well my honor to be able to co-chair this with, if I might with a degree of familiarity, a brother from the Bronx. I am delighted that a working man’s and woman’s representative has come to be able to shine, a man who is a product of public housing, public schools, and public hospitals, and who had a dream of lifting up his community and building back a better Bronx.

I am delighted that at 25, against all odds, he became the youngest elected official in New York City and the first openly LGBTQ elected official from the Bronx. He doesn’t know that his reputation preceded him as a dynamic get-things-done person.

I will repeat his motto before I begin my remarks, and that is RITCIE TORRES’ remarks and life motto is as follows: “My motto is life is simple. If you do nothing, nothing will change.” Wow, what a piercing message for all of us, Republicans and Democrats, to do something good.

His motto is: “If you do nothing, nothing will change. We can build a better Bronx, and we will do it together.”

I am delighted to coanchor with Mr. RITCIE TORRES for the 117th Congress.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I am particularly delighted to begin my remarks, and we’ve seen in and out tonight, and then, with my remarks, will yield to Mr. TORRES as well.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE
This is a moment in history. Tonight, we will explore honoring our 50-year legacy, Our Power, Our Message.

As I was flying up today, I was very happy to find on the movie list on an airplane “Good Trouble,” the movie about John Lewis, with so many Members telling the story. I think I will just simply say: Good trouble.

Tonight, we hope to exemplify good trouble as we honor the 50-year legacy of the Congressional Black Caucus and emphasize Our Power, Our Message. We want good trouble.

I am honored in the 117th Congress to chair the Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security Subcommittee and serve as a senior member on the Judiciary Committee, where, in addition to the powers of Congressional Black Caucus, we will seek to have justice rain down like righteous waters.

2045

We will do that, however, with the 55 members of the Congressional Black Caucus, and I think our numbers are higher than that, and they are all on different committees. Amazing. They will pierce the seams of equality and justice in the 117th Congress. So we will have our past, but we will have our future.

Let me briefly talk about where we were 400 years ago. Ships sailed from the west coast of Africa and in the process bought and sold human beings into chattel slavery and made it difficult to have a family in America. Approximately 4 million Africans and their descendents were enslaved in the United States and colonies, that became the United States, from 1619 to 1865.

The institution of slavery was constitutionally and statutorily sanctioned by the Government of the United States from 1789 to 1865, and certainly American slavery is our original sin. We might be daunted, never to be rejected, never to be denied.

Or William L. Clay, Sr., who chaired the Education and Labor Committee, the first Black man, or the second, to do so.

George W. Collins, a pioneer and power-house out of Chicago, Illinois.

John Conyers, the dean of the United States Congress, and the first Member of Congress to hire Rosa Parks, and a Member of Congress who thinks that he is his District, and also to have Dr. Martin Luther King endorse him.

Ron Dellums, he was a man that was told: You sit in the chair with Pat Schroeder, in the Armed Services Committee, We are not interested in you being there in the first place. And Ron Dellums rose to be chair of the Armed Services Committee.

And how much of an overcomer they are: Charles Diggs, the leading man on Africa.

Augustus Hawkins, the leading man on the empowerment of working families.

Again, Ralph Metcalfe, one of the early pioneers of elected Black Members of Congress, again, out of Chicago.

Parren Mitchell, the father of affirmative action.

Robert C. Nix, a pioneer out of Pennsylvania.

Charles B. Rangel, who worked his way up from the streets of Harlem to the U.S. Attorney’s Office to then be chair of the Ways and Means Committee.

Lou Stokes, a major force on the Appropriations Committee and healthcare in America.

And, of course, delegate Walter E. Fauntroy, who I met in South Carolina with a commitment to defeat a segregationist who chaired the District of Columbia Committee.

Overcomers, but each of them will say that this definition of who we are should not be on the few, it should be on the many. That means that, we, as members of the Congressional Black Caucus, stand here today to be able to lift our message, is to be able to lift the opportunities of all African Americans and Black people, and people of color, as we work to ensure that anyone who is denied equality has us, we, the collective body politics, as their champion. That is what tonight is about.

You will hear a number of descriptions of many persons, and you will hear the words of many of us from different parts of the country.

Madam Speaker, I am delighted to kick-off this series of CBC Special Order Hours for the 117th Congress with my colleague Congressman Ritchie Torres (NY–15) who will serve as co-Anchor.

Tonight, we will explore Honoring our 50 Year legacy Our Power, Our Message.

As chair of the Judiciary Committee’s subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security and a senior member of the House Committee on Homeland Security, and a member of the House Budget Committee, I clearly understand the importance of history and why we should take time to appreciate the path that has led us to this moment.

Four hundred years ago, ships set sail from the west coast of Africa and, in the process, began one of mankind’s most inhumane practices, human bondage and slavery. Approximately 4,000,000 Africans and their descendants were enslaved in the United States and colonies that became the United States from 1619 to 1865.

The institution of slavery was constitutionally and statutorily sanctioned by the Government of the United States from 1789 through 1865. American Slavery is our country’s Original Sin and its existence as a birthright of a nation is a permanent scar on our country’s founding documents, and on the venerated authors of those documents, and it is a legacy that continued well into the last century.

The framework for our country and the document to which we all take an oath describes African Americans as three-fifths a person.

The infamous Dred Scott decision of the United States Supreme Court, issued just a few decades later, described slaves as private property, unworthy of citizenship.

And, a civil war that produced the largest death toll of American fighters in any conflict in our history could not prevent the indignities of Jim Crow, the fire hose at lunch counters, and the systemic and institutional discrimination that would follow for a century after the end of the Civil War.

The mythology built around the Civil War has obscured our discussions of the impact of chattel slavery and made it difficult to have a national dialogue on how to fully account for its place in American history and public policy.

While it is nearly impossible to determine how the lives touched by slavery could have flourished in the absence of bondage, we have certain data that permits us to examine how a subset of Americans—African Americans—have been affected by the callousness of involuntary servitude.

We know that in almost every segment of society—education, healthcare, jobs, and wealth—the inequities that persist in America are more acutely and disproportionately felt in Black America.

This historic discrimination continues: African-Americans continue to suffer debilitating economic, educational, and health hardships including but not limited to having nearly 1,000,000 black people incarcerated; an unemployment rate more than twice the current white unemployment rate; and an average of less than 1/16 of the wealth of white families, a disparity which has worsened, not improved over time.

These conditions gave rise to a strong belief by Congressman Charlie Diggs that black members of Congress needed a way to make a difference by working together.
The idea for an organization of black elected Members of Congress came from Representative Charles Diggs (D-Mich.) who created the Democracy Select Committee (DSC) in an effort to bring black members of Congress together. Diggs noted that he and other African American Members of Congress often felt isolated because there were very few of them in Congress, and he wanted to create a forum where they could discuss common political challenges and interests.

Diggs, during that time, "The sooner we get organized for group action, the more effective we can become."

The DSC was an informal group that held irregular meetings and had no independent staff or budget, but that changed a few years later. As a result of court-ordered redistricting, one of several victories of the Civil Rights Act and Voting Rights Act joined by the force of the Civil Rights Movement, the number of African-American Members of Congress rose from nine to thirteen, the largest number since the end of the Civil War brought reconstruction that provided the way for voting rights for former slaves.

The Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) was established in 1971 by the following 13 founding members:
1. Rep. Shirley Chisholm (D-N.Y.);
2. Rep. William L. Clay, Sr. (D-Mo.);
3. Rep. George W. Collins (D-Hi.);
5. Rep. Ronald V. Dellums (D-Calif.);
7. Rep. Ralph H. Metcalfe (D-Ill.);
10. Rep. Charles B. Rangel (D-N.Y.);
11. Rep. Louis Stokes (D-Ohio); and

Few recall that before these storied luminaries were elected to Congress, there were other African American Members of Congress immediately following the end of the Civil War who also served in this august body.

1. Robert Brown ELLIOTT 42nd (1871–73), 43rd (1873–75)
2. Jefferson Franklin LONG, 41st (1869–71), 42nd (1871–73), 43rd (1873–75), 44th (1875–77), 45th (1877–79)
4. Hiram Rhodes REVELS, 41st (1869–1871)
5. Robert Carlos DE LARGE 42nd (1871–73), 43rd (1873–75)
7. Benjamin Sterling TURNER, 42nd (1871–1873)
8. Josiah Thomas WALLS, 42nd (1871–73), 43rd (1873–75), 44th (1875–77)
9. Richard Harvey CAIN, 43rd (1873–75), 45th (1877–79)
10. John Roy LYNCH, 43rd (1873–75), 44th (1877–79), 47th (1881–83)
11. Alonzo Jacob RANSIER, 43rd (1873–75)
12. James Thomas RAPIER, 43rd (1873–75)
13. Blanche Kelso BRUCE, 44th (1875–77), 45th (1877–79), 48th (1879–81)
14. Jeremiah HARALSON, 44th (1875–77)
15. HVMAN, John Adamson, 45th (1877–79)
16. Charles Edmund NASH, 44th (1875–77)

At the end of reconstruction, many of these Black Members of Congress lost their office and many others who sought elected office or attempted to vote in public elections lost their lives. It would take nearly another hundred years until a sufficient number of Federally elected black candidates would return to Congress.

But as too many African Americans know, in some ways, the civil war has never truly ended.

On January 6, 2021, we saw the raw, savage face of the lingering Confederacy attempt to put a dagger into the heart of our democracy.

On that day, every belief expressed by this preamble to the Constitution of the United States was at risk of being lost to the hands of a wellcoordinated attack hidden within the ranks of a riotous, murderous mob that invaded and laid siege to U.S. Capitol during the constitutionally required but ministerial act of counting the ballots submitted by the presidential electors of each state and declaring publicly the persons who were by their ballots elected President and Vice-President of the United States.

We know the outcome of the 2020 Presidential Election long before January 6, 2021 because of the transparency of each state’s election administration and that the Joint Meeting of Congress would simply confirm that Joe Biden had won more than a majority of the electoral votes, along with winning the national popular vote by more than 7 million votes.

The riot came immediately after then-President Trump promoted a march on the Capitol and called his supporters to ‘stop the steal,’ ‘never give up,’ and ‘fight like hell’ during a speech that day, asserting that they would not ‘have a country anymore’ if they did not act.

During the breach, Members of Congress were voting to certify then-President-elect Joe Biden’s election victory, and many participants in the attack intended to thwart this effort.

Violent participants, incited by the former President’s rhetoric, injured scores of D.C. Police and U.S. Capitol Police officers—killing one, while four civilians also died.

As a result of court-ordered redistricting, the gains made by the great self migration of people within the United States known as the Great Migration, which saw the relocation of more than 6 million African Americans from the rural South to the cities of the North, Midwest and West from about 1916 to 1970.

This period of American history is obscured by time and characterized by a willful ignorance by governments, media, and academia, of the scale of murder mania that gripped the South during the period more than ever. The period of de jure segregation, when the lines were being drawn in the blood of black people that outlined what black people would and would never be allowed to do in American society.

Before they were written into law, the ‘Black Codes’ were shaped by a series of violent acts that occurred in communities large and small throughout the South, leading to tens of thousands of murders and attacks that maimed many because of arbitrary rules of social conduct such as a black man did not tip his hat, get off the sidewalk, speak to a white person without first being spoken to, or other perceived slights.

The reign of terror visited upon former slaves and their communities began near the end of Reconstruction and resulted in a secret history of the United States that almost erased the gains made by the period 1865–1876 that included over 1,500 elected offices held throughout the South.

There were former slaves elected to serve in the 41st and 42nd Congresses of the United States, most of whom were denied re-election to office once Jim Crow laws limited access to voting for former slaves.

It was unnatural for black communities to have gone silent in the body politic after the strides made by newly freed slaves in engaging in political discourse but that silence was caused by the tens of thousands of singular and mass murders and Lynchings that occurred after the end of Reconstruction and continued well into the 20th Century.

The 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre that killed hundreds of blacks is another example of what a mob stirred by racial animus can do to African Americans who only crime was living a prosperous and economically independent American Dream.

African American history has a long, painful and bloody path that clearly exhibits how violent the Confederacy was, and we have fought a cold civil war for over 156 years, which today is on the verge of turning hot.

Evidence of the desperation of black people to escape the drudgery of the south is evident by the greatest self migration of people within the United States known as the Great Migration, which saw the relocation of more than 6 million African Americans from the rural South to the cities of the North, Midwest and West from about 1916 to 1970.

The push to leave family and communities in the south was motivated by a deep desire to escape the yoke of the civil war; and the pull to go to other parts of the nation was a chance to live free of fear, which translated into black people who were allowed to pursue the American Dream.

The problem for the proponents of Americans it was shameful, painful and a disgrace that the Confederate battle flag was paraded in the Capitol of the United States by Trump’s motley band of disloyalists, something that hundreds of
thousands of true patriots gave the last full measure of devotion to prevent in the crucible years of the civil war from 1861 to 1865.

The Lynchings, beatings, rapes, burnings, joined with roadblocks to advancements that would afford African American people basic human rights such as fair wages, food, shelter, democratic rights; healthcare, due process and equal treatment under the law, were denied for much of our history.

The goals of this cold civil war were simple: it was to create any effort by society to create a world where black people are free and have full rights as citizens of the United States.

The threat of a hot civil war comes from the majority of Americans accepting that African Americans have a place in America, and a right to pursue the American Dream.

The shift in American values and views regarding race have come very slowly with advancements and setbacks until the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 created space and time to reestablish voting rights for black voters that continues to be under threat.

In this latter respect, the Insurrection of January 6 sought to duplicate the Compromise of 1876 because in both cases adherents of white supremacy sought to retain and monopolize political power by disenfranchising and disempowering millions of black Americans, throughout the South in 1876 and in the urban centers of Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin and Georgia in 2020.

The threat of a hot civil war stems from the fear of white supremacist groups that a growing majority of Americans accept that African Americans have an equal right and entitlement to the blessings of liberty because they are full members of the American political community.

January 6, 2021, was not the first time that white supremacists attacked to overthrow duly elected white and black public officials. In 1898, in Wilmington, North Carolina and again in Colfax, Louisiana in 1873, the election of diverse slates of statewide candidates to public office triggered violent white mobs to attack and murder black officials.

The Colfax Massacre, sometimes referred to euphemistically as the Colfax Riot, occurred on Easter Sunday, April 13, 1873, in Colfax, Louisiana, the seat of Grant Parish, where between 62 and 153 black men were murdered by racist white vigilantes calling themselves a militia.

Three white men also died in the confrontation, with at least one said to have been shot by his own ally.

In the wake of the contested 1872 election for governor of Louisiana and local offices, a group of white Democrats armed with rifles and a small cannon, overpowered Republican freedmen and black state militia occupying the Grant Parish courthouse in Colfax.

Most of the freedmen were murdered after they surrendered; nearly 50 were killed later that night after being held prisoners for several hours.

Estimates of the number of dead have varied, ranging from 62 to 153. The exact number of black victims was difficult to determine because many bodies were thrown into the Red River and mass gravesites.

Reconstruction ended in 1877 and by 1898 the protection afforded newly freed slaves to participate as equal citizens in casting ballots in public elections that allowed for the election of black and white candidates ceased to exist. White supremacists who ran as candidates in 1898, but lost their elections used mob violence to take the offices from the duly elected officials, sparking the Wilmington insurrection, also known as the Wilmington Massacre of 1898 or the Wilmington Coup of 1898.

The similarities between what happened on January 6, and the events of 1898 are striking in that both featured a mass riot and insurrection carried out by white supremacists.

The mass riot carried out by white supremacists on January 6, 2021, sought to overturn an election where black voters played a significant role in electing Joseph Biden and Kamala Harris as President and Vice President of the United States.

Furthermore, to add injury to their racist sensibilities, the preceding day, January 5, 2021, the state of Georgia elected its first African American and Jewish U.S. Senators during a special election.

Today, we see the potential for the 1898 level of violence against the entire Congress, which has become the most diverse deliberative body in our nation's history.

Since the attack, the FBI has identified more than 400 individuals out of an estimated 800 who illegally entered the Capitol on January 6, 2021. As of January 27, 2021, the FBI's Washington Field Office has confirmed that more than 150 criminal cases against those individuals have been filed.

Although some reporting initially contradicted Justice Department officials' public statements regarding aggressive efforts to charge all levels of criminal activity, acting U.S. Attorney Michael Sherwin reaffirmed the Department's commitment on January 26, 2021, stating: "[r]egardless of the level of criminal conduct, we're not selectively targeting or just trying to charge the most significant crime. [t]hose of law enforcement."

The long and blood history of white supremacy requires an approach that holds individuals accountable for their actions as a means of ending the lure of the mob as a tool of violence against targets of interest.

Reports that cite that over a hundred current or former members of the military were involved in the riot at the Capitol are shocking to some.

Unfortunately, this aspect of white supremacist violence was evident by violence committed by Proud Boys and Boogaloo adherents made clear their objectives.

My efforts to focus the attention of the military on this link was evident in an amendment I offered to the NDAA for FY2021 that was adopted.

This Jackson Lee Amendment included in the House version of the NDAA directed the Secretary of Defense to report to Congress the extent, if any, of the threat to national security posed by domestic terrorist groups and characized those involved in belief system of white supremacy, such as the Boogaloo and Proud Boys extremists is reflected in the Conference bill.

The NDAA conference identified that the FBI is under a statute, established by Section 5602 of the NDAA FY 2020 (Public Law 116-92), to complete a report that would better characterize the domestic terrorist threat by requiring the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security in consultation with the National Counterterrorism Center (NCT), to produce a set of comprehensive reports over 5 years.

The report is to include: a strategic intelligence threat internal to the United States; metrics on the number and type of incidents, coupled with resulting investigations, arrests, prosecutions and analytic products, copies of the execution of domestic terrorism investigations; detailed explanations of how the FBI, DHS and NCTC prioritize the domestic terrorism threats and incident; and descriptions regarding the type incarceration, health disparities, more vulnerable to economic slowdowns, and even more likely to get COVID–19 and have much worse health outcomes.
Disparities tell the story of living while black in America. Disparities in maternity mortality, in the care we receive from doctors when we are in pain caused by Sickle Cell anemia, or present with serious symptoms like Ebola as was the case with Thomas Eric Duncan who went to a Dallas Area hospital for treatment.

Disparities in the spread of COVID–19 are killing Black people at a much higher rate than our percentage of the population in states reporting demographic data. Since that time, we have seen a pandemic sweep the country, taking more than 500,000 souls in its wake and devastating the African American community.

According to the latest estimates from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, Black people get COVID–19 at a rate nearly one and a half times higher than that of white people, are hospitalized at a rate nearly four times higher, and are three times as likely to die from the disease. Interestingly, a recent peer-reviewed study from Harvard Medical School suggests that reparations for African Americans could have cut COVID–19 transmission and infection rates both among Blacks and the population at large.

Their analysis, based on Louisiana data, determined that if reparations payments had been made before the COVID–19 pandemic, narrowing the wealth gap, COVID–19 transmission rates in the state’s overall population could have been reduced by anywhere from 31 percent to 68 percent.

I include in the RECORD an article detailing the results of a Harvard Study that found that reparations for slavery could have reduced COVID–19 infections and deaths in US from between 31–68 percent.

There are disparities in every aspect of African American life and death.

Between 1980 and 2015, the number of people incarcerated in America increased from roughly 500,000 to over 2.2 million. Today, the United States makes up about 5 percent of the world’s population and has 25 percent of the world’s prisoners.

1 in every 37 adults in the United States, or 2.7 percent of the adult population, is under some form of correctional supervision.

In 2014, African Americans constituted 2.3 million, or 34 percent of the total 6.8 million correctional population.

African Americans are incarcerated at more than 5 times the rate of whites.

The imprisonment rate for African American women is twice that of white women.

Nationally, African American children represent 32 percent of children who are arrested.

42 percent of children who are detained, and 52 percent of children whose cases are judicially waived to criminal court.


President Biden announced the creation of the Special Enrollment Period for HealthCare.gov.

The nation over the last twelve months has faced a crucible of suffering, death, and disease that has taken too many lives, devastating the economy, and has all 14 states and D.C. that have their own state-based marketplaces have announced that they would also have Special Enrollment Periods.

Questions about how justice is served to different communities in our nation came into stark focus with the horrifying killing of George Floyd on May 25, 2020 by a Minneapolis police officer, which shocked and awakened the moral consciousness of the nation.

Untold millions have seen the terrifying last 8 minutes and 46 seconds of life drained from a black man, George Floyd, taking his last breaths face down in the street with his neck under the knee of a police officer who, along with three cohorts, was indifferent to his cries for help and pleads that he “can’t breathe.”

In direct response, civil protests against police brutality occurred in cities large and small across the nation.

It is clear that the times that we find ourselves in demand action, and that is precisely what my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus, on the House Judiciary Committee, and Congressional Democrats did by introducing H.R. 7120, the Justice in Policing Act of 2020 in the 116th Congress.

The George Floyd Justice in Policing Act will be reintroduced this Congress to complete the work this nation has already begun in bringing justice to the criminal justice system. And every day, we use our power and our message to lift up these important issues that are facing our nation, and we ask those who are listening and watching to make these efforts your own.

Criminal Justice Reform is a pressing issue that Congress must address.

As Judge Learned Hand observed, “If we are to keep our democracy, there must be one commandment: thou shalt not ration justice.”

Reforming the criminal justice system so that it is fairer and delivers equal justice to all persons is one of the great moral imperatives of our time.
For reform to be truly meaningful, we must look at every stage at which our citizens interact with the system—from policing in our communities and the first encounter with law enforcement, to the charging and manner of attaining a conviction, from the sentence imposed to entry and collateral consequences.

House Democrats led by House Judiciary Committee Chair JERROLD NADLER and myself, as Chair of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, have accepted and embraced the challenge of reforming the criminal justice system and developing innovative legislative remedies to correct many of the most glaring inequities and racial disparities in the most critical areas of the system.

This is an important topic and one that Congress must turn its attention to with urgency and unity of effort to:

address the harms caused;
get an accounting of what happened;
understand how the water was poisoned;
and determine for the long-term health needs of those impacted.

Today, the water in Flint, Michigan is not safe to drink and we have no concrete answer on when clean water will return to the citizens. Flint, Michigan like so many communities across the nation felt the brunt of the financial crisis created by the abuse of new home lending practices and deceptive investment schemes that hid the weaknesses in the economy until the great recession spread across the nation beginning in late 2008.

The financial damage done to communities like Flint in the form of steep declines in property values, which caused significant declines in tax revenue, has left many communities with much needed revenue to meet the needs of their citizens.

The government promised the Negro “forty acres and a mule” but instead gave them nothing. Black Americans were left to their devices. In 1965, the Voting Rights Act was passed with cloture votes in the House and Senate and the signature of the President.

This legislation replaced the old “static” coverage formula with a new dynamic coverage formula, or ‘rolling trigger,’ which effectively gives the legislation nationwide reach because any state and any jurisdiction in any state potentially is subject to being covered if the requisite number of violations have been found to have been committed.

For millions of Americans, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 is sacred treasure, earned by the sweat and toil and tears and blood of ordinary Americans who showed the world it was possible to accomplish extraordinary things.

I want to thank my colleagues, Chairwoman BEATY of the CBC, and my co-Anchor, representative TORRES, for participating in this Special Order on these important topics.

In signing the Voting Rights Act on August 6, 1965, President Lyndon Johnson said:

“The vote is the most powerful instrument ever devised by man for breaking down injustice and oppression anywhere in the world. And I believe that Negroes are different.

In the 51 years since its passage on August 6, 1965, the Voting Rights Act has safeguarded the right of Americans to vote and stood as an obstacle to many of the more egregious attempts by states and local jurisdictions to game the system by passing discriminatory changes to their election laws or administrative policies.

In signing the Voting Rights Act on August 6, 1965, President Lyndon Johnson said:

“The vote is the most powerful instrument ever devised by man for breaking down injustices and the terror of those terrible walls which imprison men because they are different from other men.”

But on June 25, 2013, the Supreme Court decided Shelby County v. Holder, 570 U.S. 193 (2013), which invalidated Section 4(b) of the VRA, and paralyzed the application of the VRA’s Section 5 preclearance requirements, which protect minority voting rights where voter discrimination has historically been the worst. Since 1982, Section 5 has stopped more than 1,000 discriminatory voting changes in 12 towns, school boards, and municipal governments who rely on Congress to fund all 12 states, including those whose property values, which caused significant declines in tax revenue, have dropped like Flint in the form of steep declines in property values.

The remedy for this problem is real reform. For years, we have heard “change will come.” Words that consistently ring hollow. The people must do everything they can to prevent another innocent person from dying at the hands of the police or white supremacists.

The idea that the People must engage radical methods of change, change that accepts all action except violence as legitimate, has generated a great deal of apprehension to many Americans. But lest we forget our history, it should be remembered that America’s birth and continued existence is a never-ending dance with radicalism and extremism.

Words that were once shunned as too radical now lauded as examples of our system. Was not Patrick Henry an extremist? “Give me liberty or give me death.”[9] Not the Declaration of Independence radical when it stated that it is “In the Right of the People to alter or abolish” the government if it became destructive to equality.[10] Our Founding Fathers listed in the Declaration the tyrannies under which England’s cruel policy had legitimized the American Revolution—including the Crown’s “protection[ion] of [his soldiers], by a mock Trial, from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States.”[11] Was it not Thomas Jefferson who wrote to William Smith and said, “what country can preserve its liberties, if its rulers are not warned from time to time that their people preserve the spirit of resistance?”[12] Was not Abraham Lincoln called radical when he said, “I believe this government cannot endure, permanently half slave and half free.”[13] And was not Dr. King considered one of the most radical and most hated men in America?[14] History tells us that Black men and so, too, will history be kind to us.

Black Americans and their allies can’t wait for perfect adherence from their movement on how one should engage in radical change. “No revolution is executed like a ballet[7],” said Dr. King, “[its steps and gestures are not neatly planned and precisely performed.”[15] There will be violent elements in every revolution, but the majority of those revolting are doing so nonviolently. Kamala Harris has been kind to us.

The necessity of Black Americans and their allies forming a movement for radical change is difficult for many to swallow. It is daunting because too many do not understand the centrality of radical change to American history. They sit in the shade of trees they did not plant, warm themselves by fires that they did not light, wells that they did not dig.[17] They profit from persons they do not know, and they build upon...
foundations that they did not lay. [18] But Black Americans know this difficult truth: radical change is the only acceptable change. They are keenly aware that their struggle for equality and justice is a never-ending battle. Black Americans are resentful because after all these years they must constantly push for change or be pushed back into the dark places that black Americans are the seeds that go unwatered and still rise. The soil not tilled but still fertile. You can’t ask us to be patient with change anymore or to play by your rules because Black Americans have been patient from John Castor to Henry Scott to George Floyd to ——. I was born, bred, and battle-tested in the boogie down Bronx. And I have the high honor of representing New York's 15, the south Bronx, which for too long has been ground zero for racially concentrated poverty. The unemployment rate in the south Bronx could be as high as 25 percent, comparable to the joblessness of the Great Depression.

More than half the residents in the Bronx pay more than half their income toward rent, and what is often factor in the cost of prescription drugs and utilities, and food, and all the bare necessities of life. And even though the south Bronx has long been known to be the poorest congressional district. COVID-19 has shown the south Bronx to be the essential congressional district.

It is the home of essential workers who put their lives at risk during the peak of the pandemic so that most of us could remain safe. And our mission, as the CBC, should be to give those essential workers, who are overwhelmingly women of color, a fighting chance at a decent and dignified life.

You know, I never thought as a poor kid of color from the Bronx that I would embark on a journey that would take me from public housing in the Bronx to the people's House in Washington, D.C. And I never thought that as a Congress Member I would live through an insurrection against the U.S. Capitol.

Now, on January 6, we were reminded that there are two competing realities that define America. There is the reality of multiracial democracy. America is slowly emerging as a multiracial, multiethnic, LGBTQ-inclusive democracy. Seventy percent of the Democratic Caucus consists of people of color, women, and members of the LGBTQ community.

But then there is the reality of white supremacy, which reared its ugly head on January 6. And, for me, the scene on the U.S. Capitol was not simply an attack on a physical structure, it was an attack on the very idea of America as a multiracial democracy. And it is that vision of America that, we, as the CBC, are charged with defending.

And despite the overwhelming shock and despair that I felt on January 6, Madam Speaker, I have hope. The inauguration gave me hope. The image of Kamala Harris, a Black woman in the Vice-Presidency, being sworn in by Sonia Sotomayor of the United States Supreme Court, is a powerful encapsulation of how far we have come, of how much we have achieved. And that moment reminds us that the future of our country does not belong to white supremacy. The future of our country belongs to multiracial democracy.

And the Congressional Black Caucus will continue to be at the forefront of making America the more perfect multiracial union that it ought to be. In the words of the CBC chair: Our Power, Our Message. Ms. JACKSON LEE, Madam Speaker, let me thank the gentleman very much for his powerful words and his very prominent focus on the idea that you are from the Bronx, but the spirit of the Bronx cannot be taken from you, and that your commitment and your assessment of this country will be defined in your way, not in the way of white supremacists, domestic terrorists, or insurrectionists.

Mr. JONES, you think more than ever he has captured an important moment by saying he has hope, and that is what the Congressional Black Caucus represents for the millions of Americans that we represent. He is right, our constituency is multicultural, they come from many different perspectives, they are Black, they are African American—as they may be desired to be called—they are Latinx, they are Hispanic, they are Anglo, they are White, they are Southeast Asian, they are South Asian, they are LGBTQ, and they are varied. That is what we are here today to stand for.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JONES), a distinguished member of the Judiciary Committee, among other committees, and a scholar in his own right, a lawyer, and someone who has been able to be trained in the ways of the law, but whose heart is vested in the ways of justice. I am delighted to yield to my colleague for his time on the floor in this wonderful momentous occasion.

Mr. JONES, Madam Speaker, I thank the distinguished co-chair of this incredible Special Order sponsored by the Congressional Black Caucus for those very kind words.

I will say, as someone who has spent most of his life following the work of this Black Caucus, it is an honor to finally join the legends, the luminaries who helped to inspire my own run for the United States Congress. Thank you.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank the CBC for holding this hour to reflect on Black history. I want to share, in particular, the story of a young lawyer who came to the village of Hillburn in Rockland County, New York, during his fight to desegregate our public schools.

Like many places in 1943, the Village of Hillburn had a main school for White children. It was called the Hillburn School. And it had a school for children
of color without a library, a play-ground, or indoor plumbing. That was called the Brook School.

But our elders did not accept this. They fought back. Parents of the Brook School children organized, and with the help of a young lawyer with the NAACP’s legal defense fund, they sued the district. With the help of their lawyer, the parents of the Brook School children won their fight against segregation in a case that helped to lay the groundwork for Brown v. Board of Education a few years later.

Who was this young lawyer who came to the Village of Hillburn?

He was the man who would later become our Nation’s first Supreme Court Justice who was Black: Thurgood Marshall.

I am moved by the story because it shows how Black history creates Black futures, how the courage and resistance of the Black leaders of years past are the reason a poor Black kid from Rockland County now stands in this special Chamber as the United States Congress Member representing that same school district today.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman JONES so very much for that beautiful statement, obviously, a lawyer’s lawyer to bring to our attention the great leadership of Justice Thurgood Marshall, civil rights attorney Thurgood Marshall, from a lawyer whose portrait will continue to promote justice now as a legislator.

Madam Speaker, I want to take a moment to just put in the RECORD really the historical description of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Since its establishment in 1971, the Congressional Black Caucus has been committed to using the full constitutional power, statutory authority, and financial resources of the Federal Government to ensure that Black Americans and other marginalized communities in the United States have the opportunity to achieve the American Dream.

As part of this commitment, the CBC has fought in the past 50 years to empower citizens and address their legislative concerns by nursing a policy agenda that is inclusive, pragmatic, effective, and resonates with the American people.

Just for a moment, I would like to comment on the dangerous interrelatedness of race and the insurrectionist day of January 6.

We are on the floor because we have a unique history. We are a multicultural people and a multicultural people. We are individuals whose heritage is intertwined with other backgrounds. We are African Americans. We are Caribbean Americans. And in terms of African Americans, we are Caribbean Blacks, if you will. We come from all over the world, but we come to America and we are described by a singular history.

And if we have come with a singular history, I think it is important to intertwine what happened on January 6. Shockingly, Madam Speaker, those who came to object—so they say—to the duly qualified and legitimate election of President Joe Biden and, of course, Vice President Harris, they, of course, came allegedly with that proposition. I am stunned by the words of a police officer by the name of Mr. Harry Dunn—courageous and brave with so many others— who indicated: The rioters called me the n-word dozens of times.

So here we are celebrating the Congressional Black Caucus. Here we are defenders of democracy. Many of our Members are former members of the United States military, having gone into battle, or our family members have. Many of us in as early a war as World War I, World War II, the Korean war, the Vietnam war, Iraq, and Afghanistan, and other wars in between. We shed our blood for this country.

And the so-called people who came and said they just wanted some democracy, they believed that their candidate won, but they took enough time to call the sons and daughters of enslaved Africans—those who wear the uniform defending democracy, the n-word. They took time to carry a fake flag, calling it the Confederate flag when it is a symbol in the 1960s of the harshness and brutality of segregation and the Klan. They took time to bring that flag to the United States Congress, in the midst of the highest number of elected persons of color, persons who are descendants in many different ways of enslaved Africans.

But here I want to mention Mr. Dunn’s name. There were many others who were beaten that day. I honor them, and we will honor them as time goes. This night, tonight, we mention this gentleman who said most powerfully—Harry Dunn recalled the sickening events of January 6—when he says that the level of racist abuse he suffered caused him to break down in tears, but he was not broken. His quote was: “I’ll always remember that I saw the face of America. That is my message today. All of the brutality that we may have experienced, which I will talk about in a moment, all of it failed. That is why we are here today fighting in the Education and Labor Committee; fighting in the Science, Space, and Technology Committee; fighting in the Ways and Means Committee; fighting in the Energy and Commerce Committee; the Judiciary; the Interior; the Armed Services; the Oversight and Reform Committee; and the Budget Committee, where you will see our presence.

We are fighting for America, but we are the conscience that drives the reality that there are more people to be concerned about than those of us in this Chamber. That there are mothers and father who work every day, who don’t see the fruit of their labor. There are children who clamor for education, but it is not there.

There are soldiers who need to have the line of hierarchy and the route to promotion and elevation, who don’t get it. There are businesspersons who have brilliant ideas, but can’t access the capital. There are incarcerated persons who are not guilty, but are still incarcerated.

And there are doors of college institutions closed. There are people who want to do better with a new house, but still, in the 21st century, are redlined. And there are many who want to go places and cannot go, who are African American.

No, we are not complaining. We are trying to explain how much has been done by people who have had this kind of history. It is important to take note of that.

Madam Speaker, may I have the time remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Texas has 21 minutes remaining.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TORRES), if he will carry forward.

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman, as always, for the inspiration of words.

Our colleague, Congressman JONES, spoke earlier of Brown v. Board of Education that Brown v. Board of Education was the first legal case I ever read. In high school, I participated in a form of legal debate known as moot court, which taught me how to think, read, write, and speak critically and artfully. I will never forget reading Brown v. Board of Education how inspired I felt, those words in the field of education: Separate but equal is inherently unequal.

Those words inspired me to see myself—as a young Black man—as a public servant and maybe one day as a Member of the United States Congress.

But I have to be honest. If you had said, when I was 1 year old, I would become a Member of Congress during an infectious disease outbreak, that I would witness an insurrection against the U.S. Capitol during the electoral college vote count, and that I would raise my voice to impeach President who had been impeached once before, I would have said that sounds a lot like a movie.

So this has been the most draining and disorienting beginning for any freshman class in the modern history of the United States Congress, but I am nevertheless honored to be here.

January 6 is a reminder that the misstep of the CBC takes on a renewed urgency. The Congress Member and I sit on the Homeland Security Committee, and one of our highest priorities is going to be counterterrorism. During one of our recent hearings, I made the observation that America has a pattern of willful blindness toward white supremacist extremism as a form of domestic terror.

Even though the statistics have been clear that white supremacist extremism has been the dominant driver of violence in the United States for decades, the U.S. Government did not designate a white supremacist group as a
terrorist organization until 2020. Never mind the massacre against Afri-
can Americans, against Latinos, and against members of the LGBTQ community. It took the Federal Government until 2020 to finally recognize white supremacy as a form of domestic terrorism.

I am often asked: Whom do you ad-
mire in history?

The gentlewoman brought up the Under-
ground Railroad, and I am a great admirer of Harriet Tubman, who, as the architect of the Underground Rail-
road, is America’s Moses. She was a genuine liberator of an enslaved peo-
ple. I also have deep admiration for Ida B. Wells, who was alone as a journalist in standing up to the campaign of domes-
tic terrorism andlynching against Afri-
can Americans. And we have to draw from the legacy of Ida B. Wells and ren-
ew our commitment to fighting do-

domestic terrorism in our own time.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to joining the gentlewoman in that fight and learning from her.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, my country has very powerfully cap-
tured the many heroes in our commu-
nity, historical heroes as well, and her-

to that was not going to be their

Harriet Tubman was that woman. She was General Moses, and she told slaves that it was not going to be their
task to stop along the railroad, they were going to get to their destination—
and I guess she was a little harsh—dead or

That is the push of the Congressional Black Caucus. We are not violent peo-
ple, so I won’t say dead or alive. But we are very engaged in pushing the

There were so many young peo-
ple that voted. So many people of the
trenches of the marginal. We feel so good about voting to-
gether, many of us voting the same way for the same candidate, as evi-
denced by his victory. States that we
had lost 4 years ago, enthusiastically voting for change, for goodness, for a

But isn’t it interesting that after

barriers to their rights. We did not know and conspire to come and attack

This is how it was. This is how it was.

from the First Amend-

So many leaders. As I indicated, I

China with Yao Ming when they were

George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Walter Scott, Tamir Rice, Trayvon Martin, Ahmad Arbery, Pamela Turner, Sandra Bland, Jacob Blake, and Elijah McClain in Colorado, and names be-
hind names. We honor the fathers and mothers who have become friends, Mi-

And I guess my constituent—the
time. This is how it was. This is how it was.

So this is the 100th anniversary of probably some of the likes of those
names that I called. Life cut down. And this depiction is Captured Ne-
groes on way to Convention Hall dur-
ing the Tulsa race riot. They were cap-
tured. There was no justice, 300 Ne-
groes, Black Americans were buried in an unmarked grave, as we are told. This is how it was. This is how it was. This is how it was.

The Congressional Black Caucus will be commemorating that this year. And I will introduce legislation with Sen-
ator WARREN, on the Tulsa race riots next week.

But shamefully, that fight has to
continue. And on January 6, that fight, that scab was torn off again. That

Because of the transparency of each
State’s election administration and
that of the joint meeting of Congress,
it would simply confirm that Joe Biden
had won more than a majority of the
electoral votes along with winning the
national popular vote by more than
seven million votes.

We think that this was a historic elec-
tion; more votes than we had ever
counted, I believe, in the history of the
United States. There was such a sense
of exhilaration because democracy was
alive. There were so many young peo-
ple that voted. So many people of the
potpourri of America, all backgrounds.

That is why we have such pain for
George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Walter Scott, Tamir Rice, Trayvon Martin, Ahmad Arbery, Pamela Turner, Sandra Bland, Jacob Blake, and Elijah McClain in Colorado, and names be-
hind names. We honor the fathers and mothers who have become friends, Mi-

misters and part of America’s fam-
ily, along with all the other mothers
and fathers—George Floyd grew up in
Houston, Texas, in the Cuney Homes, public housing. His mother was the
queen of public housing, took in chil-
dren, fed children. They felt like they
were at home in the Floyd family.

Big George is what he was called. Big
man. Took his brothers and sisters
under his wing. George Floyd played
basketball—is in China with Yao Ming when they were

mance of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, you
will see that members of the Con-
gressional Black Caucus, when they were
tiny, until we have expanded, have con-
sistently gone to the floor on questions
of justice and expanding opportunity
and ending injustice in respect of
color or age or region. We fight for
justice no matter what the color of
your skin, what your background is.

We are purists as it relates to justice.

The love the Constitution, because

even though we were three-fifths of a
person, we were not a human being
when it was finalized—it was a docu-
ment that grew and continues to
breathe rights, from the First Amend-
ment to the 15th Amendment, 14th
Amendment, the right for women to
vote, to the amend-
ments that deal with a right to a trial
by jury, to the Fifth Amendment, due
process, and the protection of your
property. These are all breathing doc-
uments and words, breathing amend-
ments that have allowed a people who
were in bondage to scrap their way out
of the devastation of hatred. We use
this Constitution.

But shamefully, that fight has to
continue. And on January 6, that fight,
that scab was torn off again. That
rug was burning again. Those who came to
say that they were fighting for Trump
and fighting to overturn the election,
It looks like another celebratory occasion, hanging. We will hear more of this when we proceed to discuss our commission to study and develop reparations proposals.

But let me—before I yield to my good friend, Ms. WILLIAMS, I just want you to see this one. This gentleman's name was—I am going to call him Mr. Gorden. He is a slave—was a slave, deceased. And clearly, those are markings of a very bad beating. But that is not the end of his story.

This man came out of slavery and fought in the Civil War on behalf of the Union. This is what we did. We always rise to the occasion. You will hear more about our story. But I wanted to make sure that we just got a sense of how we have been overcomers. But even with being overcomers, we know there is more to do.

Madam Speaker, I am very delighted to be able to yield to the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. WILLIAMS), and she has a sense of how we have been overcomers. But even with being overcomers, we know there is more to do.

Ms. WILLIAMS, a Democratic Senate, a Democratic Party. Ms. JACKSON LEE, Madam Speaker, today my Congressional Black Caucus colleagues and I observe Black History Month and celebrate 50 years of Our Power, Our Message. For 50 years, the Congressional Black Caucus has uplifted the voices of Black people and other marginalized communities so that they can share in the promise of America for all.

For the 117th Congress, the Congressional Black Caucus marks a new milestone with 58 members, the largest membership in CBC history. The next 50 years of Our Power, Our Message is strong.

We are here in D.C. witnessing more Black history being made with the first Black woman to be a CBCU grad, our soror, and a member of our Congressional Black Caucus serving as Vice President of the United States. Indeed, our power and our message are strong.

While we continue to make great strides, it is not lost on me that 2020 was a difficult year for Black people across this country. Collectively, we battled a pandemic that continues to infect and kill Black people at disproportionate rates.

In my home state of Georgia, Black people are also experiencing some of the highest levels of unemployment in decades. By November 2020, Black Georgians had filed 71 percent more unemployment claims than White, Hispanic, Latinx, and Asian-American workers combined.

Being Black in Georgia, we fight daily for what so many take for granted in this country, the right to vote, the right to the fair and equal treatment that George Floyd didn’t get, the right to be, the right to exist.

Today, in particular, we reflect on how far we have to go. One year ago, Ahmaud Arbery was hunted down and murdered, simply because he was a Black man going for a jog in Brunswick, Georgia. His murder by white supremacists and the subsequent delays in realizing justice may seem new, but Black people have dealt with systemic racism for centuries. Let me here to break these structures and dismantle these systems using our power and our message as the Congressional Black Caucus.

Ms. JACKSON LEE, Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her words and certainly her powerful words on the importance of our Vice President, the Honorable Vice President Harris. We are grateful for her.

It is my pleasure to yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TORRES), my co-anchor.

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, I want to pay tribute to my classmate, Congress Member NIKEMA WILLIAMS, who, as the chair of the Georgia Democratic Party, was instrumental in winning the Senate for the Democratic Party.

Thanks to the leadership of on-the-ground organizers like Congress Member WILLIAMS, a Democratic Senate, a Democratic House, a Democratic President, we have the makings of an FDR moment. We have a historic opportunity to build in the 21st century as FDR did in the 20th century.

Systemic racism in America traces back 400 years, and it is incredible to think that in the 400-year history of our country, we are as close as we have ever been to confronting the root causes of systemic racism.

That is the burden that we bear as the Congressional Black Caucus, but it is not only a burden. It is a blessing. Public service in an FDR moment is a blessing.

It is said the first historian, Herodotus, said that he wrote the first historical book so that the deeds of brave people cannot be forgotten. That is the same reason the CBC exists, so that the deeds of Black heroes like Harriet Tubman and Ida B. Wells, like John Lewis, like Barack Obama and KAMALA HARRIS, are never forgotten, that the contributions of Black America should remain front and center in the life of our country.

It has been an honor to be with you, Congress Member JACKSON LEE. I cannot tell you how honored I feel to be a member of the CBC.

You know, I grew up poor most of my life. I was raised by a single mother who had to raise three children on minimum wage, which in the 1990s was $4.25 an hour. I grew up in public housing, in conditions of mold and mildew, leaks and lead, without consistent heat and hot water in the winter. I never even saw cold water out near half of Black small businesses in our country.

In the face of the COVID–19 pandemic, the Black Caucus has played a critical role in the

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drafting and enacting of legislation to support Black Americans—including President Biden’s newest package. Billed as the American Rescue Plan, the $1.9 trillion relief package consists of several provisions advocated for by the Black Caucus. Among them include $400 billion for vaccine distribution with a focus on minority communities, $15 billion for equitably distributed grants to minority-owned small businesses, and investment in infrastructure projects to create more jobs for unemployed minorities.

Madam Speaker, the Congressional Black Caucus will certainly play a prominent Congress for generations to come. I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues in the caucus to advance better, more equitable policies for all.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 5(a)(1)(B) of House Resolution 8, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow for morning-hour debate and noon for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 9 o’clock and 32 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, February 24, 2021, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the fourth quarter of 2020, pursuant to Public Law 95–384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2020

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name of Member or employee</th>
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<th>Per diem ¹</th>
<th>Transportation</th>
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HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

1 Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
2 If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.


REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ETHICS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2020

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REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2020

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REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2020

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REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2020

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Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

1 Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
2 If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF, Jan. 8, 2021.
EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

EC-359. A letter from the Secretary of the Commission, Market Participants Division, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission’s final rule — Margin Requirements for Uncleared Swaps for Swap Dealers and Major Swap Participants (RIN: 3033-AF04) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 968); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-361. A letter from the Secretary of the Commission, Division of Market Oversight, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission’s final rule — Swap Entities (RIN: 3033-AF05) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 968); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-362. A letter from the Deputy Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau’s final rule — Truth in Lending (Regulation Z) Annual Threshold Adjustments (Credit Cards, HOEPA, and Qualified Mortgages) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 968); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-363. A letter from the Regulations Coordinating Committee and the Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Implementation of Executive Order 13993 on Access to Affordable Life-Saving Medications (RIN: 0906-AB25) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 968); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-364. A letter from the Agency Representative, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Rules of Practice to Allocate the Burden of Proof Regarding Foreign Countries in Patent Trials (RIN: 3700-AD75) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 968); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-365. A letter from the Agency Representative, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department’s temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Lower Mississippi River; Natchez, MS [Docket No.: PTOP-2019-0011] (RIN: 0651-AD34) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 968); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-366. A letter from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department’s temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Neuse River, New Bern, NC [Docket No.: USCG-USCG-2020-0645] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 968); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-367. A letter from the Chief Petty Officer, CG-LPD, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department’s temporary final rule — Security Zone; Fleet Week Defense Security Event, San Diego, CA [Docket No.: USCG-2020-0655] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 968); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-368. A letter from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department’s temporary final rule Special Local Regulation: Port-Lauderdale Air Show; Atlantic Ocean, Fort Lauderdale, FL [Docket No.: USCG-2020-0128] (RIN: 1625-AA88) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 968); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-369. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service’s final regulations — Rollover Rules for Qualified Plan Loan Offset Amounts [TD 9937] (RIN: 1545-BA94) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 968); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-370. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service’s IRB only rule — Guidance on Sections 102 and 103 of the SECURE Act With Respect to Safe Harbor Plans [Notice 2020-88] received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 968); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-371. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service’s IRB only rule — COVID-19 Relief for Employers Using the Atomic Financial Professional Rule [Notice 2021-7] received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 968); to the Committee on Ways and Means.


REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar.

Ms. SCANLON: Committee on Rules. H. Res. 147. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 803) to designate certain lands in the State of Colorado as components of the National Land Reserve System, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5) to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and for other purposes (Rept. 117–6). Referred to the House Calendar.

H.R. 1210. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the Law Enforcement Officer Safety Act and provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. McCaul (for himself and Mr. Muczyk):

H.R. 1212. A bill to direct the Department of State to ensure persons representing the United States in international athletic competitions in certain countries are appropriately informed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. Adams (for herself, Ms. Underwood, Ms. Vela, Ms. Velázquez, Ms. McSally, Mr. Smith of Washington, Ms. Scanlon, Mr. Lawson of Florida, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Butterfield, Ms. Moore of Wisconsin, Ms. Steckland, Mr. Ryan, Mr. Schiff, Mr. Johnson of Georgia, Mr. Horsford, Ms. Wasserman Schultz, Ms. Barragan, Mr. Deutch, Mr. Blumenauer, Mr. Moulton, Mr. Soto, Mr. Nadler, Ms. Tronet, Ms. Clarke of New York, Ms. Schakowsky, Ms. Bass, Ms. Pressley, Mr. Evans, Ms. Blunt Rochester, Ms. Castor of Florida, Ms. Sewell, and Ms. Williams of Georgia):

H.R. 1213. A bill to establish a safe harbor for and preventable maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity in the United States and close disparities in maternal health outcomes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. Allen:

H.R. 1214. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons that knowingly spread malign disinformation as part of or on behalf of a foreign government or political party for purposes of political warfare and to require a determination regarding the United Front Work Department of the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese Communist Party's arm, the China Communist Party in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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. Blunt Rochester (for herself, Mr. Walden, Mr. Deutch, Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Welch, Mr. Souzzi, Mr. Rush, Ms. Kelly of Illinois, Mr. O’Halleran, Mr. Case, Mr. Carson, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Cárdenas, and Ms. Omar):

H.R. 1215. A bill to establish an office within the Federal Trade Commission and an outside advisory group to target seniors and to direct the Commission to include additional information in an annual report to Congress on fraud targeting seniors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. Bost:

H.R. 1216. A bill to establish an advisory commission regarding eligibility for health care furnished by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

By Mr. Bost (for himself and Ms. Chukwu:

H.R. 1217. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from transmitting certain information to the Department of Justice for...
use by the national instant criminal background check system; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

By Mr. BUTTERFIELD (for himself, Mr. HILLEGAS, and Ms. BLJNT ROCHESTER):

H.R. 1218. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to incorporate data with outcomes that improve broadband health maps; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida (for himself, Mrs. WONG, and Mr. ROSE):

H.R. 1219. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the age requirement with respect to eligibility for qualified ABLE programs; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. DEAN, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. LAMB, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. VACCA):

H.R. 1220. A bill to reauthorize the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area, the Lackawanna Coal Heritage Area, the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, the Schuylkill River Valley National Heritage Area, and the Oil Region National Heritage Area, for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. CLARKE of New York (for herself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. MONTGOMERY, Mr. GARGIUTO, Ms. BARRAGAN, Ms. PINHEIRO, Mr. WELCH, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. JONES, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. SHIBS, Ms. VELAYDO HASTINGS, Ms. SPEIER, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. RYAN, Mr. POCAN, Ms. MENO, Ms. WATERS, Mr. RASSEK, and Ms. MATSUU):

H.R. 1221. A bill to increase deployment of electric vehicle charging infrastructure in low-income communities and communities of color, 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. COHEN (for himself, Ms. LIU of California, and Ms. ESCH):

H.R. 1222. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 regarding proprietary institutions of higher education in order to protect students and taxpayers; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. CHELILINO):

H.R. 1223. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to individuals associated with the Government of the Russian Federation who are complicit in the poisoning and repression of citizens of the Russian Federation for political motives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, Financial Services, Ways and Means, Transportation and Infrastructure, and 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. CONNOLLY (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mr. PORTER, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DRAHOS, Mr. DAVIS of Ohio, Mr. SCHWARTZ, Mr. MENG, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. KILMER, Mr. ENCARNACIO, and Mr. KHANNA):

H.R. 1224. A bill to reauthorize the authority of the Merit Systems Protection Board, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself, Mr. MEZEE, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. SHERMAN):

H.R. 1225. An act to increase diversity and inclusion in the workforce of national security agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, Intelligence (Permanent Select), the Judiciary, Homeland Security, Agriculture, 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. CROW (for himself, Mr. BALDERSO, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. PHILLIPS, Ms. MCDONALD, Mr. NORTON, Mr. CASE, and Mr. TUTTLE):

H.R. 1226. A bill to establish a Next Generation Entrepreneurship Corp program within the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business, and in addition to the Committee on 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. DELAGADO (for himself, Mr. IGGINS of New York, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut):

H.R. 1227. A bill to establish a public health plan; 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. HICKS (for himself, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. LIEU, and Mr. MALINOWSKI):

H.R. 1228. A bill to advance a diplomatic solution to the conflict in Libya and support the people of Libya; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on 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. DEUTCH (for himself and Mr. DIAZ-BALART):

H.R. 1229. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to reauthorize and expand the National Threat Assessment Center of the Department of Homeland Security; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on 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. TRUMKA:

H.R. 1230. A bill to authorize funding for the United States Postal Service to conduct a study on motor vehicle recalls, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself and Ms. CRAIG):

H.R. 1231. A bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to modify prevented planting coverage; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. JONES (for himself and Mr. TRONG):

H.R. 1232. A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on certain foreign affairs reporting requirements; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.
H.R. 1245. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit interfering with voter registration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, 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. KIM of New Jersey (for himself and Mr. NORCROSS):

H.R. 1246. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to allow ranchers and farmers to use an alternative calculation for a maximum loan amount under the paycheck protection program; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself and Mr. BACON):

H.R. 1247. A bill to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to include an act of unregulated custody transfer in the definition of child abuse and neglect, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. COOPER, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. DEVALAIRE, Mrs. KAVANAUGH of Illinois, Ms. MENG, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. KHANNA, Ms. SPRINGER, Mr. RUSH, Ms. LUMMUS, Ms. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. EVANS, Mr. NADLER, Mr. SHAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE of California, Mr. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. WELCH, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. BASS, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. CICCILLINE, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. JONES, and Mr. BROWN):

H.R. 1238. A bill to remove all statues of individuals who voluntarily served the Confederate States of America from display in the United States Capitol; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. LIEU of California (for himself, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. SEWELL, Ms. MENG, Mr. GALLEGO, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mrs. LAWRENCE):

H.R. 1249. A bill to disbar the use of payment of money as a condition of pretrial release in criminal cases, and for other purposes; to the Judiciary.

By Ms. MATSUI (for herself, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Ms. ESCH, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Mr. HUFFMAN):

H.R. 1226. A bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to issue reports after activation of the Disaster Information Reporting System and to make improvements to network outage reporting to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. McCaul (for himself, Mr. MERRICK, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. LANGFORD, Mr. GALLAGHER, and Mr. KRAATINGA):

H.R. 1251. A bill to support United States international cyber diplomacy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. McCaul (for himself and Mr. MCMAHON):

H.R. 1233. A bill to modernize and streamlining the public diplomacy capabilities of the Department of State; to increase the evaluation of foreign public diplomacy programming, enhance strategic planning for the Department's public diplomacy physical presence abroad, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina (for himself, Mr. STELLE, Mr. BENEDETTI, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. ROY, Mr. KELLER, Mr. DUNCAN, Mrs. BOSSERT, Mr. GAETZ, Ms. HERRELL, Mr. FEUER, Mrs. GOSAR, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. CAWTHER, Ms. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. JACKSON, Mrs. MCLAUGHLIN, and Mrs. BASS):

H.R. 1254. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to modify certain requirements for Federal programs of surplus plus real property, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. NADLER (for himself and Mr. SCHENK):

H.R. 1255. A bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Reform, House Administration, Education and Labor, and Financial Services; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. NORTON (for herself, Mr. RASKIN, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 1256. A bill to direct the Secretary of the interior to remove the bronze plaque and concrete block bearing the name of Francis Newlands from the grounds of the memorial fountain located at Cherry Chase Circle in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. PALLONE:

H.R. 1257. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study on the effect of financial and credit counseling for homeless veterans and veterans experiencing housing instability; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

By Ms. PINGREE (for herself, Mr. FORSTERBERY, and Ms. KUSTER):

H.R. 1258. A bill to amend the Poultry Products Inspection Act and the Federal Meat Inspection Act to support small and medium-sized processing establishments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. ROSENDALE (for himself, Mr. ARZilda HEFFRON, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. GOSAR, Mrs. GREENE of Georgia, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. HERRELL, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. PERRY, Mr. POSSEY, Mr. ROY, Mr. STEUHE, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. NORMAN, Mrs. BOSSERT, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, and Mr. PALAZZO):

H.R. 1259. A bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to continue to implement the Migrant Protection Protocols, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RUPPERSBERGER (for himself and Mr. KINZINGER):

H.R. 1260. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a grant program to improve violence intervention and violence prevention programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. RYAN (for himself, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, and Ms. KAPUTH):

H.R. 1261. A bill to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to reauthorize the Ohio & Erie National Heritage Canalway, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. STAUBER (for himself and Mr. DESAULNIER):

H.R. 1262. A bill to establish a task force on improvements for certain notices to airmen, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. STEFANIK (for herself, Ms. GOOD of Virginia, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. OWENS, and Mr. BANNOCK):

H.R. 1263. A bill to provide federal funding for institutions of higher education that have partnerships with the People’s Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SWALWELL (for himself, Mr. CASE, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 1264. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require corporations to report disbursements made by foreign nationals for purposes of disseminating campaign-related promotions and to inquire whether persons providing such disbursements are foreign nationals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. SWALWELL (for himself, Mr. COREN, Mrs. DEMINGS, and Ms. NORCROSS):

H.R. 1265. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to make the disclosure of the identity of a whistleblower a criminal offense, to provide a civil action for the disclosure of the identity of a whistleblower, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SWALWELL (for himself, Mr. DRUTCH, Mr. COREN, Mr. CICCILLINE, Mr. LIU, Ms. DEMINGS, Mrs. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. HERRERA, Mr. LEE of California, and Mr. LEE of New York, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. ESCH, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. NOERTON, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. PELOSI, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. VESEY, and Mr. WELCH):

H.R. 1266. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require public communication supporting to the Federal Election Commission and the Federal Bureau of Investigation of offers by foreign nationals to make prohibited contributions, donations, expenditures, or disbursements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SWALWELL:

H.R. 1267. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit in influence over the President, the Vice President, and their immediate family members, 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 Ms. VELAZQUEZ (for herself, Ms. MENG, Mr. COREN, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. SERRA, Mr. EVANS, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. JONES, Mr. NADLER, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. BOURDICHEUX, Mr. CAICEDO, Mr. MALONEY of New York, and Mr. CAPALDJAL):

H.R. 1268. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award targeted grants to Tribal, Tribal Health, and local health departments or nonprofit organizations in geographic locations with racial and ethnic minorities and other vulnerable populations significantly impacted by COVID-19 to disseminate information regarding the safety and efficacy of
COVID-19 vaccines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By MR. WALBERG:
H. Res. 1215. A resolution electing a Member to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By MS. CLARKE of New York (for herself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. GARCIA-ELGONZALEZ, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. HERNANDEZ, Ms. LEWIS, Mr. SANTOS, Ms. TENNELEY, and Mr. WESTLEY):
H. Res. 150. A resolution expressing support for the designation of February 20 to February 27, 2021, as ‘‘National FFA Week’’, recognizing the important role of the National FFA (FFA) Organization in developing the next generation of leaders who will change American agriculture and the world.

By MS. MENG (for herself, Ms. CHU, Mr. CARVALHO, Ms. CASTOR, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. MONTOYA, Ms. SCARBOROUGH, Ms. SCHRIER, and Mr. ESTES):
H. Res. 151. A resolution condemning all forms of anti-Asian sentiment as related to COVID-19; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By MR. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia (for himself, Miss GONZALEZ-COLON, Ms. BASS, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CLEVER, Ms. DEMING, Ms. DINGEL, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. HAYES, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Tennessee, Mr. LAWRENCE, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Mr. NORTON, Mr. PETERS, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. FUDGE, Mrs. AXNE, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. HAYES, Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Mr. ESTES):
H. Res. 152. A resolution supporting the designation of March 2021 as Endometriosis Awareness Month; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By MS. STEEL (for herself, Ms. PORTER, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. CALVERT, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. CORREA, and Mr. LOWENTHAL):
H. Res. 153. A resolution condemning recent hate crimes committed against Asian-American and Pacific Islanders; 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 MR. BACON:
H. R. 1210. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. McCaul:
H. R. 1211. 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. Adams:
H. R. 1212. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 7

By Mr. Alllen:
H. R. 1213. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE
February 23, 2021

H588

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia:
H.R. 1239.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: The Congress shall have Power to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. JONES:
H.R. 1241.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. KILMER:
H.R. 1242.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mrs. KIM of California:
H.R. 1244.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8

By Mr. DEUTCH:
H.R. 1245.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8

By Ms. MATSUI:
H.R. 1251.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:
H.R. 1246.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

H.R. 1249.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8

By Ms. LEE of California:
H.R. 1247.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8

By Ms. LEZ of California:
H.R. 1248.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

By Mr. JONES:
H.R. 1249.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Pursuant to Article I, Section 8

By Mr. McCaul:
H.R. 1251.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. BOST:
H.R. 1216.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. CARDENAS:
H.R. 1219.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States, which states “[t]he Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imports and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imports and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States”.

By Mr. BUTTERFIELD:
H.R. 1221.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, which states “[t]he Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imports and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imports and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States”.

By Mr. BOST:
H.R. 1227.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, which states “The Congress shall have power to declare the War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make Rules respecting captures on land and water; to lay and collect Taxes, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imports and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States”.

By Mr. DEUTCH:
H.R. 1228.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8

By Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas:
H.R. 1231.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8

By Ms. GREEN of Tennessee:
H.R. 1232.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article II, Section 2

By Mr. GROTHMAN:
H.R. 1233.
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. HASTINGS:
H.R. 1234.
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. HIGGINS of Louisiana:
H.R. 1236.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
U.S.C. Article I Section 8

By Ms. HOLLAN:
H.R. 1237.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
U.S.C., Article I, Section 8

By Ms. JAYAPAL:
H.R. 1238.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

By Mr. COHEN:
H.R. 1222.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.
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H.589

By Mr. McCaul:
H.R. 1252.
Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the
United States
By Mr. Micauser:
H.R. 1253.
Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lration pursuant to the following:
U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8
By Mr. Murphy of North Carolina:
H.R. 1254.
Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 (Clause 17, and
Clause 18) of the U.S. Constitution and
Article 4, Section 3 (Clause 2) of the U.S.
Constitution.
By Mr. Nadler:
H.R. 1255.
Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lation pursuant to the following:
Clauses 3 and 18 of Article 1 Section 8 of the
U.S. Constitution.
By Ms. Norton:
H.R. 1256.
Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lration pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.
By Mr. Pallone:
H.R. 1257.
Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lration pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 9, Clause 7
By Ms. Pingree:
H.R. 1258.
Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lration pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 9
By Mr. Rosendale:
H.R. 1259.
Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lration pursuant to the following:
The constitutional authority on which this
bill rests is the power of Congress to estab-
lish an uniform Rule of Naturalization as
enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 4
of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. Ruppersberger:
H.R. 1260.
Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lration pursuant to the following:
According to Article I, Section 8, Clause 18
of the Constitution, Congress has the power
to institute legislation which is necessary and
proper for the protection of the American
people.
By Mr. Ryan:
H.R. 1261.
Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lration pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8: “To make all Laws
which shall be necessary and proper for
enacting into Execution the foregoing Powers,
and all other Powers vested by this Con-
stitution in the Government of the United
States, or in any Department or Officer there-
of.”
By Mr. Stauber:
H.R. 1262.
Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lration pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States
Constitution, specifically Clause 3 related
to the regulation of Commerce with foreign
Nation, and among the several States, and
with the Indian tribes.
By Ms. Stefanik:
H.R. 1263.
Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lration pursuant to the following:
Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the
United States.
By Mr. Swalwell:
H.R. 1264.
Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lration pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 4; Article I, Section 8,
Clauses 3 and 18
By Mr. Swalwell:
H.R. 1265.
Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lration pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 3, and 18;
Article I, Section 8, Clause 7
By Ms. Velaquez:
H.R. 1266.
Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lration pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 4, Article I, Section 8,
Clauses 3 and 18
By Mr. Swalwell:
H.R. 1267.
Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lration pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1—The Con-
gress shall have Power to . . . pro-
vide for the . . . general Welfare of the
United States.
By Mr. Walberg:
H.R. 1269.
Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lration pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1—The Con-
gress 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 Mrs. Watson Coleman:
H.R. 1270.
Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lration pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all
Laws which shall be necessary and proper for
converting into Execution the foregoing Pow-
ers, and all other Powers vested by this Con-
stitution in the Government of the United
States, or in any Department or Officer there-
of.
By Mr. Welch:
H.R. 1271.
Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lration pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: The Con-
gress shall have Power To . . . make all
Laws which shall be necessary and proper for
converting into Execution the foregoing Pow-
ers, and all other Powers vested by this Con-
stitution in the Government of the United
States, or in any Department or Officer there-
of.
By Ms. Wexton:
H.R. 1272.
Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lration pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3
By Mr. Zeldin:
H.R. 1273.
Congress has the power to enact this legis-
lration pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the United States
Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolu-
tions, as follows:
H.R. 7, Mr. Van Drew
H.R. 30, Mr. Blumenauer
H.R. 38, Mr. Kelly
H.R. 55, Ms. Bourdeaux and Mr. Scott of
Virginia
H.R. 82, Mr. Courtney, Ms. Titus, Ms. Por-
ter, Mr. Tonko, Mr. Zeldin, Mr. Thompson
of California, Mr. Himes, and Mr. Higgins of
New York.
H.R. 174, Ms. Scanlon.
H.R. 365, Mr. Vela, Mr. Trone, Mr.
Butterfield, Ms. Manning, and Ms. Moore of
Wisconsin.
H.R. 322, Mr. Rogers of Alabama, Mr.
Mann, Mr. Sessions, and Mr. Crawford.
H.R. 328, Mr. McGovern, Mr. Jones, Ms.
Tlaib, Ms. Schakowsky, and Ms. Pingree.
H.R. 345, Mr. Jackson and Mr. Moore of
Alabama.
H.R. 396, Ms. Craig.
H.R. 376, Mrs. McClain.
H.R. 392, Ms. Meng, Mr. Garcia of Illinois,
Mr. Waters, Mr. Blumenauer, and Mr.
DeFazio.
H.R. 399, Mr. San Nicolas and Ms.
Escobar.
H.R. 426, Mrs. Miller of Illinois.
H.R. 446, Mrs. Hayes.
H.R. 454, Mr. Peters.
H.R. 490, Mr. Khanna, Mr. Evans, and Ms.
Scanlon.
H.R. 471, Mr. Rice of Georgia, Mr. Jackson,
Mr. Posey, and Mr. Rose.
H.R. 473, Mr. Barden.
H.R. 480, Ms. Degette.
H.R. 499, Mr. Emmer.
H.R. 532, Mr. Neguse and Ms. Underwood.
H.R. 587, Mr. San Nicolas.
H.R. 542, Mr. Garcia of Illinois, Ms.
Speier, Ms. Loeber Fernandez, Mr. Carlson,
Mr. Nadler, Ms. Strickland, and Mr.
Thompson of Mississippi.
H.R. 543, Mr. Buck.
H.R. 547, Mrs. Fischbach, Mr. Emmer, and
Ms. Cline.
H.R. 553, Mr. San Nicolas and Mr. Cole.
H.R. 565, Mr. Bilirakis.
H.R. 575, Mr. Cloud.
H.R. 576, Mr. McGovern.
H.R. 584, Mr. Sh Background.
H.R. 588, Ms. Pingree.
H.R. 589, Mr. Neguse and Mr. DeSaulnier.
H.R. 597, Ms. Scanlon, Ms. Tittus, and Mr.
Lawson of Florida.
H.R. 600, Mr. Owens, Mr. Perry, Mr.
Bishop of North Carolina, Mr. Mast, and Mr.
Issa.
H.R. 606, Mr. Guest, Mr. Pfluger, Mr.
Murphy of North Carolina, and Mrs. Miller of
Illinois.
H.R. 611, Mr. Ruppersberger, Mr. Pas-
crell, Mr. Garamendi, and Mr. Stivers.
H.R. 612, Mrs. Lee of Nevada.
H.R. 616, Ms. Cicilline, Mr. Kildeer, Mr.
Neguse, Ms. Spanberger, and Mr. McBath.
H.R. 623, Mr. Hasting, Mr. Harder of
California, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Luria, Mr.
Correa, Ms. Kelly of Illinois, Mr.
Swallwell, Mr. Takano, Mr. Gallego, Ms.
Blunt Rochester, and Mr. DeSaulnier.
H.R. 638, Mr. Chershaw.
H.R. 677, Mr. Scalise and Mr. Pence.
H.R. 684, Mr. Young, Mr. Carter of Texas,
Mr. Tony Gonzalez of Texas, Mr. Van Drew,
Mr. Bost, Mr. Kelly of Pennsylvania, Mr.
Harris, and Mr. Pallone.
H.R. 693, Mr. Sherman.
H.R. 707, Mr. Thompson of California and
Ms. Malliotakis.
H.R. 708, Mr. Ruppersberger and Mr.
Cicilline.
H.R. 724, Mr. Green of Tennessee.
H.R. 725, Mrs. Cmack and Ms. Greene of
Georgia.
H.R. 754, Mrs. Miller of Illinois.
H.R. 755, Mrs. McLain.
H.R. 773, Ms. Chu.
H.R. 793, Mr. Katko, Mr. Sean Patrick
Maloney of New York, and Ms. Sherrill.
H.R. 794, Mr. Krishnamoorthi, Mr. Souezi,
Mr. Brendaian F. Boyle of Pennsylvania, Mr.
Connolly, Mr. Hastings, Mr. Garcia of Illi-
nois, Mr. Galalva, Mr. Cleaver, Ms. Chu,
Mr. Omar, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Evans, Mrs.
Hayes, Ms. Pingree, Ms. Tlaib, and Mr.
Thompson of Mississippi.
The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on House Administration in H.R. 5 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

Offered By Ms. Maloney

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform in H.R. 5 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

Offered By Mr. Nadler

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on the Judiciary in H.R. 5 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

Offered By Mr. Scott

The provisions in H.R. 5 that warranted a referral to the Committee on Education and Labor do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

Offered By Mrs. Waters

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Financial Services in H.R. 5 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

Offered By Mr. Grijalva

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Natural Resources in H.R. 803 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

Offered By Mr. Smith

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Armed Services in H.R. 803 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarked, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

Offered By Ms. Lofgren

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on House Administration in H.R. 5 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

Offered By Ms. Maloney

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform in H.R. 5 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

Offered By Mr. Nadler

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on the Judiciary in H.R. 5 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

Offered By Mr. Scott

The provisions in H.R. 5 that warranted a referral to the Committee on Education and Labor do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

Offered By Mrs. Waters

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Financial Services in H.R. 5 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

Offered By Mr. Grijalva

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Natural Resources in H.R. 803 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

Offered By Mr. Smith

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Armed Services in H.R. 803 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.
The Senate met at 10:31 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable Raphael G. Warnock, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

PRAYER
The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:
Let us pray.
Eternal God, in times of trouble You hear us. We cry to You and receive Your answers. May we embrace Your precepts as You guide us through the fog of our earthly pilgrimage.
Lord, may our lawmakers trust You for strength. Provide them with the powers of wisdom, discipline, and discernment. You have promised that those who trust patiently in You will soar high on wings like eagles, running without weariness and walking without fainting.
Mighty God, we praise Your matchless Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The Presiding Officer 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.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication from the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. Leahy).
The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,

To the Senate:
Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable Raphael G. Warnock, a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICE J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore

The Senate met at 10:31 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable Raphael G. Warnock, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

Mr. WARNOCK thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME
The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS
The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

EXECUTIVE SESSION
The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of 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 Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, and the Representative of the United States of America in the Security Council of the United Nations.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER
The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

NOMINATIONS
Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, today the Senate will complete the confirmation of two key nominees: Linda Thomas-Greenfield to serve as U.N. Ambassador and Tom Vilsack to serve as Agriculture Secretary.

As I said yesterday, the Senate will also confirm Jennifer Granholm this week to serve as the next Energy Secretary and begin the confirmation of Dr. Miguel Cardona to serve as the next Education Secretary. We also hope to do Gina Raimondo, nominee for Secretary of Commerce, early next week.

Each of these nominees has received bipartisan support in committee. Each of these nominees is undoubtedly qualified for their positions, a stark departure from the caliber of nominees the Senate was made to consider during the previous administration.

Make no mistake, the Senate will move quickly to approve key officials in the Biden administration this work period. These Cabinet positions and Agencies have an immense influence over the policies of the United States, impacting hundreds of millions of American lives. At a time of acute national challenge, we need qualified leaders atop our Federal Agencies—and fast. and that is what we intend to do.

CORONAVIRUS
Mr. President, on COVID, while the Senate will be busy fulfilling its constitutional duty to advise and consent on Presidential nominees, Democrats remain hard at work preparing the desperately needed COVID relief bill.

Our country is still in the throes of a crisis. Yesterday, we passed that grim milestone of 500,000 deaths, a towering and incomprehensible figure. Millions of Americans have reported being thousands of dollars behind on rent, on utilities. Small businesses are hanging on for dear life. Vaccinating 330 million Americans as efficiently as possible is one of the most crucial and complex undertakings of our times.

What we need to do now is put our foot on the gas to end the pandemic as quickly as possible, get our economy back to normal, and repair the damage that has been done. That is what the American Rescue Plan is all about. It will deliver the resources to keep small businesses afloat; Americans in their homes; and teachers, firefighters, and other essential employees in the public sector on the job.

- This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.
It will send a direct check to Americans struggling with a once-in-a-lifetime financial burden. It will boost vaccine distribution. And it will provide funding and guidance for schools to reopen as quickly and safely as possible.

That last point, in particular, should appeal to my Republican friends who have been raising concern about school closures. We all want the schools to reopen safely. We are all worried about the cost of virtual learning on children and parents.

The solution is simple. It is not giving a speech here on the Senate floor. It is not criticizing teachers or school administrators. It is giving school districts the funding they need to reopen safely during the COVID crisis. We want to do it as quickly as possible, and it is hard to understand that our Republican friends are saying: “Open up the schools” and “I won’t vote for any ‘aid for the schools’” to do just that. It is a complete contradiction.

The Republican position seems to be that these difficult challenges will fix themselves, that we don’t need any more aid; we did enough already. Anyone willing to do anything about schools knows, in the vast majority of schools in this country, that isn’t just the case.

So let our Republican friends put their votes where their speeches are, in helping the schools, in getting the money, in opening the schools safely—not in simply trying to make a political point and then trashing the schools without giving them the money they need. It makes no sense whatsoever. It is a total contradiction.

Also, if we don’t act, enhanced unemployment benefits will expire for millions of Americans in need. If we don’t act, millions of struggling families will miss out on direct payments and an expansion of the child tax credit and the earned income tax credit. If we don’t act, we risk the same long, slow, and painful recovery we experienced after the financial crisis of 2008, when Congress did too little rather than doing much.

More importantly, the American people in poll after poll overwhelmingly approve of President Biden’s American Rescue Plan. One of the last polls I saw showed a majority of Republicans—voters, citizens, Americans, Republican citizens, Republican Americans—agree with this plan. The Nation understands that we are not out of the woods yet and that Congress should do what is necessary to finish the job. Where are our Republican friends?

As I said at the start, Democrats remain committed to working with our colleagues from the other side of the aisle to improve the bill, but at the end of the day, the American people sent us here with a job to do, and the American people will not wait to move forward with the American Rescue Plan and taking the next important step in getting our country back to normal.

Mr. President, finally, January 6 is a day all of us will remember forever. The Capitol was breached by a violent mob. The Confederate flag was flown in the halls of our Union for the first time in American history. Insurrectionists—angry, bigoted—stood a few inches from where I am standing now. It is hard to believe these hallowed halls were occupied by such terrible, awful lawbreakers. Five Americans lost their lives, including a Capitol Police officer.

The impeachment of Donald Trump was one necessary consequence of the attack of January 6, but it is far from the only one. We must and will continue to recons with the events of that day. This morning—in fact, as we speak—the Senate Rules Committee and the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee are holding a joint hearing to examine the attack on the Capitol. The committees will hear important testimony from the acting chief of the Capitol Police, the former chief of police, and former members of the Sergeant at Arms.

Later this week, Senators will be briefed by the acting chief of police and the Acting Sergeant at Arms on the current and future security measures around the Capitol.

It is our solemn responsibility to protect the Capitol and everyone who works and visits within. It is our solemn duty to prevent a day like January 6 from ever, ever being repeated. At the same time, the Capitol has been and must be once again a symbol of democracy that is accessible to the people. No one expects the Capitol to remain a militarized zone in perpetuity. As I said, no one expects the Capitol to remain a militarized zone in perpetuity. We must strive to strike the difficult balance between access and security and better understand the intelligence and security failures that led to the attack on January 6. This will be a crucial and bipartisan undertaking. I am glad that Senators from both the Rules and Homeland Security Committees, from both parties, are starting that important work today.

I now yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, millions of American kids in the public school system have been robbed of a year, and counting, of anything resembling a proper education. It has been a historically tough year. That is why Americans have elected our Nation appears to be approaching a major turning point.

Here are just a few recent headlines:

A U.S. Vaccine Surge Is Coming, With Millions of Doses Promised

Another headline:

America’s vaccine rollout has been among the best in the world

Another headline:

CDC finds scant spread of coronavirus in schools with precautions in place

So let’s take a look at the economy:

U.S. Retail Sales Surge With Sharpest Advance in Seven Months

Blue-Collar Jobs Boom as COVID–19 Boosts Housing, E-Commerce Demand

And another headline:

Consumer Demand Snaps Back. Factories Can’t Keep Up.

To be clear, this isn’t over. The battle is not won yet. But the day is approaching when we will be able to end this defensive crouch and safely reclaim our normal lives.

Last year the Senate built the largest peacetime fiscal expansion in American history. We spent $4 trillion on five overwhelmingly bipartisan packages. The most recent became law just 2 months ago. Funding for hospitals and providers kept our healthcare system above water. The Paycheck Protection Program saved Main Street small businesses. Direct relief and extra unemployment aid helped working families endure the shutdown. Operation Warp Speed laid the groundwork for our historic sprint toward vaccinations.

These were strong, bipartisan policies, targeted to what families specifically needed to wage the war, but today Democrats are steamrolling ahead with a massive spending plan on a completely partisan basis. It did not receive a single House Republican vote in committee yesterday because their partisan plan is not targeted toward helping Americans reclaim their lives and their country from this invader.

Instead, here is what it is: a combination of miscellaneous, non-COVID-related, liberal wish-list items and the kinds of bandaid policies that make a defensive crouch slightly less painful but can’t help us win the offensive.

Let’s take a look at K–12 schooling. Until very recently, the new administration’s own scientists had been crystal clear. Earlier this month, CDC Director Rochelle Walensky said:

There is increasing data to suggest that schools can safely reopen.

A major CDC study found in-person schooling does not—not—fuel community transmission.
The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.  

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

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

CORONAVIRUS  

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, in his inaugural address, President Biden spoke about his desire to unify. He said this:  

Today, on this January day, my whole soul is in this: bringing America together, uniting our people, unifying our nation.  

Admirable words, but words have to be met with action, and, right now, we are not seeing much of an attempt to unify from the President or his party. In fact, we are seeing pretty much the opposite. The Democrats have made it very clear they are determined to pass another COVID bill on a purely partisan basis, which is particularly disappointing because, up until now, Obama relief has had a bipartisan process. That is right. To date, Congress has passed five COVID relief bills, and every single one of those bills has been overwhelmingly bipartisan.  

I might add, last year, when we were in the minority, the majority of Democrats made it very clear that they thought the minority should have a voice in COVID relief and that any legislation should reflect the thoughts of both parties. The Democratic leader filibustered the CARES Act, the Democrats' largest COVID relief bill—multiple times until he got a version that he was satisfied with, but now that the Democrats are in the majority, apparently, they have decided that it is their way or the highway. Forget the fact that the Senate is evenly divided between Republicans and Democrats. The Democrats are determined to ensure that the Republicans and the Americans they represent don't have a voice in this bill.  

Democrats' move to use reconciliation to force through a purely partisan COVID bill might be understandable—and I add "might"—if the Republicans had made it clear that they opposed doing anything else on COVID, but that couldn't be further from the truth. The Republicans have made it very clear that we are willing to work with the Democrats on additional targeted relief. Just weeks ago, 10 Republican Senators put together a plan and met with President Biden for 2 hours to discuss a bipartisan agreement, but while the President certainly listened to them graciously, it quickly became clear that their efforts didn't matter. It didn't matter how willing the Republicans were to negotiate; the Democrats had no intention of reaching an agreement. They wanted to go it alone, and they were not going to let the Republicans stop them.  

In a speech a few days ago, President Biden acknowledged that people have criticized his $1.9 trillion plan but asked:  

What would they have me cut? What would they have me leave out?
Well, let me offer a few ideas. For starters, it might be a good idea to cut out the sections of the Democrats’ bill that have nothing to do with combating COVID. The Democrats are calling this a COVID relief bill, but in actual fact, much of this bill has little to do with the coronavirus. In fact, less than 10 percent of the bill is directly related to combating COVID.

If President Biden wants to know what sections of the bill to cut, I might suggest starting with the bill’s minimum wage hike. The Democratic bill would more than double the Federal minimum wage at a cost of an estimated 1.4 million jobs—that according to the Congressional Budget Office. That would be problematic enough at a time when we are already dealing with substantial job losses, but it is even worse when you realize that the people most likely to lose their jobs as a result of this hike would be lower income workers.

I would also suggest that the President cut his $86 billion bailout of multiemployer pension plans, which has nothing to do with emergency COVID relief.

The President could also consider cutting his $350 billion stimulus fund for States and localities, which would be used mostly to reward States that shut down their businesses for extended periods and, therefore, have higher unemployment rates.

It has become clear the majority of States are doing OK financially despite the pandemic. A number of States actually saw higher tax revenues in 2020, and a majority of States have the resources needed to weather the rest of this crisis. Three hundred fifty billion dollars far exceeds projected State need.

And while we are on that topic, the economic stimulus provided by President Biden’s bill, in general, far exceeds the economic need and may actually harm the economy.

Even without a dollar more of stimulus spending, our economy is expected to grow at a robust 3.7 percent in 2021. The massive amount of spending that the President is proposing to inject into the economy runs the very real risk of overheating the economy and driving up inflation, and you don’t have to take my word for it. Even some liberal economists have expressed concern that the size of the Democrats’ coronavirus legislation and the damage that it could do to the economy.

Then, of course, there is the money the bill includes for schools. Now, while children in some places, like South Dakota and Wyoming, need to get back in-person learning, in-person learning is important for kids’ academic, social, and emotional health, and as Republicans have demonstrated, we want to ensure that schools are safe for the students so they need to get back into the classroom safely.

Our previous coronavirus bills contained more than $100 billion for education, and I think it is safe to say that every Republican would support additional dollars, if needed, but the fact of the matter is, schools still have billions of dollars from previous coronavirus legislation that remains unspent. And the Biden bill would appropriate an additional $120 billion for schools, which—let’s be real—they would get—whether or not they get kids back into the classroom.

On top of that, most of that money would go to schools beginning next year and stretching all the way to 2028; our classrooms will be overcrowded and the pandemic will be over. In fact, less—if you can believe this, less than 5 percent of the education spending would occur this year.

Ultimately, the Biden bill’s school funding ends up looking less like a plan to get our kids back in schools and more like caving in to the teachers’ unions.

So if President Biden would like to know what to cut, I would suggest he start with some of the things I have highlighted. And I would ask—I would ask that he and the Democratic leadership abandon their plan to shove through a bloated, partisan bill, paid for with all borrowed money—every single dollar goes on the debt—and to start trying for the unity that the President has talked about.

The President could show that he really meant what he said in his inaugural address by sitting down, in a serious way, with Republicans to develop targeted relief that could help us out of this crisis.

We are ready to come to the table. The bill is in the President’s court. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order be suspended, and I reserve the right to oppose the nomination on the difficult work of restoring our alliances, and investing in the men and women of our Foreign Service. I am proud to support her nomination.

VOTE ON THOMAS-GREENFIELD NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield?

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order be suspended, and I reserve the right to oppose the nomination.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY). The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJAN). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 78, nays 20, as follows:

[Rolecall Vote No. 61 Ex.]

YEAS—78

Baldwin 
Bennet 
Blumenthal 
Brunst 
Booher 
Kaine 
Brown 
Johnson 
Burr 
Kennedy 
Cochrane 
Klobuchar 
Capito 
Leahy 
Cardin 
Lee 
Casper 
Lujan 
Casey 
Lumina 
Cassidy 
Collins 
Coons 
Cortez Masto 
Cornyn 
McCaskill 
Cochran 
McConnell 
Crano 
Menendez 
Crappo 
Merkley 
Duckworth 
Murray 
Durbin 
Murkowski 
Feinstein 
Murphy 
Fischer 
Murray 
Gillibrand 
Ossoff 
Graham 
Padilla 
Hassan 
Peters 
Heinrich 
Portman

NAYS—20

Barrasso 
Blackburn 
Burr 
Cotton 
Cramer 
Cruz 
Daines 
Paul

Risch 
Brent 
Grassley 
Brooks 
Hawley 
Hoven 
Lankford 
Marshalls

Rounds 
Romney 
Rosen 
Sanders 
Schatz 
Schumer 
Shaheen 
Sinema 
Smith 
Sasse 
Sullivan 
Tester 
Thune 
Tillis 
Van Hollen 
Warner 
Warren 
Whitehouse 
Wicker 
Wyden

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.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Calendar No. 11, Linda Thomas-Greenfield, of Louisiana, to be Representative of the United States of America to the General Assembly of the United Nations during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the General Assembly of the United Nations during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations.


The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Linda Thomas-Greenfield, of Louisiana, 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, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SHAHEEN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 77, nays 20, as follows:

(Rollcall Vote No. 62 Ex.)

YEAS—77

Baldwin  Cornyn  Kaine
Bennet  Cortez Masto  Kelly
Blumenthal  Crapo  Kennedy
Blunt  Duckworth  King
Booher  Durbin  Kobach
Boozman  Feinstein  Leahy
Brown  Fischer  Lee
Burr  Gillibrand  Lujan
Cantwell  Graham  Lummis
Capito  Hassan  Manchin
Cardin  Heinrich  Markey
Carper  Hickenlooper  McConnell
Casey  Hirono  Menendez
Cassidy  Ron Johnson  Smith  Merkley
Collins  Inhofe  Moran
Coons  Johnson  Murkowski

Rounds  Sanders  Schatz  Sinema  Smith  Stabenow  Sullivan  Tester  Trump

Tillis  Van Hollen  Warner  Wark惆  Whitehouse  Wicker  Wyden

Yeas—77

Barrasso  Blackburn  Braun  Bram  Cotton  Cramer  Cruz  Daines  Ernst  Grassley  Hagerty  Hawley  Hoeven  Inhofe  Lankford  Marshall  Martinez  Merkley

Not Voting—3

Paul  Shaheen  Toomey

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 77, the nays are 20.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Linda Thomas-Greenfield, of Louisiana, 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.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:40 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. SINEMA).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Thomas J. Vilsack, of Iowa, to be Secretary of Agriculture.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 20 minutes of debate equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

The Senator from Michigan.

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, I am very pleased today to rise to support the nomination of our former Secretary of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack. We are very lucky that he is willing to serve again. He is certainly no stranger to all of us, and we are very fortunate that he is willing to once again be part of public service. In serving as Agriculture Secretary during all 8 years of the Obama administration, Secretary Vilsack presided over the USDA with decisive, effective leadership. It was a pleasure to work with him.

The Agriculture Committee held a bipartisan hearing earlier this month, and mere hours later, we voted to advance his nomination without any objection. His deep knowledge of agricultural and rural America is needed now more than ever, for our farmers, our families, and our rural communities have so many challenges right now.

The COVID-19 crisis is continuing to disrupt our food supply chain for farmers, food processors, and essential workers. Tens of millions of families still don’t have enough to eat and are lining up at food banks in order to put food on the table. The climate crisis is posing an extremely grave threat to the long-term viability of our economy and our food supply. Farmers of color, who have long faced civil rights abuses and systemic racism, continue to experience economic disparities.

On top of all of this, there is a lot of work to be done to rebuild the USDA workforce so that the Department can fulfill its very important mission.

American farmers, families, and rural communities need strong, effective leadership now more than ever. We come to the floor with a deep sense of urgency. I am very confident that soon-to-be-confirmed Secretary Tom Vilsack will be more than up to the task. He has a proven track record and will embrace new ideas in a new era at the Department.

I know he is committed to addressing the COVID–19 pandemic, and I know he is committed to focusing on feeding our families in need. We have more than 50 million Americans today who are in a hunger crisis, themselves and their families. I know he cares deeply and is committed to making sure they are able to feed their families.

I know he is very focused on tackling the climate crisis and has done a lot of work, since leaving as the Secretary of Agriculture a few years ago, focusing on voluntary, producer-led, farmer-friendly efforts that can make a real difference and allow agriculture to lead in addressing the climate crisis.

I also know he is very focused and committed on addressing the racial discrimination that we have seen systematically over the years in agriculture and addressing those issues in a very fair and equitable way. I look forward to partnering with him on these issues.

Senator BOOZMAN and I enjoyed our first hearing, which was his confirmation hearing. I look forward to partnering with Senator BOOZMAN and our entire committee to be able to work forward on a range of issues that are important for all of us, for everybody in our country. To do that, we need a great partner and an effective partner in the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, and I know with great confidence that this person is Tom Vilsack.

I yield the floor.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, as the United States is facing its worst hunger crisis since the Great Depression, and family farms are struggling, President Biden has nominated Thomas Vilsack to reprise his role as Secretary of Agriculture and capably steward the Department to address
Mr. Vilsack served as Agriculture Secretary for all 8 years of the Obama administration, overseeing investments in rural communities, healthier food systems, and better food safety standards. He also chaired the first White House Rural Council, which streamlined the effectiveness of Federal programs serving rural America, engaged stakeholders on issues and solutions in rural communities, and promoted new coordinated private-sector partnerships in those communities. 

Our agricultural landscape has changed over the last 4 years, and we must accelerate our transition to net-zero agriculture by incentivizing practices like crop-covering and carbon sequestration. Agricultural conservation practices are also critical for achieving the pollution-reduction targets for nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment under the Chesapeake Bay TMDL. I look forward to working closely with Mr. Vilsack to advance our climate goals.

Additionally, as communities of color experience disproportionate economic hardships as a result of the Covid–19 pandemic in addition to decades of discrimination within USDA, I will hold Mr. Vilsack to his promise to “fully deeply and completely address[ing] inequities” within the department and show “zero tolerance for discrimination.”

Thomas Vilsack has the experience and insight to provide immediate relief to our struggling farmers, families, and rural communities. For these reasons, I support his nomination for Secretary of Agriculture.

Ms. STABENOW. 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. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, it is a real honor to be down here with my friend and the chairwoman of the Agriculture Committee, Senator Stabenow, and I appreciate her cooperation in working so very hard and providing the leadership to get Secretary Vilsack confirmed.

The nomination hearing was held a few weeks ago by the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry to vet the former Secretary and now future Secretary Vilsack. The timing was unusual, but it displayed the bipartisan nature of the committee. The committee was not officially organized, so the chairwoman and I, because we didn’t want to set a precedent and didn’t have any precedent in that situation working together, in going forward, that the chairwoman will continue to work with me and our minority members on the committee to assist the Agriculture Committee in a truly bipartisan way. We have the example of her and Senator Roberts in the great job that they did in working as a team.

Secretary Vilsack is no stranger to the Department of Agriculture, in having served as the Secretary from 2009 through 2017. He has an excellent reputation of putting rural America at the top of his agenda. I am a strong believer that past performance is indicative of future performance, so I am confident that Secretary Vilsack will be successful this go-around.

I look forward to strengthening my working relationship with the Secretary so we can find success in supporting those who work at the Department and assisting those whom the Department serves. Whether that success is born from the Secretary’s utilizing existing authorities or through new legislation, I trust that the Secretary will work with Congress as the agriculture community tackles new and existing challenges and works to build on countless past successes.

The Department must continue to work with all producers in order to provide them with certainty and with predictability. Farmers and ranchers find themselves in a curious position and curious times in battling COVID, natural disasters, and turning the tide of a few tumultuous trade seasons. The Secretary must ensure that this administration works with producers of all regions and all commodities and that the Department does not make the hard work of farmers and ranchers more difficult by throwing up obstacles as opposed to opening doors of opportunity.

I yield the floor.

Mr. Vilsack to advance our climate goals. Our agricultural landscape has changed over the last 4 years, and we must accelerate our transition to net-zero agriculture by incentivizing practices like crop-covering and carbon sequestration. Agricultural conservation practices are also critical for achieving the pollution-reduction targets for nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment under the Chesapeake Bay TMDL. I look forward to working closely with Mr. Vilsack to advance our climate goals.
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Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call for the cloture motion be waived.

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 read the nomination of Miguel A. Cardona, of Connecticut, to be Secretary of Education.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to report the nomination.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 16.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Miguel A. Cardona, of Connecticut, to be Secretary of Education.

NOMINATION OF THOMAS J. VILSACK

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MURPHY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the vote I just took here with regard to our Secretary of Agriculture, Secretary Vilsack, who is now the new Secretary or on his way to becoming the new Secretary.

You know, what I have tried to do when looking at nominees is I typically kind of look at three different questions: Do they have experience for the job, the experience necessary for the job, do they have views that I believe will help the country and in particular help my State, and do they care about the people they will be impacting? So that is a bit of a three-part test.

I have tried to work with a lot of the new nominees in the Biden administration. I voted for a number of them, most of them. As a matter of fact, I introduced Secretary Austin at his confirmation hearing. I got to know him many years ago when I was a marine and he was an Army officer, a two-star general.

You know, I will say to my friends, colleagues, constituents back home who say: Hey, Senator, you know, when the Trump administration put forward their nominees we usually had kind of a party-line vote.

A lot of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, my Democratic friends, would vote no, no, no, no. Why don’t you do that?

Well, I don’t think it is good for the country; that is why I don’t do that. I am against some but I have been supportive of many, and I am not sure the way in which it worked with the previous administration was best for our Nation.

So certainly Secretary Vilsack passes the first two parts of that test I was talking about. Clearly he has the experience. He was the Secretary of Ag for 8 years under President Obama and Vice President Biden. Certainly he has views particularly with regard to farm country. You saw the strong vote he had there with regard to helping the ag sector. I am sure he is a patriot, of course. He cares about our country. But it was that third question—does he care about the people he will be impacting?—that I have had some serious hesitation on.

Mr. President, I will talk a little bit about you, know, a lot of our different economies throughout the country. Our States have been hit hard by this pandemic. I would say that my State’s economy has been hit really hard. When you look at what drives a lot of the Alaska economy, I mean, oil, gas, mining, the tourism sector, the fisheries, commercial fishery sector—I like to call Alaska the superpower of seafood. Over 60 percent of all seafood harvested in America comes from the waters of the State of Alaska, the most sustainable, best managed fishery probably in the world but a huge driver of our economy.

Also, there is the issue of access to our lands. Sixty-six percent of Alaska is Federal land. We need access to help have a strong economy. It is an issue that the Presiding Officer probably doesn’t have to worry about, being from Connecticut, but in Alaska, access to land is huge.

In the last administration, we made a lot of progress on these issues for our economy, on oil and gas, ANWR, the NPSA, access to those lands, legislation by the Congress. Our tourism sector had been doing great. Our commercial fishing sector had been doing great. We even made progress on other access issues, like the Tongass, something that for 25 years Democrats and Republicans, whether Senators from Alaska, whether Governors from Alaska, we have been trying to get access to those lands. It is really important, and we were able to do that.

So there was progress, and then the pandemic that has hurt everybody. It certainly hurt the energy sector. It certainly hurt, crushed the tourism sector. Last year, Alaska was going to have 1.5 million people show up in our State with regard to tourism, a new record just on the cruise ships, but none of them showed up because of the pandemic. The commercial fishing sector also has had a tough time with this pandemic—markets, international markets, markets domestically.

So I am very concerned about my State’s economy, about working families, and about the average Alaskan who is struggling right now. The new policies put forward by this administration have been shockingly negative as it relates to my State. One month in, particularly in the energy sector, every day we are waking up to a new edict saying: Men and women who produce energy in America, who produce energy in Alaska, sorry, you are not favored anymore. You are not viewed in a positive light anymore.

It is a real, real, real concern. Hundreds, if not thousands of jobs in my State during a recession are at risk.

So these are some of the issues that I raised in my discussions with Secretary Vilsack. In particular our commercial fishing economy; the energy sector.

In the previous administration, under the USDA, the Secretary of Agriculture helped implement a new trade
relief program for fishermen. Huge progress. Hugely important. Just the way the farmers were getting this kind of relief with regard to trade and markets that have been destroyed by the pandemic, the Secretary of Agriculture undertook a new program for the farmers of the fisheries who are being negatively impacted the same way that our farmers on the land were.

This is an issue that I raised with the Secretary on the importance of moving forward on that, and I am worried. And I got the sense that the Secretary just wasn’t that interested. I really hope I am wrong. I really hope I am wrong.

So I plan on trying to work with him. You know, he had a strong, very strong bipartisan vote, but every now and then, if you really think the people you represent are not going to be given a lot of attention when they need it, it becomes a harder vote. It becomes a harder vote. He obviously has got strong bipartisan support, but I am sure that when he becomes Secretary of Agriculture, he cares as much about the farmers of the sea, where we have made progress on, as he does about farmers on the land. I didn’t see that in my meeting with him and I hope I am wrong and that is why I voted the way I did.

I also voted the way I did as it relates to this issue of access to the Tongass. Again, it is a huge issue to my State, a very bipartisan issue for my State. And, again, I hope that the Secretary and his team look at it as something that can help the economy of Alaska while protecting our environment, which, of course, we care about.

But the reason that I voted the way I did, and I hope that my concerns are going to be proved to be unfounded. I am going to continue to advocate for my constituents in the way that I think is going to be very important as we try and get through these challenging times, particularly the Alaska Tongass.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

NOMINATION OF XAVIER BECERRA

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, today, the HELP Committee considered the nomination of Xavier Becerra, our former House colleague, to head the Department of Health and Human Services, and tomorrow the Finance Committee will take their turn at examining his record.

One is hard to think of a nominee more notorious for seeking out ways to undermine religious freedom and our religious liberty. His contempt for those whose beliefs differ from his own is well documented, and, in many cases, his personal issues are far more radical than those held by the majority in his own party.

Mr. Becerra supports abortion up to the moment of birth, and, in 2003, actively opposed the partial-birth abortion ban. He has sponsored legislation that would have forced religious employers to provide insurance that covers the morning-after pill, in spite of their mainstream and sincerely held religious beliefs. Bear in mind I said the legislation would have forced—not an option—forced religious employers to provide insurance that covered the morning-after pill.

In fact, Mr. Becerra has been so antagonistic to some constitutional principles that you could almost forget he doesn’t have the public health experience most Americans would expect the Secretary of Health and Human Services to possess. In fact, he has no meaningful experience in healthcare at all—zero, none, not in public health or large-scale logistical operations or in any other area that might be helpful as we navigate our way out of a global pandemic. That is right. He has no experience.

This lack of experience, combined with his desire to destroy those who disagree with him, places him among the most unqualified and dangerous nominees ever to come before the Senate for consideration, and I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing his confirmation.

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mr. President, I wish that we could write off this nomination as an anomaly, but it is part of a pattern of behavior on the left that has destabilized our already fragile political discourse and convinced the American people that the Biden administration will prioritize their radical liberal agenda above the rights of the people they were elected to serve.

I have to tell you, I hear about this every single day as I am talking with Tennesseans. Since the earliest days of the pandemic, I have heard from Tennesseans managed to survive because of the people’s willingness to return to our founding principles—those first principles upon which we stand.

However much they disagreed, they knew that they were stronger united than they were divided. So they would come together in the public square. They would have robust, respectful debate. They would agree to disagree, as they respected the fact that they lived in the same country, and they could do this without fear of persecution, without fear of being ostracized, and without fear of losing a job.

Today, Americans are looking for that same commitment to unity. Oh, they heard about it during the inaugural address. Unity—we are going to work for unity. But what has happened is a cord of panic and fear has been struck in their hearts as they see Executive order after Executive order, and as they see Executive orders that are preferring other countries and not the U.S.A. And as they hear from the left words that are, We are not looking for unity; what we are looking for is you to submit to our way of doing things. What they are doing is leaving no room for discussion, even on issues of international importance.

For decades, the various schools of thought represented in this Chamber have advocated for different approaches to foreign relations. Some revere international bodies and sweeping multilateral agreements, and others approach these constructs with caution prioritizing national sovereignty over surface-level diplomacy.

When former President Trump formally withdrew from the Paris climate accords in 2019, economists, business owners, and budget watchdogs all breathed a sigh of relief because they knew that adherence to the Paris climate accords would put the United States at a competitive disadvantage. This wasn’t a partisan debate, mind you; this was U.S.-based companies—U.S.-based companies—saying thank you for withdrawing because adhering to this, when other countries that are our competitors will not adhere, puts us at a disadvantage.

Now, with the climate accords, by 2035, we would have seen hundreds of thousands of people lose their jobs, household electric bills go up as much as 20 percent, and an aggregate GDP free fall of $2.5 trillion. That is the cost. That is the cost of my way or the highway. That is the cost of putting other countries and their agenda ahead of us, the cost of their noncompliance.

Fast-forward to a little over a year later, and the Biden administration has thrown us back into the accords and back into that predicted economic free fall.

This week, I worked with my colleague Senator DAINES to introduce two pieces of legislation that will hopefully do a little bit of damage control on that issue.

The first is a bill that would prohibit taxpayer dollars from being used to rejoin the Paris Agreement. It makes sense. The reason it does is you are taking jobs away from U.S. employers. You are causing employees to become former employees or the unemployed. So it makes sense. If you want to do this, don’t use taxpayer dollars. Don’t make people pay for things that are going to take away their jobs.

The second is a resolution that would call on President Biden to submit the Paris Agreement to the Senate for approval. It makes sense. Where are treaties to come? Here. If you want unity,
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send things to the Senate. If you are proud of the step you are taking, send it to the Senate. Let there be a vote of the people’s representatives. Let there be discussion. Do we fear discussion? Do we fear debate? Are we so given to the comforts of halting what we just say it is our way or the highway?

I would note that submitting these types of agreements for consideration is a bare minimum standard set out in the Constitution, and there is no legitimate reason anyone in this Chamber should object to that. They should welcome respectful, robust debate.

I think we can all agree that this oversight duty is an important one, and I would ask my colleagues to join me in letting the administration know we are not going to abandon it simply because it would make things more convenient for them.

Freedom and preserving freedom are not always convenient. It takes a lot of hard work. It takes this body doing its job. It doesn’t take “my way or the highway” Executive orders coming out of the White House.

On Inauguration Day, President Biden promised unity: all for it, wanted to see it, going to work for it—nice words. But so far he has done nothing but hide behind those Executive orders and policies that even members of his own party object to.

In Tennessee, I have talked to many who have, for most of their lives, been Democrats, and they are stunned—indeed, they are very concerned—about this authoritarian approach to running the country. Sign an Executive order and be done with it, hearing that the Speaker of the House has a few people who can vote proxy for people, seeing all this fencing around the Capitol causes Tennesseans to say: What in the world is going on up there? This is not how we are supposed to act.

And I will tell you, to my friends across the aisle, one day this tactic is going to come back on the millions of Americans who are standing up. They are contacting us. They are speaking out. They are having buyer’s remorse. It will be something that will backfire because this is not the way we should be running our country.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). The Senator from Iowa.

(The Mr. GRASSLEY pertaining to the introduction of S. 391 are printed in today’s RECORD under “Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.”)

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

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

The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, my State is no stranger to severe weather.

In the past few years, we have experienced the devastation of major hurricanes, tropical storms, and tornadoes. But last week brought something entirely new in the form of extreme weather—winter storms, prolonged subzero freezing temperatures, and treacherous conditions throughout our nation.

And unlike, for example, the State of Massachusetts, where that may not be entirely uncommon, we are not used to that subzero freezing weather.

Our State was not prepared, I think it is clear to say, for these low temperatures or the devastating impact they would have on our critical infrastructure.

Frozen natural gas wells and wind turbines, among other issues, led to widespread power outages, and millions of Texans were left without a way to keep their family warm throughout the historic low temperatures.

Compounding matters even further, some 12 million Texans faced water disruptions due to power outages and frozen or broken water lines. Cities across the State issued boil notices, and folks whose taps are still dry resorted to boiling snow as their only option for drinking water or perhaps even to flush the toilet.

The weather created incredibly dangerous conditions for many across the State, especially our most vulnerable citizens. We know of nearly 80 Texans who have died due to this extreme weather. Another is likely to climb in the days ahead.

These widespread outages will prompt a necessary investigation into the high level of generation failures, as well as the overall security and reliability of our energy grid. We have a lot of work to do to ensure that these deadly mass outages never occur again—no matter what Mother Nature sends our way.

There is no reason for millions of people in one of the most energy-rich states of the world to be left without reliable power.

Senator Cruz and I sent a letter to President Biden urging him to grant Governor Abbott’s request for an emergency disaster declaration, and I appreciate the President’s quick action to ensure our State could receive the full range of Federal resources to respond to this crisis.

I also worked with the Governor and the Department of Energy to secure an emergency order allowing Texas power generators to increase production, and I appreciate the fact that that, too, was quickly approved.

In times of crisis there is no red team and no blue team, and I want to thank every person who has supported the response to this crisis so far, whether they are Texans or not. I know more will be needed in the days and weeks ahead, and I want to assure the folks back home that I am listening, I am working, and I am here to help any way that I can, and I know that, too, was quickly approved.

I speak for the entire Texas delegation.

I know there are still many without water and electricity, and I want to assure them that you are the Nation’s priority. But in the face of hardship—and, as I started my remarks, we have been through a lot over the last few years—I am always in awe of the way Texans show up and help one another—neighbors helping neighbors. We have seen countless inspiring stories in the past, and this disaster is no exception.

There are stories like that of Ken Everly, an 82-year-old Air Force veteran from Grande Prairie. Mr. Everly is in hospice care. He relies on a breathing machine to keep him alive and a special air mattress that prevents bedsores to keep him comfortable. When his home lost power, Mr. Everly was in serious danger of losing his life. The breathing machine cut off, and the air mattress deflated, leaving him struggling to breathe on an iron bed frame.

His son-in-law Nate pleaded for help on Facebook, and within hours help arrived. A brewery said, ‘‘How can we help?’’ Houses were a generator showed up.” Thanks to the generosity of a stranger, Mr. Everly once again had his breathing machine operating, a comfortable mattress, and heat in his home.

The best part of that story, though, is that it is not unique. In ways big and small, we have seen other examples of neighbors going out of their way to help one another.

In North Texas, a Texan named Nate joined other drivers in North Texas teamed up to offer free rides to and from work for healthcare workers and first responders. Restaurants across the State offered free food to folks without power. And countless offers on social media to deliver warm meals, bottles of water, and a range of other supplies to those in need.

One of the big issues that folks back home have faced is a lack of safe drinking water, a need that has been met by Texas breweries stepped up to fill. The breweries already had a supply of clean water on hand for their brewing process, and they spread the word to their communities: Come by with a container, and we will give you water.

These breweries collectively donated thousands of gallons of clean drinking water completely free of charge.

Across Texas, churches, schools, nonprofits, community centers, and local organizations opened their doors as warming centers. One of those warming centers is operated by Houston’s most beloved furniture store owner, known as “Mattress Mack.” Dating back to Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Mack has opened the doors of his stores to provide food and shelter to those impacted by extreme weather. Over the last several days, Gallery Furniture, his furniture business, has been open around the clock for as long as they need, whether it is an hour for a hot meal or for several nights.

These stories warm my heart, and they are a reminder of the strength and generosity of Texans and an encouraging reminder of the endless amount of goodwill that still exists in the world. The outpouring of love exemplifies a quote that I heard some time ago...
from a Texas county commissioner after one particularly terrible accident in West Texas. He said: “Being a Texan doesn’t describe where you’re from; it describes who your family is.”

Well, I am grateful to those countless Texans who worked tirelessly to help their communities across our State during this crisis. First responders and 9/11 dispatchers have gone above and beyond the call of duty. Healthcare workers, firefighters, and law enforcement officers have worked, of course, around the clock to restore power and safe drinking water to Texans. And millions of unsung heroes have helped their fellow Texans get through these dark days: checking on an elderly neighbor, helping drivers whose vehicles were stuck in the snow, welcoming people into their homes, donating supplies to those in need, and so much more.

I would like to offer a special thank-you to members of my staff in Texas who have worked tirelessly throughout this crisis while battling power and water outages themselves. Because of their diligence, my office has connected Texans in need with local resources to provide shelter, food, and water. We have worked in contact with State and local emergency officials about the ongoing crisis, and we have assisted local critical care facilities in need, including a large COVID testing lab in Austin. We helped connect it with local resources to receive additional fuel for its generators so millions of dollars of COVID testing materials and pathology tests would not go to waste.

The past year has dealt us a tough hand. I would say that’s true for America. But I have faith that we will come through this crisis just as we always have before—together. I continue to see a prayer for those impacted by the storm and our constituents, my friends and neighbors in Texas, that I will continue to do everything in my power to help our State recover and rebuild.

NOMINATION

Mr. President, on another matter, the Senate will continue to evaluate President Biden’s nominees for critical positions throughout the Federal Government. Yesterday and today the Senate Judiciary Committee, on which I am a member, met to hear from Judge Merrick Garland and others who have testified in connection with his nomination. Of course, Judge Garland has been nominated to serve as the next Attorney General.

I have been publicly critical that Judge Garland is highly qualified for the job. He is a widely respected judge with the right experience and credentials and the right temperament to lead the Department and manage its many critical missions. I was struck by Judge Garland’s humility and his humanity. I believe he is a good man and a good person for this job. But I have to say that I am under no illusion that he is going to be able to stop the policies of this administration, some of which I am not going to agree with, some of which I will fight and try to oppose.

I am encouraged by Judge Garland’s pledge to keep politics out of the Justice Department, which is a significant improvement over the past. I know our Democratic colleagues like to act like all of the concerns that we had about the Justice Department were just during the Trump administration and so I did have to remind them that the Obama administration Justice Department had a few problems of their own. Nevertheless, Judge Garland, while we don’t agree on everything—and it is true of other nominees of the President that I have supported—I don’t think that is the standard by which I should provide my consent as a Senator. But I do believe he has the right experience and character to serve.

Unfortunately, I can’t offer that sort of full-throated, enthusiastic support for the President’s nominee to lead the Office of Management and Budget. The announcement of Neera Tanden’s nomination managed to do something in this way rare these days, and that is to put conservatives and progressives on the same side of the argument.

Ms. Tanden has repeatedly made combative, insulting, and flat-out false statements against both Democrats and Republicans. She has referred to Republicans as “evil” and “monsters.” She has villainized Leader McConnell and called Senator Cotton a “fraud” and Senator Collins “the worst.” She has gone toe-to-toe with Senator Bernie Sanders, who accused her and her progressive organization of “maligning [his] staff and supporters and belittling progressive ideas.”

She has even peddled a completely false conspiracy theory that Russian hacking is being used to help Joe Biden defeat President Trump. In short, Ms. Tanden has consistently made comments that stand in stark contrast to the Biden administration’s top goals of promoting the facts and unifying our country.

Last Friday, the Senator from West Virginia, Senator Manchin, announced he will not support Ms. Tanden’s nomination because of her inflammatory rhetoric that would, he said, have a “toxic and detrimental impact” on Congress’s relationship with the Office of Management and Budget. Yesterday, Senator Collins, who is known for working across party lines, said she won’t support this toxic nomination.

I agree with our friends from West Virginia and Maine, and I think these announcements create a nearly impos-sible path to confirmation for this nominee. In order to be confirmed, she would need the support of at least one Republican Senator—and more, if there are additional Democrats who share the views of Senator Manchin.

Based on her well-documented history of divisive and misleading comments, I think this nominee faces long odds, to say the least. My friendly advice to President Biden is to withdraw Neera Tanden’s nomination and select someone who, at the very least, has not promoted wild conspiracy theories and openly bashed people on both sides of the aisle that she happens to disagree with.

If President Biden is truly interested in unifying our country, I would expect him to select an OMB nominee with mainstream views and a proven ability to work respectfully with those who have different views from his or hers.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

CORONAVIRUS

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

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

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, “More deaths in 2020 than in any year in over a decade.” That is what the Chicago Sun-Times headline read last week. It wasn’t the first time we heard about the coronavirus. It was an article about suicide. There were more suicides by Black residents of Cook County, IL, in 2020 than over the past 10 years. All told, 437 of our neighbors in Cook County took their lives that year.

At the same time, more than 600 Cook County residents died from opioid overdoses between January and June 2020 alone—double the number from a year earlier.

While the human suffering of COVID–19 has captured our attention, as it should, two other deadly epidemics in America still rage on: opioids and the mental health crises.

Even before the virus took its toll, we had been in the midst of the worst drug overdose crisis in our Nation’s history, and we are witnessing skyrocketing rates of suicide. But COVID–19 has deepened these epidemics, which sadly feed on isolation and despair.

With the convergence of coronavirus emergencies, we are failing those most vulnerable to addiction and mental health challenges. And like the coronavirus, mental health challenges and addiction can occur with any one of us in any family, in any neighborhood.

Earlier this month, the New York Times profiled three American mothers on the brink of chaos and crisis. The story chronicled the relentless stress and burdens of working mothers over 11 months of this pandemic—struggling to balance remote learning duties for their kids, keeping their families safe and healthy, keeping food on the table, paying the bills, and knowing that every morning they have to get up and do it all over again that day and the next day, with no end in sight.

One of the mothers described the struggle this way. She said:
We are holding together with the same tape that we have been using since March. The tape is barely working, but we are still here.

She speaks for millions of mothers. Experts and advocates warn that COVID-19 has created a perfect storm for a surge in mental health and addiction. Isolation, fear, grief, financial hardship all come together and can feel overwhelming.

At the same time, the pandemic has made it more difficult for many to connect with lifesaving care and social services. Peer recovery meetings have moved to Zoom; routine human connections have been lost; and treatment access restricted. It is trauma on the brain and body, and it fuels the alarming spikes in addiction, overdose, and suicide.

Last week, I spoke with advocates from the Illinois Society of Addiction Medicine and a group called Live4Lali, a community organization focusing on recovery and harm reduction. These community leaders provide lifesaving care through recovery programs, street medicine, handing out fentanyl test strips, and distributing the overdose reversal drug naloxone.

The statistics they shared with me on Chicago-area opioid overdose deaths during this pandemic are devastating. In the last year, opioid deaths have soared: 23 percent in Lake County, 37 percent in DuPage County, and a staggering 64 percent in McHenry County.

Every morning, we look at the posting on CNN of the deaths in America from the coronavirus. Heartbreaking. Over a half a million people dead. But we are not posting the increase in deaths from opioids during the same periods of time.

Addiction is an equal opportunity killer. But like COVID, the opioid epidemic strikes communities of color with a disproportionate ferocity. In Chicago, Black residents are dying from overdoses at seven times the rate of White residents.

Let me tell you about one person who sought help from Live4Lali, a woman named Tonya, who recently moved to Lake County. When the pandemic hit, the recovery meetings for her substance abuse disorder shifted to Zoom, and the weight of the challenge left Tonya to struggle. She knew her recovery was in danger.

For days, she called for treatment programs, but no beds were available. Desperate, she called 9-1-1 emergency care at a hospital. Tonya was evaluated and sent home. Feeling hopeless and ashamed, she decided to take all of the pills in her mother’s bottle of blood thinner medication. She was taken unconscious back to the hospital and pronounced dead.

Too many like Tonya are being left alone in their darkest hours. And it is not just in the Chicagoland area. According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, visits for suicides and overdoses spiked nationally once the pandemic gripped our Nation. By May, the country had experienced its largest 1-month spike in overdose deaths.

A new survey conducted by the CDC also found that one in four young adults had considered suicide in the past month—one in four. This should set off all of our alarms.

There is no vaccine against despair and addiction, but there are programs and treatments and strategies. We must give communities and healthcare providers the support they need now more than ever.

The American Rescue Plan proposed by President Biden provides those resources. The House is expected to vote on the President’s plan this week. The Senate has to show the same sense of commitment and urgency.

The American Rescue Plan includes nearly $4 billion in addiction and mental health treatments for healthcare providers. It has $7.6 billion for Community Health Centers to address behavioral health disparities.

It includes what I crafted with Senator Russo to increase the availability of healthcare, including behavioral health treatment, by providing scholarship and loan repayment awards to build the pipeline of health professionals who agree to serve in needy areas.

Special efforts were made to recruit more people of color into these healing professions, which can help tackle disparities. The President’s Rescue Plan also expands health insurance coverage through the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid. This money will save lives.

America has arrived at the heart-breaking milestone: half a million COVID deaths. As we work to expand vaccinations and end COVID-19, we cannot ignore the lethal epidemics of addiction and suicide, which are soaring in the cold shadows of this pandemic.

Every day we wait, more people, in every ZIP code in America, struggle. More families grieve. More lives are lost. We need to get help to the people who need it now.

Mr. President, you and I are veterans of Congress. We have been doing this for a few years. Some things happen that give you hope. A year ago, we passed the CARES Act. It was nothing short of amazing, but we did it at a moment of real fear. We just saw this pandemic starting to rise. We saw businesses close, countless careers lost. We moved quickly, decisively, with the biggest spending bill in the history of the United States, more than $2 trillion for the CARES Act. And it passed this Senate, in this hopelessly politically divided America, by a vote of 96 to 0— the CARES Act.

Well, it took us a while to come back with a reprise or an answer to what happened after it passed. The pandemic raged through America. The economy floundered. Millions were unemployed. Covid cases were soaring. And just a few short weeks ago, we passed the second bill, the December relief bill, $900 billion, a sizable investment. And we characterized it as an emergency response, a special response, a temporary fix to go into the system and pay for unemployment benefits and many other things—$900 billion, a substantial sum of money. And it passed here with 92 affirmative votes, which was on the final vote on the second. But the President called for a politically divided Chamber like the U.S. Senate.

Then came the new President. I won’t put in all the other chapters that occurred that seemed like an endless novel, but it was serious. But this President came in—President Biden came in and faced the reality of what we have in America today. Last night, he did it as well. He and the First Lady, as well as Vice President Harris and the First Gentleman, stood in silent prayer for the half million Americans we have lost. Not ignoring the problem but facing the problem. President Biden said: Come together, America, unite, and let’s, with common purpose, address this pandemic and the problems it has created.

It is a much different approach in his Presidency. To me, it is honest. It is refreshing. It is hopeful. But he has turned to this Congress and asked this Congress to pass the American Rescue Plan. It is a measure that costs $1.9 trillion. It is huge. It has to be. Considering what we face in America, we need nothing less. Maybe we will not need to spend every penny. I hope we don’t. But we will need to be prepared if we do—money for more vaccine and distribution of that vaccine; money for cash payments to families who need a helping hand; money for unemployment benefits that are supposed to run out in just 2 short weeks, on March 14; money for rental assistance for people who are facing eviction; money for schools so that they can prepare the classrooms for teachers and students to return safely. The list goes on, and it is an important and valuable list and, as I mentioned, more health treatment and addiction treatment that is still a very real challenge in America today.

The difference is this. In the CARES Act, with 96 to 0, and in the December bill, which we passed with 92 affirmative votes, those were under the Trump administration, and there was a strong bipartisan support of that legislation, as you can tell from the numbers. The rollcalls tell the story. Now comes President Biden, asking for another rescue package for America, which is still languishing, fighting this pandemic. We don’t hear the same calls for bipartisanship or at least we don’t hear the same responses to the calls for bipartisanship. What is different? The only thing different is we have a different President.

When it was a Republican President named Trump, Democrats, like myself and virtually all others, stood by and said let’s do it together. We will disagree on everything under the Sun, but when it comes to this pandemic and what it is doing to America, we are
going to stand together, both political parties. But when President Biden makes the same proposal, we don’t hear the chorus of support from across the aisle that we once did. That is disheartening to me.

The problem is real. Sure, there are ways any legislator could perhaps write the bill better, but let’s get that done, and let’s respond, as the President has called, with the resources America needs to get back on its feet. That is where we are today.

The Senate is not going to pass their measure this week. And in the next couple of weeks, the Senate will get its chance. It is time for us to stand up and do something. The American people didn’t send us here to squabble or to find reasons for differences but rather to come together in a bipartisan way and solve the problems facing this country.

The President believes, and I share that belief, that a united America with the resources necessary to conquer this challenge as it has so many in the past. We can do that, but we need to do it by coming together.

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

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

BUDGET

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I come to the floor to talk about the $1.9 trillion spending bill that is under consideration before this Congress.

As President Biden has said repeatedly, if you want to know someone’s values, look at one’s budget. Well, that is what we are doing, because I believe that the American people want to know the Democrats’ values, all we need to do is look at the budget. The Democrats are making clear what they stand for.

It seems that they are standing for teachers unions and job-destroying mandates on American businesses. The Republicans stand for ending the pandemic, for getting people back to work, and for getting kids back to school. The differences could not be more clear.

The debate of the Democratic budget—we did it a couple of weeks ago—and we voted on many amendments. Every Senator had a chance to propose and make some changes to the budget that was brought forth. Every single Senator went on record on a number of amendments and items related to the budget for the United States of America. Now we know where we stand.

I introduced an amendment that had to do with energy production in my home State of Wyoming. Wyoming feels like we are being targeted by President Biden because of his ban on oil and gas exploration on public lands.

You know, those projects are a major source of jobs in my home State. They fund our schools, our roads, our bridges, our teachers, our students, and additional services for working families.

My amendment would provide funding for our public schools—schools that have been punished by this ban announced by President Biden. That amendment on this floor received 98 votes out of 100. It got the support of every single Senator.

The Senate, so I am grateful for my colleagues for that support of the amendment to protect our students and our schools and our teachers. Yet I have to say that by voting for my amendment, the 98 people in this body—specifically the Democrats—are admitting that there is a problem created by the actions of President Biden. They are admitting that President Biden’s Executive order, signed on the day he was inaugurated, is hurting families all across the country.

So, to my Democratic colleagues, keep working with us to address the needs of the Nation. Stand up to these overreaching, radical proposals by the Biden administration. On issue after issue after issue, the truth has opened.

Many of my Republican colleagues, on this side of the aisle, offered good ideas that the Democrats refused to support. Senator BLUNT introduced an amendment to reopen America’s schools. Now, that is an idea that science has supported for months. Every Republican voted yes. Every Democrat voted no. I have yet to hear one of my Democratic colleagues make the case for keeping the schools closed; yet that is how they voted when it came to the budget. Just like President Biden, they are trying to have it both ways. They say they want the schools open; yet they don’t do what needs to be done.

President Biden has claimed time and again he wants the schools open; yet his Chief of Staff says there is no money to reopen them. Well, that is absolutely wrong. Last year, President Trump signed into law $58 billion for our schools, specifically tied to coronavirus relief. Only $5 billion of that money has been spent. That leaves $53 billion still available. In the Democrats’ budget being proposed right now, almost all of the money for schools is not for this year. Ninety-five percent of the money is for the years 2022 through 2028—after the coronavirus will be behind us.

The Democrats are still putting the teachers unions ahead of students. Joe Biden has surrendered to the teachers unions. They have written to him a ransom note, and he has been happy to pay it. Teachers are putting politics ahead of science, and so is this administration.

I joined with Senator SCOTT of South Carolina to introduce another amendment to the budget bill of the Democrats. It said that if we give money to States—and there is a lot of money in this proposal to give money to States: New York, Illinois, California—that the States have to give the American people accurate data about the coronavirus and specifically in their nursing homes. People want to know the answers about the coronavirus and the impact on nursing homes because there is a real problem there.

New York now admits that it gave the public false information. The numbers were not just wrong; they were nearly off by half. The Governor’s top aide was afraid of being investigated by Bill Barr’s Justice Department. They were afraid that President Trump would make it a ‘political football.’

Don’t the people of New York have a right to know the truth about what is happening in the nursing homes in that State when people are losing parents and grandparents and when people with the coronavirus are being moved from the hospital back into those nursing homes to spread the virus?

The Governor of New York wanted to cover it up. People would agree it sounds like a coverup, so Senator SCOTT and I came to the floor and said that it was unacceptable, that States and States have to tell the truth. Every Republican voted yes. Every single Democrat voted no.

Every Senate Democrat voted to protect Governor Cuomo instead of telling the truth to the American people.

During the budget debate, there were some good ideas that some Democrats supported. Yet, even then, in the wee hours of the morning, a number of the Democrats who had voted for those amendments flip-flopped on a later vote to head the other way. What they did is they had another amendment to strip out the amendments that had been put on.

For example, Senator YOUNG of Indiana had an amendment so that money that would go to American citizens, not to illegal immigrants. Eight Democrats voted in agreement with that. They said you shouldn’t be sending checks to illegal immigrants. A few hours later, they voted to strip it out. So every Democrat in the Senate is now on the record. Every Democrat in the Senate has voted in favor of taking people’s hard-earned taxpayer dollars and giving it to people who are in the country illegally.

Senator Daines brought up an amendment on a different topic. He said we should proceed with the Keystone Pipeline. Remember, President Biden, with an Executive order on the day he was inaugurated, stopped work on the Keystone Pipeline, resulting in the loss of hundreds and hundreds and likely thousands of jobs. Several Democrats voted and said we should re-open the pipeline. Let it go. Let it work. A few hours later, in the wee hours of the morning, they reversed themselves and voted to strip it out.

Senator BRAUN of Indiana introduced an amendment to prevent President Biden from banning fracking. Now, this
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is something that President Biden promised to do during the campaign. Of course, that would end millions of jobs across America, and it would put us at a disadvantage from the standpoint of energy. Seven Democrats voted with Senate leaders to protect American jobs. However, they had flip-flopped and took it out of the bill.

The Democrats keep trying to have it both ways. They want to look like moderates, pretend to be moderates, while they gutting their leftwing spending bill through. They are not playing it straight with the American people. It is not going to work. The people in their States aren’t going to be fooled. They are going to remember the votes, and they will certainly be reminded of those votes in the future.

So we have talked about what the Senate Democrats blocked. Now let’s take a look at some of the things the Senate, are asking us to do.

The bill includes a mandate from Washington, DC, to double the minimum wage. It has nothing to do with the coronavirus. In fact, it would actually make things worse. The Congressional Budget Office took a look at this as to what the impact would be on the economy, and it said that 1.4 million people who have jobs right now would lose their jobs if the Federal Government were to come in with a mandate to double the minimum wage. It is not a stimulus.

According to one report, the new Washington mandate would also raise the cost of childcare by about 21 percent. You are going to work for hard-working families who are trying to get back to work with the coronavirus and need daycare for their children? With schools closed in so many locations across the country, that is the last thing that working families need—an increase in the cost of providing care for their children.

The big Democratic spending bill also includes a $350 billion bailout for States and local governments. The money is targeted to States that have stayed closed the longest. This is money rewarding big cities and States like California and New York and Illinois that have had financial trouble due to financial mismanagement for many, many years. It has nothing to do with the coronavirus. Those States were in trouble long before the coronavirus made it to our shores.

Multiple studies show that State tax revenues are actually up in many States across the country. In some States, they fell, but on average, States are continuing to do quite well. Most States are expecting more tax revenues than they budgeted before the pandemic. If a State needs a bailout, it is not because of the coronavirus; it is because of years and years of mismanagement, and this bill rewards mismanagement.

Those are late priorities of the Senate Democrats, not jobs and not opening our schools. The priorities are mandates and bailouts. Only about $1 of every $20 in this entire proposal goes for public health, but it does contain $1.5 billion for Senator Schumer’s New York City subway system. It does provide $122 million for a subway system in Silicon Valley. It does provide $2.5 billion in funding for the arts and humanities, $12 billion in foreign aid. This is supposed to be for the coronavirus in America, here.

So what does $1.9 trillion get for you? I am asked at home in Wyoming. What does it do for people at home—yes, the American people. When you look at this Democratic shopping list. It is a wish list of liberal priorities. As President Biden says, if you want to know somebody’s values, look at one’s budget. We have just done that. If the American people want to see the contrast between Republicans and Democrats, they should look no further than this bill. The Republicans are offering the American people jobs, a vaccine, opening our schools. The Democrats are offering excuses and the liberal wish list.

We still have time to fix the final bill, so I would urge my Democratic colleagues to join with us. Work with the Republican coronavirus relief. Help our small communities and small businesses keep their doors open. Get our kids back in school. Target the funding to the American citizens who need it the most. We have done five bipartisan coronavirus bills. A sixth bipartisan coronavirus relief bill should be done in a bipartisan way as well. That is what the American people, with a 50–50 Senate, are asking us to do.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO GLYNIS JOHNS, JUSTAN PARKER FIELDS, AND DR. ALA STANFORD

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I rise tonight and, again, it is my privilege to come before the Senate, as I have since my very first year here, to celebrate Black History Month in a particular manner by paying tribute to a number of Pennsylvanians.

I am honored again to have the opportunity to highlight the extraordinary leadership of Pennsylvanians who dedicate their lives to improving the lives of others. In my very first year here, to celebrate Black History Month in a particular manner by paying tribute to a number of Pennsylvanians.

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As President Obama, as well, in his work every day of his Presidency, did work to bend the arc on issues of racial, economic, and global justice, and he continues to do so in his years as a former President. Congressman Lewis not only gave all of us words to live by and inspiration, he also gave all of himself to the cause of justice. But his example, the example of John Lewis, still serves as an inspiration for the next generation of leaders. It is why Dr. King spent his entire life fighting for racial equality, voting rights, nonviolence, and the rights of the poor. King’s work for the life, work of others, work for others, work for others, work for others, work for others, work for others, work for others, work for others, work for others, work for others, work for others.

We should honor his sacrifice daily and not simply during Black History Month.

But we know that behind every man and every woman leading the fight for justice stands a multitude. Behind Dr. King, millions labored and labor still for civil rights and voting rights. We saw that this summer when millions of Americans across our Nation took to the streets to condemn the mistreatment of Black Americans at the hands of law enforcement. Not just last month when African Americans voted in extraordinary numbers in the Georgia special elections to send Rev.
RAPHAEL WARNock and JOY OSsoFF to the U.S. Senate.

For every leader who rises to national prominence—Dr. King, President Obama, Congressman Lewis, Vice President KAMALA HARRIS, Stacey Abrams and a few others—there are leaders and communities across the country who are themselves doing transformational work, who are doing their part to bend the arc of the moral universe, and to bend it, of course, toward justice.

Today, it is my privilege to highlight three such leaders from Pennsylvania. I will start in my home region and in my hometown, Scranton, PA, Glynis Johns.

First, I speak as a son of Scranton, the city I was born in and still live in. I was proud to honor a daughter—or I should say am proud, tonight, to honor a daughter from Scranton, Glynis Johns. Glynis is the founder and CEO of the Black Scranton Project, a nonprofit dedicated to archiving and celebrating the history of our hometown that too often has been overlooked and has been obscured. She received a B.A. and an M.A. in sociology from St. John’s University and is currently a doctoral student at Rutgers.

Glynis did not always plan to become a local historian, but like so many, she became one because she saw a need, and she responded to it. While working on a research project during her master’s program at St. John’s, the stories called to her, and she knew she needed to share these stories. For her project, she investigated why the Black community is overlooked and seen as transient in a city like Scranton. She kept uncovering stories through old newspaper archives and historical memorabilia, and she knew she had to return to her hometown to share these stories and rebuild a community.

She is proud to shift local perspectives on culture, inclusion, representation, and history within the city of Scranton. As a native and as a resident, I am grateful for her work to uncover these stories for our entire community to learn and to enjoy.

I first met Glynis just last year, 2020. It was the Juneteenth Jubilee, which she organized in our hometown, along with her fellow Black Scranton board members. It was both a celebration and a call to action, and that was in the midst of a summer of Black Lives Matter rallies and marches.

From the moment I arrived at that event and saw hundreds of, at that time, socially distanced and masked attendees, I saw her dedication. I saw her commitment firsthand. In addition to events like the Juneteenth Jubilee, Glynis and her colleagues at the Black Scranton Project are hard at work on their plan to reopen the Black Scranton Art & Culture Center.

The center will provide a safe, secure, and diverse environment that will lead to equity and inclusion for all residents by offering support like job assistance, career readiness training for adults, and after-school and summer programs for children. The plans for the center are ambitious, and I know that Glynis and her team are up for this important task. I am looking forward to walking through the center to see their work for myself as soon as it opens.

Having spaces for the community to come together to learn is necessary. It is necessary to support the community and, I am grateful for Glynis’s commitment to do this work in our hometown. I know firsthand how Scranton can benefit from young people like Glynis moving up and dedicating their time to making our city and region a better place to live. We are lucky to have her talents and her drive.

We know that in March of 2020, she was named one of the most “Influential Women of Northeastern Pennsylvania” in Heart & Soul magazine and was also named a “Top 20 under 40 Young Business Professionals” as part of the 2019 honors, and that was in the North-eastern Pennsylvania Business Journal. Glynis has already accomplished so much in her career and am looking forward to watching her contributions to our hometown over the years to come.

Our second honoree for Black History Month is Justan Parker Fields from the Lehigh Valley, just south of Northeastern Pennsylvania, where the city of Allentown is, and it is right on the New Jersey border. Justan is a resident of the city of Allentown.

Following the deaths of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor just last year, Justan decided to gather a few of his friends in the city of Allentown, in the downtown, to bring attention to these and other injustices against the African-American community. This gathering gained attention across the city and the state, including the mayor of Allentown, the police chief, and elected officials from across the Lehigh Valley. This event gave the residents of Allentown an opportunity to express their thoughts and frustrations surrounding racial injustice, and from there, Justan and his colleagues founded Black Lives Matter Lehigh Valley. They founded it in order to create a platform to initiate real change in their community.

Since then, Justan’s activism has only increased. He worked to form a collective with other local community and nonprofit leaders in the area to brainstorm about new initiatives for racial justice, for equity, and for equality for Black and Brown residents of the Lehigh Valley, and his work is not going unnoticed.

I spoke with Justan and his colleagues shortly after their first event, and over the past year, he has remained in regular communication with my office to discuss the progress that Black Lives Matter Lehigh Valley is making in Allentown and in surrounding communities. He has also provided testimony to the Pennsylvania House Democratic Policy Committee, partnered with the city of Allentown to review their use of force policy, and he has also worked with the Allentown City Council to draft recommendations for police reform in the city.

His activism has been inspiring to me and to so many others, and I know that that same inspiration draws other young people to his work. His hope is that those who are following Black Lives Matter Lehigh Valley on social media are motivated to jump-start their activism and their fight for equality.

Justan lives in Allentown with his partner Kevin and children, Shyilee and Shamaer. There is no doubt that Justan’s work in Allentown is creating a healthier and more inclusive community for his children and others like him.

Justan and Kevin have founded Change Now, a local nonprofit that serves families in need in the greater Lehigh Valley. They have hosted food drives, delivered emergency food relief packages to families in need, and hosted a Friendsgiving Dinner for the city, and sponsored Christmas presents for over 100 children. Justan said that if there is anything this pandemic taught him, it was that anyone, any family was just a small illness away from needing serious help.

Through his work with both Change Now and Black Lives Matter Lehigh Valley, Justan continues to make Allentown and the Greater Lehigh Valley a better place to live. And I thank him, and I know I speak on behalf of so many Pennsylvanians in thanking him for the many contributions to his community and to our Commonwealth.

Third and final, going further south to the southeastern corner of our State to the Philadelphia region, Dr. Ala Stanford. As we recognize changemakers this year, I am honored to recognize the contributions of Dr. Stanford.

She is an experienced physician, board certified by the American Board of Surgery in both general adult and pediatric general and thoracic surgery. She founded the Black Doctors COVID Consortium. It goes by the acronym BDCC. So many people have heard about them in our State and beyond. This consortium is an initiative established to provide African Americans, and of course, women, who are suffering disproportionately from the incidence of and the mortality surrounding COVID-19—this consortium provides those Americans, those Pennsylvanians, with testing and education. Her work addresses, not only the urgency of the present moment due to the pandemic but also a legacy of systemic structural racism that has left the Black community with significant health disparities—I think that is an understatement—and a mistrust of the healthcare system.

I have had the privilege of engaging with Dr. Stanford on many occasions.
She has provided her subject matter expertise to my office countless times, and she has been an unrelenting and passionate advocate for the communities, the people, and the families whom she serves.

It is important to note that Dr. Stanford and the health equity consortium, BDCC, with her own funds, her own money, which is a true testament to her commitment to delivering quality care to Black Americans. Dr. Stanford stepped up at an extremely volatile and uncertain time for the people of our State. This speaks volumes about her leadership and her dedication to addressing the enormous disparity in healthcare, both healthcare access and healthcare outcomes, for African Americans.

Last month, I was honored to, again, participate in the annual celebration of the life and legacy of Dr. King at Girard College, where BDCC set up a testing site, which they have done in every neighborhood throughout the city of Philadelphia. At that event, someone shared a powerful yet sobering quotation of Dr. King. Here is that quotation:

In March of 1966, at a press conference ahead of his address to the Medical Community of Human Rights in Chicago, Dr. King said that—

And I am quoting Dr. King here—

"of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health is the most shocking and the most inhumane because it often results in physical death."

So said Dr. King about the terrible inequity in healthcare.

Visionary leaders and health experts like Dr. Stanford are on the frontlines every single day, working to fix a broken system—a system, frankly, that has been unfair to so many communities of color. However, Dr. Stanford is committed—committed—to making change happen in our healthcare system so it can better serve the African-American community.

She and her team have made national headlines and garnered the well-deserved attention and support of many across the Nation as a result of the work of this consortium. So I thank Dr. Stanford for being an advocate, for being an anchor for the community, and, of course, a trusted leader.

As I conclude, I think it goes without saying that this year has been a long, difficult, and dark year. I have to say, though, a year of all of that darkness and all of the pain—we just left the front of the Capitol in remembrance of the 500,000 Americans who have died from COVID–19—despite all that pain, all that loss, all that darkness, this month of February, which just happens to be Black History Month, gives me some hope. In so many ways, I think our hope can be renewed.

While the pandemic still rages, especially in those communities of color, still very much spoken to and heard from, with continued education and leadership and courage, such as someone like Dr. Stanford provides, and, of course, with vaccines available, COVID-19 will begin to recede, and we will once again be able to hug our friends and family members and to move on from this pandemic. So we commend and salute people like Dr. Stanford who are helping us through this difficult time, providing some light in this darkness.

Leaders like Justin Parker Fields have stood up to confront injustice and to proclaim to law enforcement and elected officials that the lives of Black men and women matter and are deserving of the same protection as any other life.

As we saw people go through the polls this fall voting, and then others voting in January in Georgia, all of these Americans refusing to be intimidated by misinformation and threats, I was more hopeful. Young leaders in communities of color have insisted on telling their own stories and writing them into the book of history that for too long has been kept hidden from them, just as Glynis Johns is doing in our hometown.

Each of our honorees, and so many like them, have indeed bent the arc of the moral universe toward justice, and for those brave acts, for those courageous acts, we honor them today in Black History Month. May God bless their work.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed tolegislative business 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.

IMPEACHMENT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, "Remember this day forever." That is what Donald Trump said on January 6, in a tweet to his supporters after they had attacked the U.S. Capitol.

I certainly will never forget what happened that day. I will remember the Vice President being removed from the Chair and whisked off the floor of the Senate by the Secret Service. I will remember the law enforcement officers, holding automatic weapons, standing guard in the well of the Senate while the mob spread through the Capitol building.

The entire country and the world will remember the now infamous images of a murderous mob rushing the barricades, attacking police officers, breaking into this building, and rampaging through these hallowed halls.

We will remember the incredible acts of heroism by Officer Eugene Goodman and other Capitol Police officers—their valor and their courage.

We will remember the lives lost, including Officer Brian Sicknick, and the 140 police officers who were injured in this attack.

On February 3, Officer Sicknick’s ashes rested in honor in the Rotunda of this Capitol. He died defending this building and this democracy. I have thought about Officer Sicknick and his family often in the weeks leading up to today.

During the week of February 8, Senators served as jurors in the second impeachment trial of Donald Trump. Former President Trump was impeached on January 13 by the House of Representatives in a bipartisan vote, 10 Republicans joining with Democrats to impeach. The Senate had a constitutional obligation to conduct a trial on this Article of Impeachment. We also had an obligation to make clear for the record and for history what happened on January 6 and the days leading up to it.

What did the record show over the course of this trial? First, it showed Donald Trump’s big lie: his claim that the only way he could lose an election was if it were stolen. When he lost the 2020 election in a landslide to the American people, he tried to challenge the election in the States 60 times. He tried to bully State officials into overturning their States’ election results.

And when that failed, he invited his followers to come to Washington, DC, on January 6, the day on which the Senate and Congress were certifying the States’ electoral votes. He invited them to come to DC to interrupt that process and, in his words, “stop the steal.”

Donald Trump knew what his extremist followers were capable of. Over the summer, when armed extremists stormed and occupied State capitols, demanding an end to COVID–19 safety restrictions, he had cheered them on.

On January 6, he whipped his followers into a frenzy. “We have to fight like hell,” he told the crowd he had invited and assembled. “If you don’t fight like hell, you’re not going to have a country anymore.” Then he told his followers—angry, inflamed, many of them armed—to go to the Capitol where the Vice President and Congress were certifying the votes.

Donald Trump was not shocked what happened that day. He was excited. We now know that he ignored pleas from Members of Congress—members of his own party—who begged him to calm the mob and stop the attack.

To this day, Donald Trump has not showed one ounce of remorse or regret. He later described his speech on January 6 as “totally appropriate.”

For 5 days, the House Managers meticulously laid out an overwhelming case for conviction. The managers had the facts, the law, the Constitution, and a mountain of evidence on their side. Former President’s defense team did not have much to work with. They only spent a couple of hours making their case and spent much of that
time showing cartoonish videos on repeat. The House Managers effectively rebutted all of the former President’s defenses. The managers’ case was clear, and it was compelling.

That is why I voted to convict Donald Trump for inciting an insurrection against the government. I regret that more of my Republican colleagues did not join me in voting to convict and disqualify Donald Trump from holding future office. I wish the Senate had not equivocated. The message that it is unacceptable for Presidents to incite violence in order to stop the peaceful transition of power. But that said, history will show that this was the most bipartisan impeachment vote against a President in American history.

And it should not be lost that a majority of Senators—including seven Senators from the President’s own party—voted to convict him. Donald Trump is no longer President of the United States, but the poison he has injected into our national bloodstream remains, and it is still toxic.

As Americans reflect on the horrific, deadly events of January 6 and Donald Trump’s role in inciting them, I hope we will also reflect that democracy and our Constitution do not defend themselves. They must be protected, preserved, and defended by “We the People.”

On January 6, that greatest tradition of American democracy, the peaceful transition of power that had taken place in every Presidential transition since George Washington’s, was broken. Our democracy, our Constitution, and this Capitol building were attacked on January 6, 2021. Brave Americans were wounded and killed defending them. And thanks to that bravery, our democracy endures.

We must learn our lessons from this. We will remember January 6, 2021, forever, and we must not repeat it.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the terrible events of January 6, the impeachment vote, and the need to hold people accountable for their actions.

While the U.S. Senate did not achieve the two-thirds vote necessary to convict former President Donald Trump, this will go down in history as the largest bipartisan vote ever to hold a President accountable for high crimes and misdemeanors under our Constitution.

Former President Donald Trump spent months pushing a big lie—that the November election was stolen from him. He inspired, encouraged, and incited a deadly insurrection at the U.S. Capitol in order to stop the certification of the electoral college vote, and then he did nothing to stop the violence, which caused massive injury and loss of life.

I wish to convey my personal and deep gratitude to all of the police officers who courageously put their lives on the line to protect all of us that day, and I join with my colleagues in grieving the loss of life and injuries that so many suffered as a result of this violent insurrection.

This wasn’t just an attack on a building. It was an attack on all of the people who work there. It was an attack on our form of government. It was an attack on our Constitution. It was an attack on “We the People.”

This bipartisan vote sent an important message: In America, no President is above the law. And inciting violence against our government is illegal and dangerous.

Now, as a nation, we must move forward. We must do everything we can to bring down the temperature of our debates, find common ground on issues we care about, and reduce the divide in our families and communities. And we must continue to strive for accountability and justice. Our democracy demands no less.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, the first few weeks of the Biden administration produced an abashed trial of Executive orders, soft talk on China policy, and the threat of open borders. These actions left the American people confused and diluted their faith in our institutions, but nothing made the American people feel more unsettled than the second impeachment and trial of former President Donald J. Trump.

Impeachment is inherently political. The fallout is everything but. Last week, I was able to spend time talking to Tennesseans saw no serious inquiry into the alleged connection between the former President’s words and the actions of the dangerous rioters who breached the Capitol on January 6, 2021. They remain unpersuaded by the arguments the House Managers offered to prove the constitutionality of the trial itself. In fact, the only thing they remain firmly convinced of is that this second impeachment culminated in nothing more than a political exercise designed to humiliate the former President and wipe the voices of more than 70 million Americans from the pages of history.

The Senate’s vote to acquit the former President of these spurious charges put an end to the House Managers’ charade, but it will take more than an entry into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to help the country rise above the enmity that fueled it. It is our duty to lead by example and to work on behalf of our Constitution of Americans living under this cloud of anxiety, fear, and mistrust. I encourage my colleagues to quiet their hearts in the coming weeks and commit to doing the work that will put us on the path to economic recovery, quality in-person schooling, and a strong national defense. Only then will we be justified in asking those we serve to once again put their faith in us.

I was honored to celebrate these acts of bravery and self-sacrifice by joining the Senate’s unanimous vote in support of S. 35, to award Officer Eugene Goodman for his actions during the January 6, 2021 riot at the United States Capitol.

On that day, Officer Goodman found himself alone, facing off against a rushing tide of violence. Without blinking, he lured the mob away from the Senate chamber, protecting us from what we now know was an all but inevitable tragedy.

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the common struggle each of us will face.

The word “legendary” is overused, but when it comes to Karen Lewis, it falls short of describing an amazing life journey. I am reminded of a quote from Confucius that roughly translates to: “If your plan is for one year, prepare; if your plan is for ten years, plant trees; if your plan is for one hundred years, educate children.” I am thankful for Karen’s 100-year plan. Let us honor her memory by continuing her work to educate the children of America.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION RULES OF PROCEDURE

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, the Committee on Rules and Administration has adopted rules governing its procedures for the 117th Congress. Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, on behalf of myself and Senator BURNT, I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the committee rules be printed in the RECORD.

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

RULES OF PROCEDURE

MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

Rule 1. The regular meeting dates of the Committee shall be the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, at 10:00 a.m., in room 509 in the Senate Office Building. Additional meetings of the Committee may be called by the Chair as he or she may deem necessary or pursuant to the provision of paragraph 3 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Rule 2. Meetings of the Committee, including meetings to conduct hearings, shall be open to the public, except that a meeting or series of meetings by the Committee on the same subject for a period of no more than 14 calendar days may be closed to the public on a motion executed by the Chair and seconded to go into closed session to discuss only whether the matters enumerated in subparagraphs (a) through (f) would require the meeting to be closed. The Chair shall vote if the matter requires a quorum vote in open session by a majority of the Members of the Committee when it is determined that the matters to be discussed or the testimony to be taken at such meeting or meetings:

(a) will disclose matters necessary to be kept secret in the interests of national defense or the confidential conduct of foreign relations of the United States;

(b) will relate solely to matters of the Committee’s staff, including any information from an individual who is a former or law enforcement agent or will disclose the identity of any individual;

(c) will tend to charge an individual with crime or misconduct, to disgrace or injure the professional standing of an individual, or otherwise to expose an individual to public contempt or obloqui, or will represent a clearly unwarranted invasion of the privacy of an individual;

(d) will disclose the identity of any informer or law enforcement agent or will disclose any information relating to the investigatory or criminal conduct of a criminal offense that is required to be kept secret in the interests of effective law enforcement;

(e) will disclose information relating to the trade secrets or financial or commercial information pertaining specifically to a given person if:

(1) an Act of Congress requires the information to be kept confidential by Government officers and employees; or

(2) the information has been obtained by the Government through confidential means other than through an application by such person for a specific government financial or other benefit, and is required to be kept secret in order to prevent undue influence to the competitive position of such person; or

(f) may divulge matters required to be kept confidential under the provisions of law or Government regulations; or

(g) will disclose information relating to the confidential conduct of the foreign, defense, or the confidential conduct of the foreign, defense, or the confidential conduct of a criminal offense; or

(h) will disclose the identity of any Government officer or employee or will disclose the confidential conduct of a criminal offense; or

(i) may otherwise to expose an individual to public contempt or obloqui, or will represent a clearly unwarranted invasion of the privacy of an individual.

Rule 3. Written notices of Committee meetings will be sent by the Committee’s staff director to all Members of the Committee at least a week in advance. In addition, the Committee staff will telephone or e-mail reminders of Committee meetings to all Members of the Committee or to the appropriate assistants in their offices.

Rule 4. A copy of the Committee’s intended agenda enumerating separate items of legislative business and Committee business will normally be sent to all Members of the Committee and released to the public at least 1 day in advance. This does not preclude any Member of the Committee from discussing appropriate non-agenda topics.

Rule 5. After the Chair and the Ranking Minority Member set the agenda, forwarding order shall be based on order of arrival, alternating between Majority and Minority Members, unless otherwise directed by the Chair.

Rule 6. Any witness who is to appear before the Committee in any hearing shall file with the clerk of the Committee at least 3 business days before the date of his or her appearance written or oral statement or his or her proposed testimony and an executive summary thereof, in such form as the Chair may direct, unless the Chair and the Ranking Minority Member waive such requirement for good cause.

Rule 7. In general, testimony will be restricted to 5 minutes for each witness. The time may be extended by the Chair, upon the Chair’s own direction or at the request of a Member. Each round of questions by Members will also be limited to 5 minutes.

QUORUMS

Rule 8. Pursuant to paragraph 7(a)(1) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules, a majority of the Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the reporting of legislative measures.

Rule 9. Pursuant to paragraph 7(a)(1) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules, one-third of the Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, including action on amendments to measures prior to voting to report the measure to the Senate.

Rule 10. Pursuant to paragraph 7(a)(2) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules, 2 Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of taking testimony under oath and 1 Member of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of taking testimony not under oath; provided, however, that in either instance once a quorum is established, any one Member can continue to take such testimony.

Rule 11. Under no circumstances may proxies be considered for the establishment of a quorum.

VOTING

Rule 12. Voting in the Committee on any issue will normally be by voice vote.

Rule 13. A request for a roll call vote shall be made in writing by at least 5 Members of the Committee, and an alternate vote may be taken by voice vote instead of a roll call vote, a record vote will be taken on any question by roll call.

Rule 14. The results of roll call votes taken in any meeting upon any measure, or any amendment thereto, shall be stated in the Committee report on that measure unless previously announced by the Committee, and such report or announcement shall include a tabulation of the votes cast in favor of and against such measure and amendment by each Member of the Committee. (Paragraph 7(b) and (c) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules.)

Rule 15. Proxy voting shall be allowed on all issues and matters before the Committee. However, the vote of the Committee to report a measure or matter shall require the approval of a majority of the Members of the Committee who are physically present at the time of the vote. Proxies will be allowed in such cases solely for the purpose of recording a vote on the question and then only in those instances when the abenteu Committee Member has been informed of the question and has affirmed, for a Member to offer a motion to record. (Paragraph 7(a)(3) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules.)

AMENDMENTS

Rule 16. Provided at least five business days’ notice of the agenda is given, and the text of the proposed bill or resolution has been made available at least five business days in advance, it shall not be in order for the Committee to approve any amendment in the first degree proposed to any measure under consideration by the Committee unless such amendment has been delivered to the office of the Committee at least 5:00 p.m. the day prior to the scheduled start of the meeting and circulated to each of the offices by at least 6:00 p.m.

Rule 17. In the event the Chair introduces a substitute amendment or a Chair’s mark, the requirements set forth in Rule 16 shall be considered waived unless such substitute amendment or Chair’s mark has been made available at least five business days in advance of the scheduled meeting.

Rule 18. It shall be in order, without prior notice, to strike a single section of any bill, resolution, or amendment under consideration.

Rule 19. This section of the rule may be waived by agreement of the Chair and the Ranking Minority Member.

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO COMMITTEE CHAIR

Rule 20. The Chair is authorized to personify all e-mail or paper correspondence, including signatures and routine procedures for which the Committee’s approval is required and to decide on the Committee’s behalf all routine business.

Rule 21. The Chair is authorized to engage commercial reporters for the preparation of transcripts of Committee meetings and hearings.

Rule 22. The Chair is authorized to issue, on behalf of the Committee, regulations normally promulgated by the Committee at the beginning of each session.

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO COMMITTEE CHAIR AND RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

Rule 23. The Chair and Ranking Minority Member, acting jointly, are authorized to approve any rule or regulation for which the Committee’s approval is required, provided advance notice of their intention to do so is given to Members of the Committee.

Rule 24. The Chair, with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee, is authorized to subpoena the attendance of witnesses and the production of correspondence, books, papers, documents, and other materials. Regardless of whether a subpoena has been concurred in by the Ranking Minority Member, it may be authorized by vote of the Members of the Committee. When a subpoena is authorized,
either by a vote of the Committee or by the Chair with the concurrence of the Ranking Member, the subpoena may be issued upon the signature of the Chair or of any other Member of the Committee designated by the Chair.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, in accordance with rule XXVI, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I submit the rules governing the procedure of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for publication in the Congressional Record.

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

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

RULES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

GENERAL RULES

Rule 1. The Standing Rules of the Senate, as supplemented by these rules, are adopted as the rules of the Committee and its Subcommittees.

MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

Rule 2. (a) The Committee shall meet on the third Thursday of each month while the Congress is in session for the purpose of conducting business, unless, for the convenience of Members, the Chairman shall set some other day for a meeting. Additional meetings may be called by the Chairman as he or she may deem necessary.

(b) Hearings of any Subcommittee may be called by the Chairman of such Subcommittee, provided that no such hearing, other than a field hearing, shall be scheduled or held concurrently with a full Committee meeting or hearing, unless a majority of the Committee concurs in such concurrent hearing.

OPEN HEARINGS AND MEETINGS

Rule 3. (a) All hearings and business meetings of the Committee and all the hearings of any of its Subcommittees shall be open to the public, unless the Committee or any Subcommittee involved, by majority vote of all the Members of the Committee or such Subcommittee, orders the hearing or meeting to be closed in accordance with paragraph 5(b) of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

(b) A transcript shall be kept of each hearing of the Committee or any Subcommittee.

(c) A transcript shall be kept of each business meeting of the Committee unless a majority of all the Members of the Committee agrees that some other form of permanent record is preferable.

HEARING PROCEDURES

Rule 4. (a) Public notice shall be given of the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing to be held by the Committee or any Subcommittee at least one week in advance of such hearing unless the Chairman of the full Committee or the Subcommittee involved determines that the hearing is non-controversial or that special circumstances require expedited procedures and a majority of all the Members of the Committee or the Subcommittee involved concurs. In no case shall a hearing be conducted with less than twenty-four hours’ notice. Any document or report that is the subject of a hearing shall be provided to the Members of the Committee or Subcommittee involved at least 72 hours before the hearing unless the Chairman and Ranking Member determine otherwise.

(b) Each witness who is to appear before the Committee or any Subcommittee shall file with the Chairman of the Subcommittee, at least 24 hours in advance of the hearing, a written statement of his or her testimony in as many copies as the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee may require.

(c) Each Member shall be limited to five minutes in the questioning of any witness unless such time as all Members who so desire have had an opportunity to question the witness.

(d) No staff member may question a witness at a hearing.

BUSINESS MEETING PROCEDURES

Rule 5. (a) A legislative measure, nomination, or other matter shall be included on the agenda of the next following business meeting of the full Committee if a written request by a Member of the Committee for such inclusion has been filed with the Chairman of the Committee at least one week prior to such meeting. Nothing in this rule shall be construed to limit the authority of the Chairman of the Committee to include a legislative measure, nomination, or other matter on the Committee agenda in the absence of such request.

(b) The agenda for any business meeting of the Committee shall be provided to each Member and notice thereof shall be published at least three days prior to such meeting, and no new items may be added after the agenda is so published except by the approval of a majority of the Members of the Committee on matters not included on the public agenda. The Staff Director shall promptly notify absent Members of any action taken by the Committee if the Members not included on the published agenda.

(c) As warranted, the Chairman, in consultation with the Ranking Member, may impose a filing deadline for first degree amendments for any legislative business meeting of the Committee.

QUORUMS

Rule 6. (a) As excepted in sub-sections (b) and (c), seven Members shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business of the Committee.

(b) No measure shall be ordered reported from the Committee unless 11 Members of the Committee are actually present at the time such action is taken.

(c) One Member shall designate a quorum for the purpose of conducting a hearing or taking testimony on any measure or matter before the Committee or any Subcommittee.

Rule 7. (a) A roll call of the Members shall be taken upon the request of any Member. Any Member who does not vote on any roll call at the time the roll is called, may vote on the same or any roll call at any later time during the same business meeting.

(b) Proxy voting shall be permitted on all matters, except that proxies may not be counted for the purpose of determining the presence of a quorum. Unless further limited, a proxy shall be exercised only upon the date for which it is given and upon the items published in the agenda for that date.

(c) Each Committee report shall set forth the vote on the motion to report the measure or matter involved. Unless the Committee directs otherwise, the report will not set out any votes on amendments offered during the hearing. A Member who did not vote on any roll call shall have the opportunity to have his or her position recorded in the appropriate Committee record on that roll call.

(d) The Committee vote to report a measure to the Senate shall also authorize the staff of the Committee to make necessary technical and clerical corrections in the measure.

SUBCOMMITTEES

Rule 8. (a) The number of Members aspiring each Subcommittee and the division between Majority and Minority Members shall be fixed by the Chairman in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member.

(b) Assignment of Members to Subcommittees shall, insofar as possible, reflect the preferences of the Members. No Member will receive a second Subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all Members of the Committee have chosen assignments to one Subcommittee, and no Member shall receive a third Subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all Members have chosen assignments to two Subcommittees.

(c) Any Member of the Committee may sit with any Subcommittee during its hearings but shall not have the authority to vote on any matters before the Subcommittee unless he or she is a Member of such Subcommittee.

NOMINATIONS

Rule 9. At any hearing to confirm a Presidential nomination, the testimony of the nominee and, at the request of any Member, any witness shall be under oath. Every nominee shall submit the financial disclosure report filed pursuant to title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978. Such report is made available to the public.

INVESTIGATIONS

Rule 10. (a) Neither the Committee nor any of its Subcommittees may undertake an investigation unless specifically authorized by the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member or a majority of all the Members of the Committee.

(b) A witness called to testify at an investigation shall be under oath. Any witness shall be under oath whenever the Chairman rules that an investigation would warrant an investigation.

(c) The Chairman, in consultation with the Ranking Member, may, if he or she deems necessary, issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents, reports, and other materials (1) with the agreement of the Ranking Minority Member when a majority of all the Members of the Committee, or (3) when within the scope of an investigation authorized under Rule 10(a).

CONFIDENTIAL TESTIMONY

Rule 11. Witnesses in Committee or Subcommittee hearings may be required to give testimony under oath whenever the Chairman or Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or Subcommittee deems such to be necessary. If one or more witnesses at a hearing are required to testify under oath, all witnesses at such hearing shall be required to testify under oath.

SWORN TESTIMONY

Rule 12. The Chairman shall have authority to issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses or the production of memoranda, documents, records, or other materials (1) with the agreement of the Ranking Minority Member when a majority of all the Members of the Committee, or (2) when within the scope of an investigation authorized under Rule 10(a).

CONFIDENTIAL TESTIMONY

Rule 13. No confidential testimony taken by or any report of the proceedings of a closed Committee or Subcommittee meeting was ordered to be confidential.
shall be made public, in whole or in part or by way of summary, unless authorized by a majority of all the Members of the Committee at a business meeting called for the purpose of making such a determination.

DEFAMATORY STATEMENTS

Rule 14. Any person whose name is mentioned or who is specifically identified in, or who believes that testimony or other evidence presented at, an open Committee or Subcommittee hearing tends to defame him or her or otherwise adversely affect his or her reputation may file with the Committee for its consideration and action a sworn statement of facts relevant to such testimony or evidence.

BROADCASTING OF HEARINGS OR MEETINGS

Rule 15. Any meeting or hearing by the Committee or any Subcommittee which is open to the public may be covered in whole or in part by web, television, radio broadcast, or still photography. Photographers and reporters using mechanical recording, filming, or broadcasting devices shall position their equipment so as not to interfere with the seating, vision, and hearing of Members and staff on the dais or with the orderly procession of persons entering or leaving.

AMENDING THE RULES

Rule 16. These rules may be amended only by vote of a majority of all the Members of the Committee in a business meeting of the Committee or any Subcommittee which is open to the public, and any amendment to these rules shall be made public, in whole or in part or otherwise adversely affect his or her or otherwise adversely affect his or her reputation may file with the Committee for its consideration and action a sworn statement of facts relevant to such testimony or evidence.

CONFIRMATION OF LINDA THOMAS-GREENFIELD

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, in times of conflict and peace, nations should discuss and make such a determination. We cannot expect to achieve peace without effort and dialogue. The post of Ambassador to the United Nations is a position where engagement is of the utmost importance. Throughout Ambassador Thomas-Greenfield’s tenure at the State Department, under both Republicans and Democrats, she developed a long track record of engaging diplomatically with other countries through a very unique approach. Based on Ambassador Thomas-Greenfield’s career, I believe she will tackle international challenges and engage with friends and adversaries, alike, and I support her nomination.

CONFIRMATION OF THOMAS J. VILSACK

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, today, I voted to oppose the confirmation of Tom Vilsack as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. While I appreciate Mr. Vilsack’s willingness to again serve in this capacity after holding this same role in President Obama’s administration, his stance on USDA’s assistance programs and climate change give me pause. During his confirmation hearing, Mr. Vilsack stated that one of his main priorities is expanding eligibility for food stamps to people not necessarily in need. Mr. Vilsack’s willingness to expand eligibility for these programs will require more federal spending and add to the national debt.

Perhaps even more concerning is Mr. Vilsack’s willingness to use his position at USDA to further President Biden’s aggressive climate change agenda, which will undoubtedly lead to more regulations on the agriculture industry. In his confirmation hearing, Mr. Vilsack stated, “If confirmed, USDA will lead the federal government in . . . investing in renewable energy and pursuing sustainable and regenerative practices that enhance soil health . . . and delivering science-based solutions to help mitigate and reduce climate change.” Additionally, he said, “I share the president’s vision of a net-zero emissions opportunity for U.S. agriculture . . . .” Cumbersome regulations based on climate alarmism will inevitably lead to higher food prices for consumers. Farmers should be able to exercise their own sound judgment and common sense without burdensome Federal regulations. For these reasons, I opposed his confirmation.

ARMs SALES NOTIFICATION

MR. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee’s intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

Dear Mr. Chairman: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 03–21. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 14–59 of December 11, 2014.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,
Director.

Enclosure.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 03–21
Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(b)(5)(A), AECA)
(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Greece.
The proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of NATO allies and partners, will offset significant C3I capabilities at all echelons, from the operational level down to the lowest small unit tactical formations, provide increased secure communications effectiveness and efficiency, and enhance military decision making. NCIA will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its current forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractor will be Collins Aerospace, Cedar Rapids, IA. There are no known offset agreements in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require one (1) or two (2) contractor representatives to travel to the specified NATO country to conduct the Operator and Maintenance OCONUS for a period of two (2) months.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 20–48
Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Egypt.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:


Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing (FMP).

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:


Non-MDE: Also included are crypto fill devices, man-portable ancillaries, vehicular ancillaries, deployed Headquarters ancillaries, power support, and operator and maintenance training, and other related elements of program, technical and logistics support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (K–B–VAA).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology: 1. The UHF SATCOM terminal provides voice or data connectivity. The device itself is CCI but is not classified until it is keyed with the proper keying material to enable secure communications.

2. The highest level of information required to furnish the equipment, training, and data associated with this proposed sale is UNCLASSIFIED.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the enclosed Policy Justification. A determination has been made that the NCIA can provide the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for resale and export to the NCIA.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.
The proposed sale will support the Egyptian Navy’s Fast Missile Craft ships and provide significantly enhanced area defense capabilities over Egypt’s coastal areas and approaches to the Suez. Egypt will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces since Egypt already operates previously procured RAM Block 1A missiles.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Raytheon Missiles & Defense (RMD), Tucson, AZ. There are no known offset agreements proposed with this potential sale.

Implementation of this sale will not require the assignment of any U.S. or contractor representatives to Egypt.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21–16
Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act
Annex Item No. vii
(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:
The Rolling Airframe Missile (RAM) is an autonomous (i.e., “fire and forget”) lightweight, supersonic, surface-to-air tacticop for ship self-defense against current and evolving anti-ship cruise missile threats. Advanced technology in the RIM-116C includes dual-mode RF/IR radio frequency seekers, which can be adjusted to develop countermeasures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

A determination has been made that Government of Egypt can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Egypt.

ARM SALES NOTIFICATION
Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, it is our intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter referred to in an annexed annex, the sale annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

Dear Mr. Chairman: Pursuant to the requirements of Section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 21–16 concerning the Army’s proposed Letter of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Finland for defense articles and services estimated to cost $91.2 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21–16
Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Finland.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services Under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any:

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Articles Or Defense Services

(yii) Total Estimated Value:

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress:

February 17, 2021.

As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act, the above sale includes:


Also included is an ER GMLRS Materiel Release Package; Stockpile Reliability Program; Stockpile Reliability Testing (QAT) services; technical publications; U.S. Government and contractor technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of program and logistics support.


Non-MDE: Also included is an ER GMLRS Materiel Release Package; Stockpile Reliability Program; Stockpile Reliability Testing (QAT) services; technical publications; U.S. Government and contractor technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of program and logistics support.

4. A determination has been made that Government of Finland can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Finland.

ARM SALES NOTIFICATION
Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress

FINLAND

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress
has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. In the House, the chairman’s intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate. I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY
Arlington, VA.

Hon. Robert Menendez
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

Dear Mr. Chairman: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 20–50 concerning the Air Force’s proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Jordan—F–16 Air Combat Training Center and Devices including full mission trainers, combat tactics trainers, instructor/operator stations, tactical environment simulators, brief/debrief stations, scenario generation stations, database generation stations, mission observation centers, and other training center equipment and support; software and software support; publications and technical documentation; maintenance, spares and repair parts and services; U.S. and contractor engineering, technical, and logistical support services; and other related elements of program support. The estimated total cost is $60 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security interests of the United States by helping to improve the security of a Major Non-NATO Ally that is an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

The proposed sale will improve Jordan’s capability to meet current and future threats by ensuring Jordan’s pilots are effectively trained to the standards of the U.S.-Jordan lasting partnership and ensure the country’s stability, a critical element to broader U.S. regional policy goals. Jordan will use this asset to enhance training of pilots. Jordan will have no difficulty absorbing this proposed sale.

Sincerely,
Heidi H. Grant, Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 20–50
Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Jordan.
(ii) Total Estimated Value: Major Defense Equipment* $60 million. Other Defense Articles and Services Total $60 million.
Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing (FIMF).

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: Foreign Military Sales Case JO-D-QBN A2 implemented on January 22, 2018, for an F–16 Air Combat Training Center at $51.2 million, was at the time below congressional notification threshold. Jordan has requested the case be amended to include additional devices and support. This amendment will push the case above Jordan’s current notification threshold and thus requires notification of the entire case.

Major Defense Equipment (MOE): None.

Non-MDE: Includes an F–16 Air Combat Training Center and Devices comprised of full mission combat tactics trainers, instructor/operator stations, tactical environment simulators, brief/debrief stations, scenario generation stations, database generation stations, mission observation centers, and other training center equipment and support; software and software support; publications and technical documentation; maintenance, spares and repair parts and services; U.S. and contractor engineering, technical, and logistical support services; and other related elements of program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (JO-D-QBN A3).
(v) For Related Cases, if any: JO-D-QCU.
(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

* As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION
Jordan—F–16 Air Combat Training Center

The Government of Jordan has requested to buy an F–16 Air Combat Training Center and Devices including full mission trainers, combat tactics trainers, instructor/operator stations, tactical environment simulators, brief/debrief stations, scenario generation stations, database generation stations, mission observation centers, and other training center equipment and support; software and software support; publications and technical documentation; maintenance, spares and repair parts and services; U.S. and contractor engineering, technical, and logistical support services; and other related elements of program support. The estimated total cost is $60 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security interests of the United States by helping to improve the security of a Major Non-NATO Ally that is an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

The proposed sale will improve Jordan’s capability to meet current and future threats by ensuring Jordan’s pilots are effectively trained to the standards of the U.S.-Jordan lasting partnership and ensure the country’s stability, a critical element to broader U.S. regional policy goals. Jordan will use this asset to enhance training of pilots.

Jordan has no difficulty absorbing this proposed sale.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Lockheed Martin Corporation Rotary & Mission Systems, Orlando, FL. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of two U.S. Lockheed Martin contractor representatives to Jordan for a duration of 2 years to support training. There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

HONORING THE LIVES OF IDAHO NATIONAL GUARDSMEN

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, along with my colleagues Senator Jim Risch, Representative Mike Simpson, and Representative Russ Fulcher, I rise today to honor the lives and service of CW4 Jesse Anderson, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Laubhan, and CW3 Matthew Peltzer. These three fallen Idaho Army National Guard personnel were participating in a routine training flight when their UH–60 Black Hawk helicopter crashed near Boise on February 2, 2021.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Anderson, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Laubhan, and Chief Warrant Officer 3 Peltzer answered the call of duty to serve our State and our Nation with honor, distinction, and courage.

CW4 Jesse Anderson, of Boise, was a senior instructor pilot. He had served in the Idaho Army National Guard since 2008, and he first joined the U.S. Army as an aviation warrant officer candidate in 2000. Chief Warrant Officer 4 Anderson is survived by his wife and four children. While in the Idaho Army National Guard, CW4 Anderson served as a UH–60 A/L instructor pilot, UH–60 A/L instructor pilot, C–12 fixed wing pilot, C–12 operations officer, company and battalion aviation standardization officer, and medical evacuation pilot. He served in multiple deployments, including two deployments in Iraq. He also participated in local search and rescue operations, wildland fire fighting missions in California, and civil support operations in Guatemala.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Anderson earned a long list of awards and decorations for his honorable service that include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, the NATO Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon, the Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon, the Master Aviator Badge, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Combat Action Badge, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the California Achievement Medal, the Idaho Emergency Duty Ribbon, and the Idaho Service Ribbon.

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Laubhan, of Boise, was an instructor pilot, who is survived by his wife and two children. In January 2010, CW3 Laubhan enlisted in the Idaho Army National Guard as an AH–64 attack helicopter repairer with D Company, 1st Battalion of the 183rd Aviation Regiment. He went on to serve as an AH–64 Apache and UH–60 Black Hawk pilot, a UH–60 instructor pilot, and a medical evacuation pilot while with the battalion. His service included deploying in 2019 as a Black Hawk pilot to Guatemala in support of Operation Beyond the Horizon, and he is credited with flying a lifesaving mission in support of Idaho search and rescue operations. He also flew in support of wildland firefighting operations in California. The awards and decorations he earned for his admirable service include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Achievement Medal, the California Achievement Medal, and the Idaho Service Ribbon.

CW3 Matthew Peltzer, a resident of Nampa, was a UH–60 A/L Black Hawk pilot, having served in the Idaho Army National Guard since 2005. Chief Warrant Officer 3 Peltzer is survived by his wife and two children. Chief Warrant Officer 3 Peltzer enlisted into the Idaho National Guard...
Together they flew;  
But alas, all was quiet,  
Except the coming of the dawning dew.  
Their journey to soar.  
To protect those behind;  
It came to an end.  
But forever entwined.  
Their journey continues,  
Their lives go on.  
With Aces and others dreamers,  
Fly on—Fly on!"  

REMEMBERING BARBARA A. O’MALLEY

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, today I rise to pay tribute and honor the life of the late Mrs. Barbara A. O’Malley, a soldier, a dedicated public servant who proudly served Maryland and our Nation as a congressional staffer for Senator Barbara Mikulski for over three decades.

Born in Fort Wayne, IN, Barbara’s love of public service was nurtured early on by her father, Joseph Suelzer, a World War I veteran who served as the chair of the Democratic Party in Indiana’s Allen County. She got an early start in politics as a congressional intern before she moved to Washington, DC, where she met her future husband, Thomas Martin O’Malley, at the Young Democrats’ headquarters in our Nation’s Capital. The O’Malleys made a home in Maryland, where Barbara spent 33 years as a stay-at-home mother before her inclination towards politics called her into service once more, this time with an opportunity to work for one of the only two female Senators in Congress at that time, Senator Barbara Mikulski.

In Congress, Barbara found a second home. To all those fortunate enough to work in the Senate and especially to those who worked on the fifth floor of the Senate Hart Building, including myself, Barbara was simply known as “Mrs. O.” She worked as a receptionist for Senator Mikulski and was the friendly face who welcomed constituents, colleagues, friends, and even Senators to the office. With her warmth and kindness, she made you feel right at home. And with her deep knowledge of Maryland’s democratic politics, you knew she meant business. She cherished working for Congress, and as a lover of history, she did not take for granted how special it was to work in the same Capitol halls as many of our former great leaders.

Even though Barbara was committed to serving the people of Maryland, she was also equally committed to her family—her husband, her six children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. In their family, Barbara and her husband, Thomas, a World War II veteran, instilled a sense of duty and public service, so it came as no surprise that their son, Martin O’Malley, went on to become the mayor of Baltimore and Governor of their beloved State of Maryland.

Dedication and commitment to public service defined Barbara’s career in Congress, and we are so lucky she chose the Senate as one of the places to make her mark in this world.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL BRIAN WINSKI

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor one of America’s finest, MG Brian Winski, who served a 24-month tour as the commanding general of the 101st Airborne Division and Fort Campbell, KY. Major General Winski’s unparalleled mastery across the tactical, operational, and strategic spectrums in combination with his infectious and inspirational leadership provided a continuous source of motivation for soldiers and leaders alike.

In a time of uncertainty, Major General Winski exhibited the most valued traits of a leader. As the senior commander of Fort Campbell, KY, Major General Winski oversaw support services for 33,000 soldiers, 50,000 family members, 10,000 civilian employees, and 150,000 retirees. Prior to the global Covid–19 pandemic, Major General Winski shaped the way in which the 101st Airborne Division plans and executes emergency deployment readiness exercises leading the 531st Hospital Center EDRE and later watched their successful domestic deployment to New York to provide help in crisis.

Major General Winski’s impressive contributions enabled mission success in some of the toughest and most challenging conditions. The distinctive accomplishments of Major General Winski reflect great credit upon himself, the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), the XVIII Airborne Corps, the U.S. Army, and the Department of Defense. I join my fellow Kentuckians in honoring Major General Brian Winski with the Award of Distinguished Service Medal as he served his country with class and courage.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE KLAMATH TRIBES

• Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, the Klamath Tribes in Oregon have a saying: “We help each other; We will live good.” These words are neither hollow nor trivial to the members of these Tribes. They live them each and every day and never more so than when disaster strikes. When the Two Two Four Fire raged through the Chiloquin Ranger District of the Fremont-Winema National Forest last September, scorching over 14,000 acres, destroying homes and traditional hunting and fishing sites, members of the Tribes rallied together, opening their doors, their hearts, and their wallets to help their fellow Oreganians in a time of great need.

They brought those eight words—“We help each other; We will live good”—to life.

When emergency personnel needed a large, open area to establish an evacuation shelter for all those who had to
flee their homes ahead of the inferno, the Tribes immediately offered up the parking lot the Kla-Mo-Ya Casino for their use.

When the firefighters tasked with containing the fire needed a massive open space to stage their ample equipment, those same expansive parking lots were readily provided to them.

At the same time, the doors of their hotel were thrown open to anyone displaced by the fire, to Tribal and non-Tribal members alike who were in need of shelter. In the middle of a pandemic, with all manner of precautions in place to keep folks healthy and safe, that was no easy feat, but they did it, all while also welcoming the Red Cross inside to set up a response center, as well.

As the forests burned around it, the Kla-Mo-Ya Casino stood there like the eye of a hurricane. It became a center of help and healing, of safety and shelter. Had they just done those things, the Klamath Tribes would have already gone far above and beyond to support their neighbors and their community.

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No, Klamath Tribal Behavioral Health went out and provided assistance and services to anyone who had been affected and displaced, free of charge. Whether they were Tribal members or not, it didn’t matter. Those who needed help were able to get it. They helped feed the firefighters risking their lives fighting the infernos, emergency volunteers helping others, and even evacuees.

And even now, some 5 months after the worst of the fire’s carnage, the Klamath Tribes are still doing what they can to help those whose lives were turned upside down by it. A GoFundMe account has been set up to help any family who lost their home or their property to the Two Four Two Fire rebuild and start to get back up on their feet again. The distribution of the money raised by the account is still a work in progress. The Tribes are fine-tuning the priority system and how folks will apply for it. But once all of that is worked out, this is going to be a tremendous help to so many of our friends and neighbors who have endured such heartbreak and hardship.

“We help each other; We will live good.” There is no question that the members of the Klamath Tribes have helped those in need across southern Oregon through an unimaginably difficult time. We are all deeply grateful for everything they have done, both during the Two Four Two Fire and afterward. And we will all be better off as a State and as a community because of their kindness and generosity of spirit.

RECOGNIZING GENEVA’S SHEAR PERFECTION BARBER & BEAUTY SALON
- Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, this month our country is joining together in celebration of Black History Month. It is a month for all of us to recognize the indescribable impact that Black Americans have had on our Nation; to recommit ourselves to the struggle to achieve and ensure racial justice throughout our land; and, of course, to celebrate Black culture and all of its contributions to America past, present, and future. These institutions are more connected or have been more central to Black culture than the barbershop and beauty salon. As described by the Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture, for generations, men and women have been going to these businesses not just for hair care, but for the sense of community and security they provide. Black Americans go to spend time among peers, playing cards or chess, sharing the latest local news and engaging in passionate debates about politics. Men and women go into these businesses for friendship and mentorship and to be engaged in the affairs of their neighbors and their community.

For 30 years, this was particularly true of Geneva’s Shear Perfection Barber & Beauty Salon in northeast Portland. Since opening its doors in 1991, Geneva’s has been a hub for Portland’s African-American community, welcoming over 1,000 people through its doors every month. Folks from Michael Jordan and Muhammed Ali, to members of the Portland Trailblazers, sat in its chairs. But more importantly, it stood as the heart for three generations of Black Portlanders who first walked through Geneva’s doors as children with their parents and then went on to bring their own sons and daughters for their first haircuts, even as the area around this local institution underwent the kind of gentrification that pushed Black families further and further away.

But it wasn’t only the barbershop itself that is considered an institution of the Portland community—so is the Knauls family who owned and operated it for decades. Geneva Knauls, who passed away in 2020, was our State’s first Black female barbershop owner. Throughout her years as a businesswoman, Geneva supported all different kinds of local grassroots projects and organizations, and become one of the most beloved people in the northeast Portland community. Her status is only equaled by her husband’s, Mr. Paul Knauls, Sr., who is affectionately known around town as the Mayor of Northeast Portland. From 1963 to 2010, Mr. Knauls owned and ran the Cotton Club, which was the place for jazz and soul music, welcoming such big names as Stevie Wonder, Diana Ross, B.B. King, and Sammy Davis, Jr., to its stage to serenade music-loving Portlanders. He sold the Cotton Club in 1970 and went on to open a series of others throughout town before finally opening Geneva’s. All the while, throughout all of his business adventures, Paul has been active in other ways throughout the community. He worked with the Junior Achievement Program and the Hum- boldt and Jefferson schools, tutored in the HOSTS—Help One Student to Suc-ceed—program at King School, and served for 6 years on the board of the Urban League.

Last year, Mr. Knauls and his son, Paul Jr., decided it was finally time to take a break and close the doors of Geneva’s. It was also a decision made out of a recognition of the difficult new realities of trying to operate a personal care business in the midst of an unprecedented national and global pan- demic. Sadly, the Knauls and Geneva’s are not alone. Many businesses have been forced to confront life amid the COVID pandemic and BIPOC-owned businesses and communities have been disproportionately impacted. Last year’s announcement of the closure of Geneva’s Shear Perfection Barber & Beauty Salon was understandably met with an emotional outpouring from local Portlancers. Men and women who had been going to the barbershop for decades and for families in need, and announce-ments from other local Black business owners who are moving into the space to continue the Knauls family’s entre-preneurial spirit. And the legacy of “The Mayor” and his iconic standing in the community remains as strong today as it ever has; even after celebra-ting Mr. Knauls’ 90th birthday and the pandemic have not stopped Paul Knauls, Sr., from putting on two masks to go out for daily walks in his neighborhood and announce-ments from other local Black business owners who are moving into the space to continue the Knauls family’s entre-preneurial spirit. And the legacy of “The Mayor” and his iconic standing in the community remains as strong today as it ever has; even after celebra-ting Mr. Knauls’ 90th birthday and the pandemic have not stopped Paul Knauls, Sr., from putting on two masks to go out for daily walks in his neighborhood and announce-ments from other local Black business owners who are moving into the space to continue the Knauls family’s entre-preneurial spirit. And the legacy of “The Mayor” and his iconic standing in the community remains as strong today as it ever has; even after celebra-
touched and impacted by it in ways both big and small. And it is reassuring to know that, through each of them, Geneva’s legacy, the legacy of the Black barbershop and salon, the legacy of community and friendship and looking out for one another, will continue to endure.

REMEMBERING MEL RICHARD ANTONEN

- Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I would like to include in the RECORD the following obituary for Mel Antonen, a native South Dakotaan and longtime Major League Baseball reporter for USA Today and elsewhere, who passed away on January 30, 2021. He is honored on USA Today's hallowed Fenway Park away congregate at Memorial Park to watch the entire stadium undulated dangerously during the earthquake-interrupted 1989 World Series. There, sitting in a press box high above San Francisco's Candlestick Park, he watched as the San Francisco 49ers dramatically durante during the destructive Loma Prieta quake. Antonen filed a story, then headed out for days to cover the aftermath, focusing on the human costs.

Antonen scored a rare interview with the no-privately press-shy DiMaggio, late in the legend's life, after learning that DiMaggio was spotted shooting hoops for a special needs group at nearby Cypress Grove Park. The man considered "ungetatable" by many sports journalists talked for several hours with Antonen, and they finished with coffee, from a network that covers the entire Mid-Atlantic Sports Report, and radio analyst on Sirius-XM in the last decade of his career, and also wrote for Sports Illustrated and other publications. He did a radio interview on the baseball Hall of Fame voting from his hospital bed before his death. He especially loved talking base-Black barbershop and salon, the legacy of community and friendship and looking out for one another, will continue to endure.

“He had such an easy way about him with players and media and staff,” Connolly said. “It was one of those things, everyone liked the guy. Everyone. He had a way about him. His presence could make a road feel very warm, and being a South Dakota boy, he was very easy to relate to. I remember him saying that if he didn’t go into baseball writing, he would have ended up as a minister. You could tell Mel anything, he was a pastoral listening-type guy.”

Antonen's journalism career began as a kid, when he called in scores from Lake Norden's home games to two newspapers that he ended up writing for: the Watertown (S.D.) Public Opinion, which paid him by a high schooler 15 cents a copy inch; and the Sioux Falls Argus Leader, where he got his first job after graduation from Augustana University, eventually covering the sports, farm, and political beats. He joined USA TODAY in 1986, where one of his earliest assignments was covering the Tonya Harding Olympic figure-skating scandal. Antonen became a MLB reporter and columnist, covering history from Cal Ripken Jr. to the game's stereotypical second Mourning League.

"I can't imagine being anything other than a reporter, an ink-stained wretch," he told his Hall of Fame audience.

Freeman, his editor at USA TODAY's pio-

nneering sports section, said Antonen's knowledge of baseball, reverence for his history, and his love of stories, was evident from the first day he stepped in the office. "It became clear to me right away the under-

standing he had of baseball, and a lot of that was because of his father," said Freeman.

Mel Richard Antonen is survived by his second wife, photojournalist, whom he married in 2001, along with three siblings and their families. Lisa embraced the many characters in Mel's baseball orbit, including holding the phone for Mel with the crusty, late Hall-of-Fame pitcher Bob Feller by discussing the beauty of hollyhocks.

"From Joe DiMaggio to Dusty Baker and Barry Bonds, I have had the chance to interview and become friends with people that baseball fans around the world would love to know," he said in that Hall of Fame vote on Earth with that combination.

"We needed a diversion from fearful images of three months prior—(of) my mom's tan casket, crying adults, the hearse in front of Trinity Lutheran Church, in an overcast December subzero day, when there were piles of snow in one of South Da-

kota's worst winters."

Antonen kept reporting and writing throughout his illness with COVID-19 and an auto-immune disease so rare that his doctors told him he may have been the only person on Earth with that combination.

Months after being diagnosed with both 

"My life reflects the power of baseball," he said in that 2017 speech. “One of my earliest memories of Lake Norden baseball was the summer of 1969. . . . In March of that year my mother died after a year-long battle with cancer. But it was baseball, and Lake Norden baseball, with hot dogs and a 10-cent glass of pop and chasting batting-practice foul balls on the field's artificial sumac. It sparked a diversion from fearful images of three months prior—(of) my mom's tan casket, crying adults, the hearse in front of Trinity Lutheran Church, in an overcast December subzero day, when there were piles of snow in one of South Da-

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REMEMBERING JANE ANNE BOORMAN

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I would like to pay tribute to Ms. Jane Anne Boorman, a native South Dako-
tan and dedicated public servant, who passed away in December. Jane was deeply respected among her peers and beyond, having earned a superb reputation for her hard work and integrity. Jane was active and well-known in South Dakota Republican Party poli-
tics, and she was a thought-leader and friend, who no doubt helped inspire countless leaders and support important efforts throughout our great State. I extend my deep condolences and prayers to the Boorman family.

The following is Jane’s obituary honoring the life of this great South Dako-
tan.

The material follows:

Jane Anne Boorman (1932 to 2020), a retired federal employee, Republican aide, and newspaper editor died on December 11, 2020, at Arbor Place Retirement Home in Rock-
villa, Maryland. She was 88.

Jane was born in Lemmon, South Dakota to Anne Sutton Boorman and Lloyd Bruce (LB) Boorman. She graduated from Lemmon High School and Marquette University.

Jane’s life straddled South Dakota and Washington, DC. Born and raised on the high plains in Lemmon, South Dakota, Jane em-

bodied the flinty independence of its early settlers. She was hard to know and always pushed for perfection, but once you were in her life you had a steadfast, loyal, and loving friend.

In Lemmon, Jane was editor and held other roles at the Lemmon Leader—the family-owned newspaper—where she worked until 1973. She also was named co-editor for “Dakota Panorama”—an history of South Dakota published by the South Dakota Ter-

rory Centennial observance in 1961. Jane’s passion for Republican party poli-
tics started early in her life. She was se-
lected Outstanding Young Republican Woman for South Dakota and represented South Dakota as the state’s Young Repub-
lican National Committee woman in 1961. In 1963 she was elected Vice Chairman of the Nation-
al Republican Federation.

In 1973, she moved from Lemmon to Wash-
ington, D.C. to be a Press Secretary for then Congressmen James Abdnor when he was in Washi-

ington, D.C. and Lemmon, S.D after the pan-
time members of the Society of Professional Journalists.

She is survived by her brother Bruce Boorman, Santee, California, and numerous nieces and nephews. She preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Kath-

erine Becker, Hartford, Wisconsin.

In remembrance of Jane Boorman’s life, the family asks that any charitable dona-
tions be made to WITA, Jane’s favorite clas-
sical music station or to Jewish Social Serv-
vice Agency (JSSA), her amazing hospice care team.

Memorial services will be held in Wash-

ington, D.C. and Lemmon, S.D after the pan-
temic threat has diminished.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying transmittals and doc-

uments, and were referred as indicated:

EC–447. A communication from the Man-
agement and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transpor-
tation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthi-

tiness Directives; Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd Airplanes; Amendment 39–21396” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–0781)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on Febru-
ary 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–448. A communication from the Man-
agement and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transpor-
tation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthi-

tiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39–21398” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–0858)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on Febru-
ary 9, 2021; to the Committee on Com-
merce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–449. A communication from the Man-
agement and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transpor-
tation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthi-

tiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39–21395” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–1135)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on Febru-
ary 9, 2021; to the Committee on Com-
merce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–450. A communication from the Man-
agement and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transpor-
tation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthi-

tiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39–21373” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–1135)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on Febru-
ary 9, 2021; to the Committee on Com-
merce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–451. A communication from the Man-
agement and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transpor-
tation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthi-

tiness Directives; Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd Airplanes; Amendment 39–21395” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–0858)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on Febru-
ary 9, 2021; to the Committee on Com-
merce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–452. A communication from the Man-
agement and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transpor-
tation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthi-

tiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes; Amendment 39–21367” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–0796)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on Febru-
ary 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–453. A communication from the Man-
agement and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transpor-
tation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthi-

tiness Directives; Sikorsky Aircraft Corpora-
tion Helicopters; Amendment 39–21368” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–0083)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–454. A communication from the Man-
agement and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transpor-
tation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthi-

tiness Directives; Sikorsky Aircraft Corpora-
tion Helicopters; Amendment 39–21364” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–0859)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–455. A communication from the Man-
agement and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transpor-
tation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthi-

tiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes; Amendment 39–21358” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–1135)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–456. A communication from the Man-
agement and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transpor-
tation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthi-

tiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes; Amendment 39–21367” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–0859)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–457. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Investment Ad-

viser Marketing” (RIN2325–AM08) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office

of the President of the Senate on Feb-

ruary 11, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–458. A communication from the Direc-
tor of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Net Stable Funding Ratio: Liquidity Risk Mea-

surement Standards and Disclosure Require-
ments” (RIN3061–AE44) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President on February 11, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–459. A communication from the Direc-
tor of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Removal of Transferred OTS Regulations Regard-
ing Prompt Corrective Action Directives Regarding Prompt Corrective Action Directives” (RIN3064–AF38) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the
President of the Senate on February 11, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–469. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; CFM International, S.A. Helicopter Engines; Amendment 39–21362” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–0970)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–470. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters; Amendment 39–21359” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2019–0780)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–471. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG (Type Certificate Previously Held by Rolls-Royce plc) Turbofan Engines; Amendment 39–21333” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2019–1027)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–472. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Aviation Aircraft; Amendment 39–21356” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–1121)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–473. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes; Amendment 39–21355” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–0729)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–474. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Dept of the Army AMX Helicopter; Amendment 39–21342” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2019–0780)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–481. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes; Amendment 39–21351” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2019–0841)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–482. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Airworthiness Directives; Technicell GmbH Helicopters; Amendment 39–21358” ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2020–0572)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
EC–483. A communication from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Norfolk, Virginia; Norfolk Navy Yards, Portsmouth, Virginia” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2020–0869)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–484. A communication from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone, Baltimore, Maryland; Mr. Smith, maintenance crib; St. Clair River, Michigan” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2020–0870)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2021, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–485. A communication from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Narragansett Bay, Quonset, Rhode Island” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2020–0869)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2021, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–486. A communication from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Oakland Ship-to-Share Crane Arrival, San Francisco Bay, Oakland, California” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2020–0870)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2021, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–487. A communication from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Oakland Ship-to-Share Crane Arrival, San Francisco Bay, Oakland, California” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2020–0870)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2021, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–488. A communication from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Lake Erie, Cleveland, Ohio” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2020–0870)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2021, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–489. A communication from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; New York Bay, New York; New York, New York” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2020–0870)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2021, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–490. A communication from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Safety Zone; Lake Erie, Cleveland, Ohio” ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2020–0870)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2021, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–491. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Monticello, Montana” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2020–0765)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–492. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Selma, Montana” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2020–0765)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–493. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Dubuque, Iowa” ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2020–0825)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–494. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class D and Removal of Class E Airspace; Newspaper Knoll, Monticello, New York” ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2020–0825)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–495. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Burlington, Vermont” ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2020–0825)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–496. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Burlington, Vermont” ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2020–0825)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–497. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendment of Class E Airspace; Cairo, Illinois” ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2020–0765)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2021, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–498. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Modification of Class E Airspace; Hayward, California” ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2020–0765)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2021, to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, without amendment:

S. Res. 70. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by committees of the Senate for the periods March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021, October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, and October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. REED for the Committee on Armed Services:

Air Force nominations beginning with Col. Anthony F. Angelino and ending with Col. Mitchell T. Schwartz, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Air Force nomination of Col. John M. Painter, to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nomination of Col. Bonnie Joy Bosler, to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nomination of Maj. General E. Coleman, Jr., to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nomination of Maj. General E. Coleman, Jr., to be Brigadier General.

Army nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Daniel D. Silk, to be Major General.


Army nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Richard E. Angle and ending with Brig. Gen. Darren L. Werner, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

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

Air Force nominations beginning with Travis D. Bell, and ending with Paul W. Smith, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Air Force nominations beginning with John D. Caldwell and ending with Paul W. Smith, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Air Force nominations beginning with Andrew C. Gordon and ending with Richard G. Widdowson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Air Force nominations beginning with Andrew C. Gordon and ending with Richard G. Widdowson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Air Force nominations beginning with Jamila G. Evans and ending with Devan M.
Thompson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Army nomination of Terra L. Dawes, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Rachelle A. Adkins and ending with Aaron G. Yee, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Army nomination of Clifton C. Kyle, to be Colonels.

Army nomination of Dewayne L. Deener, to be Major.

Marine Corps nomination of Christopher L. Hadfield, to be Captain.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Michael S. Dewey and ending with Paul M. Herrle, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Timothy M. Landwerlen and ending with Long N. Vo, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Marine Corps nominations of Jason M. Davis, to be Major.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Steven L. Perkenda and ending with Weygou R. Xu, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with David W. Dixon, Jr. and ending with Thomas R. Rice, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Ben Kastning and ending with Paul F. Thomas, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Kelly E. Dayton and ending with Richard L. Ricketts, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with James A. Kirtz and ending with Alfred Topete, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with James L. Biggers, Jr. and ending with Carl M. Ziegler, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Navy nomination of Mondre X. Barnes, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Space Force nomination of Joshua D. King, to be Major.

*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.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 357. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to conduct a rules making to consider establishing a process under which the Commission would maintain a list of numbers that a voice service provider cannot port or that are not portable; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Ms. BIDEN):

S. 357. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to modify the distribution of funds under the tribal transportation program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mrs. HOEVEN (for himself and Ms. BIDEN):

S. 358. A bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to modify prevented planting coverage; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

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

S. 359. A bill to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. COTTON):

S. 361. A bill to establish a 90-day limit to file a petition for judicial review of a permit, license, or approval for a highway or public transportation project, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. COTTON):

S. 362. A bill to amend the FAST Act to improve the Federal permitting process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. PORTMAN, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 363. A bill to amend chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code, to increase the requirement for American-made content, to require the Secretary of Defense and other relevant agencies to require all payments under the Buy American Act to be made by the recipient to American manufacturers; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. TENETALEBBERG-ELSMITH, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. MARSHALL, Ms. DAINES, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 364. A bill to assist Augustana College and other higher education institutions to improve diversity, equity, and inclusion at Augustana College; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BLACKBURN (for herself, Ms. CORTES MASTO, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. HAWLEY):

S. 365. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for an order to require the Secretary of the Treasury to establish a program to combat Internet trafficking in child pornography; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 366. A bill to remove all statues of individuals who voluntarily served the Confederate States of America from display in the United States Capitol; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 367. A bill to authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to James L. Hargis, to be awarded posthumously, to be presented to the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, for his service with the United States Air Force in World War II and for his contributions to the field of aeronautics and astronautics; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
S222

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE
February 23, 2021

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. COTTON):

S. 377. A bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 378. A bill to reauthorize the Rivers of National Heritage Area, the Lackawanna Valley National Heritage Area, the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Area, and the Oil Region National Heritage Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. RUINO):

S. 379. A bill to advance a diplomatic solution to the conflict in Libya and support the people of Libya; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. RUBIDOU (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. 380. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve access to health care through expanded health savings accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. WHITTIER):

S. 381. A bill to establish the National Ocean Mapping, Exploration, and Characterization Council, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. WARREN, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 382. A bill to establish the Office of the Ombudsperson for Immigrant Children in Government Custody, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. CARPER, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 383. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 regarding proprietary institutions of higher education in order to protect students and taxpayers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 384. A bill to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to encourage entrepreneurship training in after school programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HINCHUM, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 385. A bill to improve the full-service community school program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself, Mr. KAINE, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CARSON, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. WARNICK, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HEITZINGER, Mrs. SHAELEN, and Mr. PETERS):

S. 386. A bill to establish a public health plan; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. KELLY):

S. 387. A bill to protect, for current and future generations, the watershed, ecosystem, and communities of the Grand Canyon region in the State of Arizona, to provide for a study relating to the uranium stockpile in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MERRKLEY (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. WARE, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 388. A bill to suspend certain United States assistance to the Government of Honduras until corruption, impunity, and human rights violations are no longer systemic, and the perpetrators of these crimes are brought to justice, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. 389. A bill to establish the Next Generation Entrepreneurship Corps program within the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. BURR):

S. 390. A bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to issue reports after activation of the Disaster Information Reporting System and to make improvement to network outage reporting; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. RUINO, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. MANCHIN, Ms. COULIERS, and Mr. COTTON):

S. 391. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to reauthorize and expand the National Threat Assessment Center of the Department of Homeland Security, to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. KAINE, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 392. A bill to direct the agencies to conduct a benefit-cost analysis on relocations involving the movement of employment positions to different areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MERRKLEY (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. FISCHER, Ms. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LOGAN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. MURRAY, Ms. OSSOIFF, Mr. PADDILLA, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. SHAEHEN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TESTER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNICK, Mr. WARNEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 393. A bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, MR. KAINE, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WARE, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr._WYDEN):

S. 394. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require reporting to the Federal Election Commission and the Federal Bureau of Investigation of offers by foreign nationals to make prohibited contributions, expenditures, or disbursements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. MERRKLEY (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 395. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to remove credits related to electric cars, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. MARRINER, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 396. A bill to promote registered apprenticeships, including registered apprenticeships within in-demand industry sectors, through the support of workforce intermediaries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. BLUNT):

S. 397. A bill to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to include an act of regulated custody transfer in the definition of child abuse and neglect, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. J. Res. 6. A joint resolution providing for the appointment of Renée M. Barrett as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR:

S. Res. 79. An original concurrent resolution authorizing expenditures by committees of the Senate for the periods March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021, October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, and October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023; from the Committee on Rules and Administration; placed on the calendar.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 68

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 68, a bill to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law.

S. 85

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a co-sponsor of S. 85, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the limitation on the deduction for certain taxes, including state and local property and income taxes.
At the request of Ms. SINEMA, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 89, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to secure medical opinions for veterans with service-connected disabilities who die from COVID–19 to determine whether their service-connected disabilities were the principal or contributory causes of death, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 141, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny the deduction for prescription drugs.

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 152, a bill to allow States to approve the use of diagnostic tests during a public health emergency.

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 153, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand and improve health savings accounts, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 172, a bill to authorize the National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 251, a bill to provide that for purposes of determining compliance with title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 in athletics, sex shall be recognized based solely on a person's reproductive biology and genetics at birth.

At the request of Mr. REED, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 254, a bill to establish a Homeowner Assistance Fund at the Department of Commerce.

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) were added as cosponsors of S. 198, a bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to incorporate data on maternal health outcomes into its broadband health maps.

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) were added as cosponsors of S. 209, a bill to provide for assistance to rural water, wastewater, and waste disposal systems affected by the COVID–19 pandemic, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. EINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 218, a bill to approve certain advanced biofuel registrations, to require the consideration of certain advanced biofuel pathways, and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 221, a bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to carry out a grant program to increase cooperation on post-traumatic stress disorder research between the United States and Israel.

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HENRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 225, a bill to reform the anti-trust laws to better protect competition in the American economy, to amend the Clayton Act to modify the standard for an unlawful acquisition, to deter anticompetitive exclusionary conduct that harms competition and consumers, to enhance the ability of the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission to enforce the antitrust laws, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. REED, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 254, a bill to establish a Homeowner Assistance Fund at the Department of the Treasury.

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON), the Senator from Montana (Mr. Daines), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from California (Ms. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. HAWLEY), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. 321, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the members of the Women's Army Corps who were assigned to the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, known as the "Six Triple Eight".

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Ms. CAPITO) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 33, a resolution supporting the contributions of Catholic schools.

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STabenow), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. Peters), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. Brown), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. Booker), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. Duckworth), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. Rounds), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. Leahy), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. Warren), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. Casey), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. Cardin), the Senator from California (Ms. Feinstein), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. Sinema), the Senator from Maine (Mr. King), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. Portman), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. Boozman) and the Senator from West Virginia (Ms. Capito) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 34, a resolution recognizing the 200th anniversary of the independence of Greece and celebrating democracy in Greece and the United States.

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. Coons) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 37, a resolution expressing solidarity with the San Isidro Movement in Cuba, condemning attacks against artistic freedoms in Cuba, and calling for the repeal of laws that violate freedom of expression and the immediate release of arbitrarily detained artists, journalists, and activists.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. CARPER, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. SANDERS):
S. 383.

A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 regarding proprietary institutions of higher education in order to protect students and taxpay—

To the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 383

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representativ—

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Protecting Our Students and Taxpayers Act of 2021” or “POST Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. 85/15 RULE.

(a) In General.—Section 102(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 102(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (D), by striking “and” after the semicolon;

(B) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(F) meets the requirements of paragraph (2);”;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

“(2) REVENUE SOURCES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In order to qualify as a proprietary institution of higher education under this subsection, an institution shall derive not less than 15 percent of the institution’s revenues from sources other than Federal education assistance funds, as calculated in accordance with subparagraphs (B) and (C).

“(B) FEDERAL EDUCATION ASSISTANCE FUNDS.—In this paragraph, the term ‘Federal education assistance funds’ means any Federal financial assistance provided, under this Act or any other Federal law, through a grant, contract, subsidy, loan, guarantee, insurance, or other institutional charges that come when schoolchildren are killed by shooters and to deal with this problem through a program that the Secret Service has had for decades and asking the Secret Service to see what they can do to apply the principles of that program to stop mass killings at our schools.

Three years ago, on February 14, 2018, an unspeakable tragedy occurred at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL. In less than 4 minutes, 14 students and 3 staff members were killed, and, consequently, their families’ and friends’ lives were shattered forever by such a senseless act.

Today, along with my colleagues Marco Rubio, M. Scott Mastro, Mr. Scott of Florida, Mr. Manchin, Ms. Collins, and Ms. Hassan, I am proud to reintroduce legislation that will proactively mitigate threats of violence on school campuses by reauthorizing and expanding the U.S. Secret Service’s programs led by the National Threat Assessment Center.

The National Threat Assessment Center studies targeted violence and
develops best practices and training to identify and manage threats before they result in violence like we saw at that school 3 years ago.

The bill establishes a Safe School Initiative, a national program on school violence prevention, that will include expanded research on school violence. Most importantly, this legislation allows the Secret Service to directly equip communities and schools with training and best practices on recognizing and preventing school violence.

This bill, which I hope will help us to recognize the signs of a potential attack way long before such an attack occurs, carries the name sake of those it couldn’t save, the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School mascot, so this bill is called the EAGLES Act because that is the mascot of that school.

Two years ago, the Secret Service conducted a review of school shootings and made a very pivotal finding: All attackers exhibited concerning behaviors prior to engaging in an act of violence. In other words, it should be easy to identify these people, and, if identified, it was possible, and the signs been recognized at an early enough stage, these attacks could have been stopped.

In the wake of the Parkland shooting in 2018, Congress took steps to protect schools and to prevent gun violence, including the passage of the Students, Teachers, and Officers Preventing School Violence Act, which provided funding to schools to strengthen their infrastructure to make it more difficult for shooters to enter schools.

At that same time, we passed the Fix NICS Act, a law which penalizes Federal agencies that fail to comply with legal requirements to report dangerous individuals and violent criminals to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System so that if they are so reported, then they won’t be able to purchase a gun. However, by passing the EAGLES Act, we are entering a vital third step in addition to those other two bills to protect our schools.

I would like to encourage all of my Senate colleagues to support this bipartisan and, I think, a very commonsense bill. I hope that we can focus on productive measures like these rather than unfocused efforts to undermine lawful gun ownership.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS


Ms. KLOBUCHAR submitted the following resolution; from the Committee on Rules and Administration; which was placed on the calendar:

Resolved, SECTION 1. AGGREGATE AUTHORIZATION.
(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of carrying out the powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, the appropriate authorizing resolutions of the Senate, that are authorized by the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021, in the aggregate of $69,459,540, for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, in the aggregate of $119,122,957, and for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023, in the aggregate of $49,634,958, in accordance with the provisions of this resolution, for standing committees of the Senate, the Special Committee on Aging, the Select Committee on Intelligence, the Committee on Indian Affairs.

(b) APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be paid from the appropriations account for “Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations” of the Senate such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committees for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021, for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, and for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023.

(c) EXPENSES.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), expenses of each standing committee of the Senate, the Special Committee on Aging, the Select Committee on Intelligence, the Committee on Indian Affairs under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the applicable committee.

(2) VOUCHERS NOT REQUIRED.—Vouchers shall not be required for—
(A) the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate; (B) the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper; (C) the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery; (D) payments to the Postmaster of the Senate; (E) the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper; (F) the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services; or (G) the payment of franked and mass mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper.

SEC. 2. COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY.
(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Armed Services is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate; (2) employ personnel; and (3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed $3,172,421, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $200,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 430(1))); and

(2) not to exceed $40,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2022.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed $5,438,436, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $200,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 430(1))); and

(2) not to exceed $40,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed $2,266,015, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $200,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 430(1))); and

(2) not to exceed $40,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 3. COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES.
(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Armed Services is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate; (2) employ personnel; and (3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed $4,786,058, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $35,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 430(1))); and

(2) not to exceed $11,678 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed $5,438,436, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $60,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 430(1))); and

(2) not to exceed $40,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2022.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed $2,266,015, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $200,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 430(1))); and

(2) not to exceed $40,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(e) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023 under this section shall not exceed $2,266,015, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $200,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 430(1))); and

(2) not to exceed $40,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).
(2) not to exceed $30,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed $3,418,947, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $25,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed $3,333 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 4. COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs may, with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, in accordance with the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, use a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed $3,703,929, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $15,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed $30,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed $6,348,919, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $20,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed $10,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed $2,695,155, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $20,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed $1,500 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 5. COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XVII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on the Budget is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate; (2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, in accordance with the Standing Rules of the Senate, under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed $4,161,209, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $50,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed $50,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed $7,669,484, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $50,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed $50,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed $3,276,947, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $50,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed $50,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 6. COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate; (2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, in accordance with the Standing Rules of the Senate, under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed $3,515,718, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $17,500 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed $8,750 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the
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SEC. 8. COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUB-
LIC WORKS.
(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Finance is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use contractor services, on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEP-
TEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed $20,486,915, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $17,500 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 9. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.
(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Finance is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use contractor services, on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEP-
TEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed $4,166, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $1,166 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(2) not to exceed $2,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(3) not to exceed $5,527,337, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $150,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed $3,334 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))).

SEC. 10. COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS.
(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use contractor services, on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEP-
TEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed $4,816,102, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $150,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i)));

(2) not to exceed $20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PER-
RIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed $25,905,215, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $150,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i)));

(2) not to exceed $20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 11. COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS.
(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use contractor services, on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEP-
TEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed $6,088,553, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $75,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i)));

(2) not to exceed $20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PER-
RIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed $46,031,469, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $150,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i)));

(2) not to exceed $20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023 PER-
RIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023 under this section shall not exceed $42,266,075, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $150,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i)));

(2) not to exceed $20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).
(2) not to exceed $25,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed $10,435,063, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $75,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed $25,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed $4,563,144, of which—

(1) not to exceed $75,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i)));

(2) not to exceed $20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(e) INVESTIGATIONS.—

(1) In general.—The committee, or any duly authorized subcommittee of the committee, is authorized to study or investigate—

(A) the efficiency and economy of operations of all branches of the Government including the possible existence of fraud, misfeasance, malfeasance, or mismanagement, incompetence, corruption, or unethical practices, waste, extravagance, conflicts of interest, and the improper expenditure of Government funds in transactions, contracts, and activities of the Government, its departments and agencies, individuals, companies, or persons affiliated therewith engaging business with the Government, and the compliance or noncompliance of such corporations, companies, or other entities with the rules, regulations, and laws governing the various Government agencies and the Government’s relationships with the public;

(B) the extent to which criminal or other improper practices or activities are, or have been, engaged in the field of labor-management relations or in groups or organizations of employers or employees; the determination of the interests of the public, employers, or employees, and to determine whether any changes are required in the laws of the United States in order to protect such interests against the occurrence of such practices or activities;

(C) organized criminal activity which may operate through the facilities and use of interstate or international commerce in furtherance of any transactions and the manner and extent to which, and the identity of the corporations, or other entities by whom such utilization is being made, and further, to study and investigate the manner in which and the extent to which persons, firms, or corporations, or other entities with criminal activity have infiltrated lawful business enterprise, and to study the adequacy of Federal laws to prevent the operations of organized crime in interstate or international commerce, and to determine whether any changes are required in the laws of the United States in order to protect such practices or activities;

(D) all other aspects of crime and lawlessness within the United States which have an impact upon or affect the national health, welfare, or safety, including investment fraud schemes, commodity and security fraud, computer fraud, and the use of offshore banking and corporate facilities to carry out criminal activity; and

(E) the efficiency and economy of operations of all branches and functions of the Government with particular reference to—

(i) the collection and dissemination of accurate statistics on fuel demand and supply;

(ii) the implementation of effective energy conservation measures;

(iii) the pricing of energy in all forms;

(iv) coordination of energy programs with State and local government;

(v) control of exports of scarce fuels;

(vi) the management of tax, import, pricing, and other policies affecting energy supplies;

(vii) maintenance of the independent sector of the petroleum industry as a strong competitive force; the allocation of fuels in short supply by public and private entities;

(ix) the management of energy supplies owned or controlled by the Government;

(x) relations with other oil producing and consuming countries;

(xi) the monitoring of compliance by governments, corporations, or individuals with the laws and regulations governing the allocation, conservation, or pricing of energy supplies; and

(xii) research into the discovery and development of alternative energy supplies; and

(G) the efficiency and economy of all branches and functions of Government with particular reference to—

(i) relations with other governments, corporations, or individuals with the Government, and the compliance or noncompliance of any such entity with the Federal regulations governing the allocation, conservation, or pricing of energy supplies; and

(ii) the management of energy programs and policies at the Federal, State, and local levels.

(f) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed $4,347,110, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $75,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed $25,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 12. COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its jurisdiction and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate and S. Res. 445, agreed to October 9, 2004 (108th Congress), including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 6 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ persons; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use out of the general fund of, or nonmembers, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed $8,430,901, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $75,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i)));

(2) not to exceed $20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2022.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through February 28, 2022 under this section shall not exceed $15,025,990, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed $75,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i)));

(2) not to exceed $20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed $4,570,144, of which—

(1) not to exceed $75,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i)));

(2) not to exceed $20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(e) INVESTIGATIONS.—

(1) In general.—The committee, or any duly authorized subcommittee of the committee, is authorized to study or investigate—

(A) to hold hearings;

(B) to require by subpoena or otherwise the attendance of witnesses and the production of correspondence, books, papers, and documents;

(C) to sit and act at any time or place during the sessions, recess, and adjournment periods of the Senate;

(D) to administer oaths; and

(E) to take testimony, either orally or by sworn statement, or in the case of staff members of the Committee and the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, deposition in accordance with the Committee Rules of Procedure.

(2) AUTHORITY OF OTHER COMMITTEES.—Nothing contained in this subsection shall affect or impair the exercise of any other standing committee of the Senate of any power, or the discharge by such committee of any duty, conferred on it by the Standing Rules of the Senate or by the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946.
with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Rules and Administration is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 12. COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and Paragraph 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and Paragraph 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and Paragraph 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and Paragraph 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and Paragraph 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and Paragraph 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

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Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I have 9 requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to

...
meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

**COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

**COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS**

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

**COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

**COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE**

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

**OFFICER EUGENE GOODMAN CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT**

(On February 12, 2021, the Senate passed S. 35, as follows:)

S. 35

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Officer Eugene Goodman Congressional Gold Medal Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

1. Members of the United States Capitol Police force were overrun and insurrectionists breached the Capitol at multiple points.
2. Around 2:14 in the afternoon, United States Capitol Police Officer Eugene Goodman confronted an angry group of insurrectionists who unlawfully entered the Capitol, according to video footage taken by Igor Bobic, a reporter with the Huffington Post.
3. Officer Goodman, alone, delayed the mob’s advance towards the United States Senate Chamber and alerted his fellow officers to the location of the insurrectionists.
4. At 2:15 in the afternoon, a Washington Post reporter from inside the Senate Chamber noted “Senate sealed” with Senators, staff, and members of the press inside.
5. Officer Eugene Goodman’s selfless and quick-thinking actions doubtlessly saved lives and bought security personnel precious time to secure and ultimately evacuate the Senate before the armed mob breached the Chamber.
6. Amidst a shocking, unpatriotic attack on the Capitol, Officer Goodman’s heroism is recognized not only by Members of Congress and staff but also by the people of the United States they represent.
7. By putting his own life on the line and successfully, single-handedly leading insurrectionists away from the floor of the Senate Chamber, Officer Eugene Goodman performed his duty to protect the Congress with distinction, and by his actions, Officer Goodman left an indelible mark on American history.
8. Officer Goodman’s actions exemplify the heroism of the many men and women who risked their lives to defend the Capitol.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of the Congress, of a gold medal of appropriate design to Officer Eugene Goodman.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes of the presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) shall strike the gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

(2) IMAGE AND NAME.—The design shall bear an image of, and inscription of the name of, Officer Eugene Goodman.

SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 3 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck pursuant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 12 noon, Wednesday, February 24, 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; finally, that upon conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of Jennifer Granholm to be Secretary of Energy; that the cloture motion with respect to the Granholm nomination ripen at 4 p.m.; that the mandatory quorum call be waived; finally, that the Senate recess from 3 p.m. until 4 p.m. for the all-Senators briefing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TOMORROW

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:51 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, February 24, 2021, at 12 noon.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate February 23, 2021:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LINDA THOMAS–GREENFIELD, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

HONORING BOBBY WITHROW

HON. JOHN R. CARTER
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the work and service of Bobby Withrow. His efforts on behalf of veterans and those in need reflect the very best of Texas values.

Since 2015, Bobby has coordinated and managed over 50 benefits and fundraisers for a host of community needs, ranging from supporting veterans and cancer patients to assisting those in their hour of need. For Bobby, there’s no task too big or too small. Whether it’s supporting those who’ve served, feeding thousands that are hungry, assisting nonprofit organizations with fundraising, or rolling up his sleeves to help families with home maintenance, Bobby’s not afraid to take on the challenges of helping others.

Public servants like Bobby Withrow make Central Texas a place that residents are proud to call home. I salute his efforts and am forever grateful for his contributions to veterans and those in need.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FRANCIS G. NEWLANDS MEMORIAL REMOVAL ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today I rise to introduce the Francis G. Newlands Memorial Removal Act, which would remove the plaque and inscriptions bearing Francis G. Newlands’ name from Chevy Chase Circle, a federal park located both in the District of Columbia and Maryland. I am pleased Representative JAMIE RASKIN of Maryland joins me in introducing this bill. This bill is part of a series of statutory and memorial removal bills I am introducing during Black History Month.

Newlands was a U.S. senator from Nevada, a conservationist and the founder of the Chevy Chase Land Company, which developed the Chevy Chase neighborhood that touches D.C. and Maryland. Newlands was also a segregationist. He built Connecticut Avenue and ran a streetcar up the road to the newly built Chevy Chase Lake. However, homes on Connecticut Avenue were purposely priced to keep working families out, and covenants were later added to many of the property deeds in Chevy Chase explicitly prohibiting the land from ever being owned by African Americans or Jews. These covenants have since been declared void.

Newlands went further to keep Black and white Americans separate. In the late 1800s, he and Senator William Stewart secured 2,000 acres of land for Rock Creek Park. Established this park not only increased property values for landowners like Newlands and Stewart, but also kept white communities distinct from emerging Black communities on what they called “the wrong side of the park.” Newlands’ racist views went even further. In 1912, he called for the repeal the 15th amendment, which gave African American men the right to vote.

The fountain was established in 1932 by Congress. In 1990, the Chevy Chase Land Company also added the plaque next to the fountain resolution to remove Newlands’ name from the fountain was first introduced by the D.C. Chevy Chase Advisory Neighborhood Commission in 2014. On July 27, 2020, the commission voted unanimously to ask the National Park Service to remove the bronze plaque bearing Newlands’ name and to begin discussion on a new name for the fountain. This bill would remove Newlands’ name from the fountain and remove the plaque entirely. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ENDING CORPORAL PUNISHMENT IN SCHOOLS ACT OF 2021

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS
OF FLORIDA
 IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Ending Corporal Punishment in Schools Act of 2021. Corporal punishment is a form of physical discipline where adults deliberately inflict pain on children in order to punish them. In schools, it typically involves the spanking or paddling of children by school officials.

Corporal punishment is harmful to long term child development. These practices are associated with physical abuse and ineffective. We as leaders should encourage our schools to adopt effective discipline strategies that will be supportive in reducing corporal punishment.

Schools must be a safe place where students are protected from harm, so that our children are able to thrive, grow, and learn. To date, corporal punishment in school is banned in 128 countries around the world. Sadly, 19 U.S. states still allow corporal punishments in their schools. Over 150,000 children in these states are subjected to corporal punishment in schools each year. This is abhorrent and unacceptable.

To end this cruel practice, the Ending Corporal Punishment in Schools Act of 2021 would prohibit any educational institution from receiving federal funding that allows school personnel to inflict corporal punishment on students and creates a new grant program to encourage improvements in school climate by promoting positive behaviors.

Madam Speaker, our schools must be a safe space for American children to learn. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this critically important bill, and hope to see its swift passage in the near future.

RECOGNIZING LINDA DAVIS

HON. Yvette HERRELL
OF NEW MEXICO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Ms. HERRELL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge this year’s winner of the New Mexico Cattle Growers Association’s Green from the Ground Up award, Linda Davis. The Cattle Growers Association awards this to individuals who display a lifetime of service to an in-sync ecosystem of land, water, wildlife, and livestock.

Linda and her husband Les have spent a lifetime tending to cattle on the Tequesquite and CS Ranch in New Mexico. Ranching has always been in her blood. Her great-grandfather established the Tequesquite Ranch in Albert, New Mexico in 1878, and she continues that legacy for future generations. Linda also remains active in her community, where she serves with the Cimarron Volunteer Ambulance Service as an Emergency Medical Technician.

This is not the first time Linda has been honored for her service. In 2000, she and her husband were inducted into the Hall of Great Westerners at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Additionally, she has received recognition from the Cattlemen’s Beef Board, the Beef Promotion Operating Committee, the American National Cattle Women organization, the New Mexico Cattle Growers Association, and the New Mexico Beef Council. These recognitions are a testament to her hard work and leadership, and I congratulate her on this most recent award.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. RICHARD FRANKLIN SHEPPARD

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Richard Franklin Sheppard, affectionately known as “Dick,” who passed away on February 12, 2021.

Mr. Richard “Dick” Franklin Sheppard, born June 24, 1936, moved with his family from Oklahoma to California’s Central Valley in the early 1930s. Living near Farmersville, Dick began working in the fields around the age of seven. He later began a career in broadcasting at KRDU Radio Station while attending high school in Dinuba.

Dick managed several radio stations throughout California during his career, returning to the Central Valley as the general sales manager of KOJY FM/KRDU AM in the 1990s.
before joining the local Sanger newspaper as editor. He remained as editor for the Sanger Herald until his retirement in 2019. Dick also served his country in the U.S. Army Security Agency and the U.S. Navy Reserve in Dunia. He enjoyed spending time with fellow veterans at the Sanger Post 7168 Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Sanger Post 98 AMVETS.

Renowned for his volunteer work and community involvement, Dick's legacy will not soon be forgotten. He organized an annual golf tournament fundraiser as a Golden Valley Girl Scout Council Board Member, conducted career preparation seminars for Workforce Connection, and served as a Family Self-Sufficiency Board Member to help struggling families achieve economic independence. Dick was involved in several other organizations serving the Sanger and Fresno area communities: the Kiwanis Club of Dinuba, the Downtown Kiwanis Club of Fresno, the Rotary Club of the Fresno Airport, the Rotary Club in Sanger, the Sanger Unified School District Classified Employees Personnel Commission, the Sanger High School Athletic Hall of Fame Committee, the Sanger Veterans Parade Committee, and the Fresno Radio Advisory Committee.

Dick was awarded several recognitions during his lifetime including the American Legion Medal for Character, the Sanger Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame, the Gold Seal award for community service presented by the Sanger Chamber of Commerce, and several journalism awards. Beloved by the Sanger community, Dick was also honored as the Grand Marshal for both the Sanger Veterans Parade and Sanger Christmas Parade in 2019. Dick is survived by his wife Nadine; their children Mark, Cassandra and her husband Jack, and Christopher and his wife Petra; and stepson Michael and his wife Jessica. Dick is also survived by nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life of Mr. Richard “Dick” Franklin Sheppard. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this difficult time.

**CHIEF GREEN 1 YEAR ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. ANTHONY G. BROWN**

**OF MARYLAND**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. BROWN. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of the one-year anniversary of Chief Tiffany Green, Chief of Prince George’s County Fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Department. In November 2018, County Executive Angela Alsobrooks made history as the first African American woman elected to lead the Prince George’s County’s first woman, first dual fire fighter/paramedic and youngest fire chief. County Executive Alsobrooks, in her nomination, made sure to emphasize Green’s wealth of experience and high ranking on each and every promotional exam—the lieutenant’s test, the captain’s exam, and battalion chief’s exam. According to County Executive Alsobrooks, Chief Green is not only the most qualified person to lead the Prince George’s County Fire/EMS Department at this time.

According to Chief Green, her decision to serve her community as a volunteer fire fighter “changed the trajectory of [her] life.” She recognizes the women whose shoulders she is standing on today. “Pioneers” like Maureen Hennessy, Angela Peden and the late Carla Blue who gave Chief Green their Keys to Success. And, Chief Green has vowed to “lead this department forward, to continue to be accountable, professional and community-centered.”

Her leadership of the 1,062 Sworn and 1,500 volunteers has already proven to be a success on a national level. The Congressional Fire Services Institute and National Fallen Firefighters Foundation selected the Prince George’s County Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department as the combination fire department recipient of the 2020 Senator Paul S. Sarbanes Fire Service Safety Leadership Award, named in honor of the late former Maryland Senator Paul Sarbanes. The award recognizes fire departments and organizations for leadership in advancing firefighter health and safety, who have developed important health and safety programs for their personnel that are based on the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives established at the 2004 Tampa Summit.

Congratulations to Chief Green on this momentous occasion, and much appreciation to her husband Alfred, and daughter Talore, for sharing her with Prince Georges County.

**EFFORTS TO MODERNIZE AND STRENGTHEN MULTIEmployER PENSION PLANS**

**HON. SHARICE DAVIDS**

**OF KANSAS**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I’d like to thank my colleague, Chairman RICHARD NEAL for his tireless work on the Butch Lewis Emergency Pension Plan Relief Act of 2021 and for providing retirement income security for pension recipients in endangered, critical or declining status multiemployer pension plans.

In Kansas, thousands of retirees currently receive pensions through the Central States Plan and they face a crisis—a severe reduction in retirement income through no fault of their own.

Without the direct relief provided in this legislation, the Central States Pension Fund would have become insolvent in 2026 and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation would have to reduce 360,000 participants’ pensions to pennies. This is unacceptable. As Chairman NEAL is all too aware, many of the participants of Central States are frontline workers who have served our country tirelessly and fearlessly in the face of the pandemic.

The present structure of these plans is unsustainable and in need of reform.

Without modernization of these plans and addressing employer liabilities, I am concerned that multiemployer pension plans and their retirees will certainly face similar circumstances in the future and require additional federal funds. This much needed relief to the plans is designed to forestall insolvency leaving important work that must follow. I believe we must seize this opportunity to reform these plans and take insolvency off the table.

I understand the Chairman is committed to working with me to modernize and strengthen multiemployer pension plans with the intent of bringing a reform package to the floor in this Congress. Could the Chairman confirm that is the case?

**EFFORTS TO MODERNIZE AND STRENGTHEN MULTIEmployER PENSION PLANS**

**HON. RICHARD E. NEAL**

**OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, too many workers in this nation reach retirement age without the savings they need. The retirement crisis in America is real and will only worsen unless we make saving easier and do more to encourage workers to begin planning for retirement earlier. And that’s why I’ve committed as the
Chairman of the Ways & Means Committee to addressing this crisis.

For example, about 50 percent of American workers work for an employer that does not offer a retirement plan at work. To make a significant dent in this coverage gap, it’s critical that we enact legislation that requires employers that do not currently offer a retirement plan to at a minimum provide their employees with an auto IRA option.

I’m also pleased that the American Rescue Plan Act includes the Butch Lewis Emergency Pension Plan Relief Act of 2021, which would create a special financial assistance program under which cash payments would be made by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation to financially troubled multiemployer pension plans to ensure that such plans can continue paying retirees’ benefits for the next 30 years.

What we have here is a national emergency that we need to address immediately. If Congress doesn’t act, the multiemployer pension system could collapse entirely, leaving retirees in poverty, businesses in bankruptcy, and communities in crisis.

Reform for both the multiemployer and single employer retirement plan system is a priority for the Ways and Means committee and we plan on addressing these issues this year.

I commit to working with Ms. DAVIDS on this as we move forward.

RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ANTI-ASIAN SENTIMENT AS RELATED TO COVID–19

HON. GRACE MENG
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, it has been over a year since we have seen continued COVID–19 related threats and attacks against the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. As millions across our nation continue to be impacted by the coronavirus, many continue to live in fear following the dramatic increase in hate incidents that we have witnessed against Asian Americans, including AAPIs assaulted—resulting in even death.

Due to perpetuating anti-Asian rhetoric, misinformation, racism, discrimination, and un-founded blame for the spread of COVID–19, there has been over 3,000 reported incidents of anti-Asian hate crimes, including AAPIs being threatened, harassed, or assaulted, even when those businesses were vandalized. Just recently, in my district of Flushing, New York, a 52-year-old Asian woman was attacked and forcefully shoved while waiting in line outside of a bakery—resulting in her needing ten stitches on her head. Additionally, a 61-year-old Filipino man was viciously attacked and slashed across his face a New York City subway.

It breaks my heart that, for over a year, in the midst of the COVID–19 crisis, Asian Americans have been left fighting an additional front—that of hate and bigotry. That is why I am reintroducing my resolution condemning all forms of anti-Asian sentiment as related to COVID–19. This resolution denounces the anti-Asian sentiment and recognizes the safety and well-being of all Americans during these unprecedented times.

Madam Speaker, I was proud that in the last Congress, the House passed this resolution 243 to 164. However, in light of the recent dramatic increase of anti-Asian hate incidents across our country, we must coalesce and renew our efforts to condemn all manifestations of racism, xenophobia, discrimination, and anti-Asian sentiment and scapegoating. We must denounce any and all anti-Asian sentiment of any form.

Madam Speaker, the House must remain strong, and stand against the sickening intolerance, bigotry, and violence that is leaving a terrible stain on our nation’s history, especially during this moment of an unprecedented public health crisis. I urge my colleagues to join me in this effort to keep all Americans safe.

HONORING GARY CREED

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Gary Creed of Shawsville, Virginia, who passed away on January 28, 2021 at the age of 74. Gary was a member of the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors for several terms who worked hard for the people of the county.

Gary was the son of Melvin Lewis and Ada Mae Moore Creed. He was elected to the Board of Supervisors in 2001 as the representative of District C. He promoted the Meadowbrook Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library and the Meadowbrook Community Center, supported first responders, and successfully pushed to reduce the merchants capital tax, a move that eased a burden on local businesses without depriving the county of revenue. Gary served as Chairman of the Board in 2004. He retired in 2017. In the town of Elliston, part of District C, a park currently under construction has been named after him in honor of his service.

Gary was a longtime employee at the Shelor Motor Mile dealer dealerships and had also worked as an auctioneer and real estate developer. He loved the sport of basketball and coached Amateur Athletic Union girls basketball.

Gary is survived by his wife, Linda Creed; son Tim Creed and wife Barbara; daughter Niki Shumate and husband John; brothers Wilford Creed and Clyde Creed; sister Elizabeth Brammer; granddaughters Bridgette Bradley and husband James, Karalee Boggess and husband Mark, Karl Shumate, and Lauren Shumate; and great-grandchildren Jaxon, Jacob, Holt, Boone, and Allie. I offer them my condolences on their loss. Our system of government depends on citizens such as Gary Creed, who take on the tasks of local government in order to improve their communities.

RECOGNIZING DINA CHACON-REITZEL

HON. YVETTE HERRELL
OF NEW MEXICO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Ms. HERRELL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge this year’s winner of the New Mexico Cattle Growers Association’s King Service award, Dina Chacon-Reitzel. This award is given to New Mexicans that have exhibited long standing dedication to the state’s agricultural industry and those who work within it. Born into the agricultural life, Dina grew up on a cattle ranch that has been in her family for hundreds of years. She has spent most of her career with the New Mexico Beef Council, where she fought to protect the cattle industry and pioneered implementations of consumer information programs, as well as additional research within the beef industry.

Dina’s advocacy spans from local entities, where she is involved with the New Mexico State University College of ACES, where she serves as a citizen advocate for the USDA Council for Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching.

This is not the first time Dina’s efforts have been recognized. As a chairwoman on the New Mexico State University’s Board of Regents, was awarded the New Mexico Outstanding Leadership Award for significant leadership towards agriculture. She was also given the Friend of Extension Award and was the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award by the New Mexico State University. She was also recognized by the New Mexico Department of Agriculture with the Industry Partner Award.

Dina has exhibited the upmost dedication and leadership to the state of New Mexico and its agricultural industry, and I congratulate her on this award.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. MELVIN BANKS

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and commemorate the life and works of Dr. Melvin Banks, the founder of Urban Ministries, Incorporated. A prodigious soul, by the age of 12, Dr. Banks was already spreading the word of the gospel throughout his native state of Alabama, sharing stories of the Bible with younger children. It was when he was preaching in Birmingham that Dr. Banks heard a verse from the Book of Hosea that would change his life “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.” Hearing this verse caused Dr. Banks to even further dedicate himself to spreading the gospel across the country and the world.

Dr. Banks’ study of the Bible would take him to Chicago’s Moody Bible Institute, where he was one of the institution’s few Black students, graduating in 1965. However, Dr. Banks’ education as a Christian in Chicago would not revolve solely around the classroom. At the urging of a chapel speaker, Dr. Banks visited a Brethren church on the city’s South Side. This experience led him to the vital realization that he didn’t need to diminish his blackness to live the fullest Christian life that he could.

Then Dr. Banks went on to marry and Olive Perkins, who would remain his partner throughout his life. He then continued his theological education in the Chicagoland area.
at Wheaton College, earning a bachelor's degree in theology in 1958 and a master's degree in biblical studies in 1960.

When working for a Christian publishing company after completing his degrees at Wheaton College, Dr. Banks found that he often struggled to sell the company's Sunday School curriculum to Black churches. The material was written by white authors and told solely from a white perspective. Black churches believed that their students may not be able to relate to it. This realization led Dr. Banks to a truly revolutionary idea: why not create a Sunday School curriculum that would resonate with the Black experience? It was with this idea in mind that Dr. Banks launched Universal Ministries, Inc., with the mission of making the Bible more relatable to Black Sunday School students.

Beginning in his Chicago basement in 1970, Dr. Banks steadily grew Universal Ministries, Inc. to the point where it is today, with a customer base of over 40,000 for the company's Christian education resources. Thanks to the work of Universal Ministries, Inc., hundreds of thousands of Black Christians can see themselves and their experiences reflected in the texts of their faith. So titanic are the accomplishments of Universal Ministries, Inc., that the Evangelical Christian Publishers Association honored Dr. Banks with their inaugural Kenneth N. Taylor Lifetime Achievement Award in 2017.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Banks passed away on February 13, 2021. His life's work continues through Universal Ministries, Inc., and the thousands of students who will benefit from the curriculums he assembled. He is survived by his wife Olive and three children, Melvin Jr., Patrice Lee, and Reginald. My deepest thoughts and prayers go out to Dr. Banks's friends, family, and all those who had the privilege to benefit, spiritually and emotionally, from his life's mission.

HONORING DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY INC. KAPPA CHAPTER
HON. BARBARA LEE
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Kappa Chapter on their Centennial anniversary.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. was founded in 1913 by 22 collegiate women at Howard University and is now an international sisterhood of over 350,000 predominantly Black, collegiate women who are dedicated to providing public service through education, community outreach, and development in their communities across the globe.

On February 21, 1921, Kappa Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. was chartered. It became the first Black Greek-letter organization west of the Rocky Mountains. 100 years ago, during a time when universities across the country refused to admit Black students, seven dedicated and dauntless women from UC Berkeley, San Francisco State, and San Jose State came together to charter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Kappa Chapter. Vivian Osborne Marsh, Gladys Brown, Creola Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Kappa Chapter.

They remained a “city-wide” chapter until the 1960’s. The chapter’s first President, Vivian Osborne Marsh, went on to become Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.’s 7th National President. Throughout her life she worked to promote literacy and career opportunities for underprivileged teenagers and children. In honor of her service and their Centennial Kappa Chapter has created the “Vivian Osborne Marsh, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Kappa Chapter Endowed Scholarship Fund.” This is the first endowed scholarship created by any Greek Letter Organization at UC Berkeley. The $100,000 fund will generate scholarships for Black students at UC Berkeley for years to come.

Over the last 100 years Kappa Chapter and its members have continued a legacy of service to the Black community and to those in need. Current members have made exceptional efforts to promote health for women of color, social justice, professionalism, and the empowerment of Black women on campus in the greater community. Kappa Chapter has gone above and beyond to engage and inform the community by hosting programs that discuss important topics like COVID–19, Holistic Health, Black love, relationships, womanhood, empowerment, de-stigmatizing HIV/AIDS in the Black Community, and social justice.

Today we celebrate 100 years of commitment to change. From the legacy of Kappa Chapter’s charter members to its current membership and newest initiates Karsyn Terry, Christine Harris, Symone Gilliam, and Robynne Oliver the legacy continues to grow.

On behalf of California’s 13th Congressional District, I want to extend my sincere congratulations on this important milestone of 100 years. I thank Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Kappa Chapter for their commitment to sisterhood, scholarship, and service. Their history of empowering black women will forever be important to Black history and I look forward to witnessing the accomplishments that will define your next 100 years.

BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT TO THE SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA
HON. JOHN GARAMENDI
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. GARAMENDI of California. Madam Speaker, today I introduce legislation to adjust the Congressional designated boundary of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area.

In March 2019, Congress enacted into law (Public Law 116–9) my legislation with U.S. Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN designating California’s first national heritage area. The Delta is a crown jewel of our state and an iconic working landscape which my family has been fortunate to call home for over 40 years. It is the most productive watershed in the western United States and among the most ecologically important in the Western Hemisphere. Together, we must safeguard the Delta and the historic communities that make it such a special place.

The legislation I introduce today, at the request of the City of Rio Vista, would expand the National Heritage Area’s boundary to include approximately 62 acres of adjacent publicly owned land encompassing: the decommissioned United States Army Reserve Center (City of Rio Vista), U.S. Coast Guard Station Rio Vista, Beach Drive Wastewater Treatment Plant (City of Rio Vista), and Sandy Beach County Park (Solano County).

Two of these parcels—the decommissioned United States Army Reserve Center and Beach Drive Wastewater Treatment Plant—are owned by the City of Rio Vista but technically outside the city limits. As such, it appears that these parcels were omitted inadvertently when the National Park Service prepared the legislative map for the then-proposed Delta National Heritage Area in 2010.

I hope that Congress will enact my boundary adjustment before California’s Delta Protection Commission completes the management plan for the National Heritage Area.

RECOGNIZING SATIA AUSTIN AS CONSTITUENT OF THE MONTH
HON. MIKE LEVIN
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize North San Diego County NAACP President Satia Austin, as my Constituent of the Month for February. Every February, we celebrate Black History Month, and this year, I am honored to highlight Satia as an incredible member of my community.

From an early age, Satia’s parents stressed the importance of education, personal responsibility, and achievement. These values became her guiding principles as she pursued her passion through a career in youth advocacy and activism. As the current President of the North San Diego County NAACP, the State Advisor for the Youth and College Division for California and Hawaii, and the Adult Representative for Region I of the National NAACP Youth Works Committee, Satia uses her resources and platform to help guide young adults into the professional world. Instilling each of the same core values she was raised on, Satia’s dedication to the betterment of local youth ensures African Americans and other people of color in the District are not confined to their circumstances and can achieve success in their adult lives.

This past year, we experienced a nationwide awakening to systemic racism in America. We have much more work to do to confront inequality in our country, but I’m thankful for residents like Satia who are passionate about helping underserved youth succeed. As we continue to come together to address racial injustice, leaders like Satia bring me hope and inspiration. I am honored to recognize her as my Constituent of the Month.

RECOGNIZING THE 88TH BIRTHDAY OF PAUL WOODS
HON. BRIAN HIGGINS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible life
from his father, Bobby. Since then, Phil has
a seed, fertilizer and hardware business and
Concrete.

Paul Woods joined the segregated U.S.
army in 1941 when he was just 17 years old.
He often says that “A bullet knows no race,
rank, or status. We were all brothers on the
battlefield.” The bravery of Black units over-
seas belied their second-class status at home
and helped lead to the abolishment of racial seg-
regation in the military in 1948 as well as the
passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

He previously served on the Habitat for Hu-
manty board and has donated materials for a
new Habitat home.

Phil serves as Finance Chairman for the
Alabama Republican Party and a board mem-
ber and past Chairman of the Board for the
Greater Alabama Council Boy Scouts of Amer-
ica. He also serves on the board of directors
for the Business Council of Alabama and
ProgressPAC, the Alabama Workforce Council
and Nick’s Kids Foundation. He is currently a
member of Leadership Alabama and on the
Selection Committee for the Alabama Sports
Hall of Fame.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recog-
nizing Phil for his service to the people of Ala-
bama and join me in recognizing the 75th an-
iversary of Webb Concrete.

TRIBUTE TO BEN MONTGOMERY
A GOOD MAN

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker,
I rise to pay tribute to a good man, Mr. Benny M. Montgomery.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize
Phil Webb and the 75th anniversary of Webb
Concrete.

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the life of Juanita Varnado Pierce. She passed on February 7, 2021 at the age 83.

Juanita ( affectionately called Neat) was born to the late Howard and Maggie Lee Varnado and grew up in McComb, Mississippi. Her early education was at Pike County High School in McComb. She graduated high school at 15 and attended Henderson Business College in Memphis, Tennessee. She graduated from Tuskegee Institute, now Tuskegee University, in 1974 with a B.S. in Early Childhood Education and from Auburn University with a Master’s in Early Childhood Education in 1975.

She started teaching 2nd grade at Dean Road Elementary School in Auburn, Alabama, in August of 1975 and taught 2nd grade for 17 years. After completing her Administration Certification from the University of Alabama, she was hired as the Assistant Principal at Dean Road Elementary in the Fall of 1992 and became Principal in Fall of 1996. She retired in the Fall of 1998. As a retired educator, she volunteered throughout Tuskegee in the local school system reading to young children. To ensure all children had access to books, she founded the Bookmobile which was a remade bread truck she purchased and drove it throughout Macon County giving free books to children. Continuing in her passion of educating and reading, Juanita established the S.M.A.R.T. (Science, Math, Art, Reading and Technology) Camp in 2005. Funded by grants and donations, this free two-week camp was started at Washington Chapel A.M.E. Church with approximately 40 students and today is held at George Washington Carver Elementary School due to the large size of participants.

Juanita was a devoted member of Washington Chapel A.M.E. Church. After joining in 1960, she started teaching the pre-school Sunday School class and remained the teacher for nearly 50 years. She served in the Cathedral and Gospel Choirs, the Stewardess Board and Steward Board.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 44 years, Booker T. Pierce, Sr.; her sisters Patricia Varnado and Artis Varnado; and a brother, Charles Varnado. Remaining to continue her legacy are her three children, Booker T. Pierce, Jr. (Nashville, TN); Vincent B. Pierce (St. Louis, MO) and Lisa (Bernard) P. Pierce (St. Louis, MO) and two brothers-in-law, Carey Tercentenary AME Church was blessed to have four of its members known as leading activist and leaders in the Lawndale Community; Mrs. Nola Bright, Mrs. Jacqueline Ford, Mr. Theodis Leonard and Mrs. Mary Ella Harris.

Now, therefore be it Resolved that we cherish the life, work, contributions and legacy of Mrs. Mary Ella Harris and extend condolences to her family and friends, son, Reverend Walter Harris, daughters, Mrs. Jeanetta Lee, Ms. Pamela Ella and son, James Leo Jr., grandparents, great grandchildren and other relatives.

She served us well and now may she rest in peace.

MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS FOR THESPIAN TROUPE 3991 AT NEW JERSEY’S HIGHTSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

HON. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Madam Speaker, I am delighted to send my sincere congratulations and heartfelt thanks to the members of Thespian Troupe 3991 at Hightstown High School for their incredible efforts in collecting 84 pounds of food for Rise Food Pantry as part of New Jersey Trick or Treat So Kids Can Eat. The dedication that they have shown to this program—from re-creating a national initiative at the state level so they can continue fighting childhood hunger, to achieving such tremendous feats in their 2020 food drive—is a true testament to the character and focus of their members.

Whether this drive is their last, their first, one of many, or the only one that they will participate in, I hope that they can find the impact that they have had on the community they live in, and that they remember that they are always capable of such impact. I applaud them on this achievement, and I look forward to all that they will accomplish in their futures.

Again, Congratulations.

IN RECOGNITION OF RUDENE MCCOY’S 92ND BIRTHDAY

HON. MIKE ROGERS
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I ask for the House’s attention to recognize Mrs. Rudene McCoy. Mrs. McCoy turned 92 on December 21, 2020.

Rudene was born in Chambers County, the daughter of L. L. and Ruby Aaron. She was raised in Lanett and is a graduate of Lanett High School. Rudene earned her B.S. degree in nursing from the University of Georgia.

Rudene had a tremendous career as a registered nurse in the area of cardiology. She was mentored by renowned cardiologist, Dr. Robert Copeland, and served as his chief cardic nurse for over 30 years. Based on her outstanding patient care, she was named Chambers County Nurse of the Year and received numerous accolades from the Georgia Heart Clinic.

In addition to her profession, Rudene was devout in her support of her family, church and the City of Lanett. She is a life-long member of the United Methodist Church of Lanett where she taught Sunday School, served on Administrative Board and was named Woman of the Year. Rudene also co-chaired the Centennial Committee that planned and prepared Lanett’s 100-year celebration in 1995.

Rudene has been known as First Lady and First Mother of the City of Lanett. Her husband, Pete, was a longtime Councilman and Mayor for the City. Her son Kyle is the current Mayor of Lanett; her daughter Valerie is a registered nurse like Rudene; and her son Skip is the County Attorney for Chambers County.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Rudene for her service to the people of Lanett and Chambers County and join me in wishing her a very happy 92nd birthday.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DETECTIVE TYRONE P. JACKSON ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT (STAR NUMBER 21175)

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation.

Whereas, The Almighty God has called to her eternal rest Mrs. Mary Ella Harris, a pioneer civic, community, social, religious and political activist in the North Lawndale Community of Chicago and its environs; and

Whereas, Mary Harris and her family were some of the very first blacks to move into and reside in what was then an all white community; and

Whereas, as the community changed and as Blacks poured in, many from the rural south, Mary’s leadership shined like the bright light that she was; and

Whereas, Mary was not necessarily the loudest and most militant sounding person in the meetings she was always there and when she spoke, people listened and took action based upon what she said. For many years Carey Tercentenary AME Church was blessed to have four of its members known as leading activist and leaders in the Lawndale Community; Mrs. Nola Bright, Mrs. Jacqueline Ford, Mr. Theodis Leonard and Mrs. Mary Ella Harris.

Now, therefore be it Resolved that we cherish the life, work, contributions and legacy of Mrs. Mary Ella Harris and extend condolences to her family and friends, son, Reverend Walter Harris, daughters, Mrs. Jeanetta Lee, Ms. Pamela Ella and son, James Leo Jr., grandparents, great grandchildren and other relatives.

She served us well and now may she rest in peace.

再次，祝贺。

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HON. DANNY K. DAVIS
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, law enforcement can be one of the toughest careers, one of the most rewarding jobs and one of the areas from which one can derive a very high level of satisfaction. Such has been the experiences of Detective Tyrone Jackson who grew up in Chicago, went to Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, returned home and joined the Chicago Police Department, and is now ready to enter a new phase of life.

During his 30-year tenure with the Chicago Police Department, Detective Jackson worked with several units, from Narcotics, to Organized Crime, to the SAM Unit (Stop Alcohol to Minors), Procstitution, and FBI Operations in finding missing youth in Human Trafficking.
In addition to his police work, Detective Jackson is actively involved in his community. He has been an active member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity since 1977, a member of the Evergreen Park Alumni Chapter and an officer with the Apostolic Faith Church in Chicago. Congratulations Detective Jackson on an outstanding career. He still has much more service to perform, and I am certain that he will do it well.
HIGHLIGHTS

Senate confirmed the nomination of Thomas J. Vilsack, of Iowa, to be Secretary of Agriculture.

Senate

Chamber Action
Routine Proceedings, pages S793–S831

Measures Introduced: Forty-three bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 357–399, S.J. Res. 8, and S. Res. 70. Pages S821–22

Measures Reported:
S. Res. 70, authorizing expenditures by committees of the Senate for the periods March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021, October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, and October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023. Page S820

Cardona Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Miguel A. Cardona, of Connecticut, to be Secretary of Education. Pages S799–S807

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Jennifer Mulhern Granholm, of Michigan, to be Secretary of Energy. Page S799

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

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. Page S799

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. Page S799

Granholm Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 12 noon, on Wednesday, February 24, 2021, Senate resume consideration of the nomination of Jennifer Mulhern Granholm, of Michigan, to be Secretary of Energy; and that the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination ripen at 4 p.m. Page S831

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 78 yeas to 20 nays (Vote No. EX. 61), 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. Pages S793–96

By 92 yeas to 7 nays (Vote No. EX. 63), Thomas J. Vilsack, of Iowa, to be Secretary of Agriculture. Pages S797–98

By 78 yeas to 21 nays (Vote No. EX. 64), Linda Thomas-Greenfield, of Louisiana, 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. Pages S798–99

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 77 yeas to 20 nays (Vote No. EX. 62), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. Page S797

Executive Communications: Pages S818–20
Executive Reports of Committees: Pages S820–21
Additional Cosponsors: Pages S822–23
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S823–30
Additional Statements: Pages S815–18
Authorities for Committees to Meet: Pages S830–31

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—64) Pages S796–99

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10:31 a.m. and adjourned at 6:51 p.m., until 12 noon on Wednesday, February 24, 2021. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S831.)
Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES
Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine emerging technologies and their impact on national security, after receiving testimony from General Herbert J. Carlisle, USAF (Ret.), National Defense Industrial Association; Eric E. Schmidt, Schmidt Futures; and Brad L. Smith, Microsoft Corporation.

SEMIANNUAL MONETARY POLICY REPORT
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Semiannual Monetary Policy Report to the Congress, after receiving testimony from Jerome H. Powell, Chair, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

NOMINATION
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee began hearings to examine the nomination of Debra Anne Haaland, of New Mexico, to be Secretary of the Interior, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Heinrich and Representative Young, testified and answered questions in her own behalf, but did not complete action thereon.
Hearing recessed subject to the call and will meet again at 10 a.m., on Wednesday, February 24, 2021.

NOMINATION
Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Adewale O. Adeyemo, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING
Committee on Foreign Relations: On Monday, February 22, 2021, Committee ordered favorably reported an original resolution (S. Res. 64) authorizing expenditures by the Committee, and adopted its rules of procedure for the 117th Congress.

JANUARY 6 ATTACK ON THE CAPITOL
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and Committee on Rules and Administration: Committees concluded a joint hearing to examine the January 6, 2021 attack on the Capitol, after receiving testimony from Acting Chief Robert J. Contee, III, Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D.C.; Steven A. Sund, former Chief of the U.S. Capitol Police; Michael C. Stenger, former Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, U.S. Senate; and Paul D. Irving, former Sergeant at Arms, U.S. House of Representatives.

BUSINESS MEETING
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments for the 117th Congress:
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations: Senators Ossoff (Chair), Carper, Hassan, Padilla, Johnson, Paul, Lankford, and Scott (FL).
Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Spending Oversight: Senators Hassan (Chair), Sinema, Rosen, Ossoff, Paul, Romney, Scott (FL), and Hawley.
Subcommittee on Government Operations and Border Management: Senators Sinema (Chair), Carper, Padilla, Ossoff, Lankford, Johnson, Romney, and Hawley.
Senators Peters and Portman are ex-officio members of each subcommittee.

NOMINATION
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Xavier Becerra, of California, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Feinstein and Padilla, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

NOMINATION
Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Merrick Brian Garland, of Maryland, to be Attorney General, Department of Justice, after receiving testimony from Josh Blackman, South Texas College of Law, Houston; Donna Bucella, former Director, Executive Office for United States Attorneys and former U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of Florida, Irving, Texas; Wade Henderson, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, and Andrea Tucker, both of Washington, D.C.; and Ken Starr, Waco, Texas.

HACK OF U.S. NETWORKS
Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the hack of U.S. networks by a foreign adversary, after receiving testimony from Kevin Mandia, FireEye, Inc., Reston, Virginia; Sudhakar Ramakrishna, SolarWinds Inc., Austin, Texas; Brad Smith, Microsoft Corporation, Redmond, Washington; and George Kurtz, CrowdStrike, Sunnyvale, California.
House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 64 public bills, H.R. 1,210–1,273; and 7 resolutions, H. Res. 146, 148–153 were introduced. Pages H584–87

Additional Cosponsors: Pages H589–90

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 147, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 803) to designate certain lands in the State of Colorado as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5) to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–6). Page H584

Committee Elections: The House agreed to H. Res. 146, electing a Member to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives. Page H551

Recess: The House recessed at 2:11 p.m. and reconvened at 4 p.m. Page H552

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures: Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1101 Charlotte Street in Georgetown, South Carolina, as the “Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office Building”; H.R. 264, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1101 Charlotte Street in Georgetown, South Carolina, as the “Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office Building”; Pages H552–54

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 229 Minnetonka Avenue South in Wayzata, Minnesota, as the “Jim Ramstad Post Office”; H.R. 772, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 229 Minnetonka Avenue South in Wayzata, Minnesota, as the “Jim Ramstad Post Office”; Pages H554–55

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1050 Sunset Road Southwest in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as the “Jose Hernandez Post Office Building”; H.R. 813, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1050 Sunset Road Southwest in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as the “Jose Hernandez Post Office Building”; and Pages H555–56

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 West Main Street, Suite 102 in Tupelo, Mississippi, as the “Colonel Carlyle ‘Smitty’ Harris Post Office”; H.R. 208, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 West Main Street, Suite 102 in Tupelo, Mississippi, as the “Colonel Carlyle ‘Smitty’ Harris Post Office”, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 406 yeas to 15 nays, Roll No. 32. Pages H556–57, H563–64

Recess: The House recessed at 5:25 p.m. and reconvened at 6:31 p.m. Page H563

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act: H.R. 546, to regulate monitoring of electronic communications between an incarcerated person in a Bureau of Prisons facility and that person’s attorney or other legal representative; and Pages H557–60

Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021: H.R. 1192, To impose requirements on the payment of compensation to professional persons employed in voluntary cases commenced under title III of the Puerto Rico Oversight Management and Economic Stability Act (commonly known as “PROMESA”). Pages H560–63

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote developed during the proceedings of today and appeared on pages H563–64.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Committee Meetings

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held an oversight hearing on the Internal Revenue Service. Testimony was heard from Charles P. Rettig, Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service, Internal Revenue Service.

INNOVATION OPPORTUNITIES AND VISION FOR THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ENTERPRISE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Cyber, Innovative Technologies, and Information Systems held a hearing entitled “Innovation Opportunities and Vision for the Science and Technology Enterprise”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.
NEAR-PRE ADVANCEMENTS IN SPACE AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces held a hearing entitled “Near-Peer Advancements in Space and Nuclear Weapons”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PATHWAY TO PROTECTION: EXPANDING AVAILABILITY OF COVID–19 VACCINES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Pathway to Protection: Expanding Availability of COVID–19 Vaccines”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

COLORADO WILDERNESS ACT OF 2021; EQUALITY ACT

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 803, the “Colorado Wilderness Act of 2021”; and H.R. 5, the “Equality Act”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 7–4, a rule providing consideration of H.R. 803, the “Protecting America’s Wilderness and Public Lands Act”, and H.R. 5, the “Equality Act”. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 803, the “Protecting America’s Wilderness and Public Lands Act”, under a structured rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 117–2, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides that following debate, each further amendment printed in part B of the Rules Committee report not earlier considered as part of amendments en bloc pursuant to section 3 shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before the question is put thereon, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. Section 3 of the rule provides that at any time after debate the chair of the Committee on Natural Resources or his designee may offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report not earlier disposed of Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources or their designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in the Rules Committee report or amendments en bloc described in section 3 of the resolution. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 5, the “Equality Act”, under a closed rule. The rule provides 90 minutes of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule provides one motion to recommit. Testimony was heard from Representatives Cicilline, Jordan, DeGette, Westerman, Plaskett, Boebert, Burgess, and Stauber.

BUILDING BACK BETTER: THE URGENT NEED FOR INVESTMENT IN AMERICA’S WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held a hearing entitled “Building Back Better: The Urgent Need for Investment in America’s Wastewater Infrastructure”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on the Budget: business meeting to consider the nomination of Neera Tanden, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Time to be announced, S–207, Capitol.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to continue hearings to examine the nomination of Debra Anne Haaland, of New Mexico, to be Secretary of the Interior, 10 a.m., SD–366.
Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine investing in transportation while addressing climate change, improving equity, and fostering economic growth and innovation, 10:15 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Xavier Becerra, of California, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, 2 p.m., SD–106.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: business meeting to consider the nomination of Neera Tanden, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and committee rules of procedure for the 117th Congress, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold hearings to examine native communities’ priorities in focus for the 117th Congress, 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: business meeting to consider the nomination of Isabella Casillas Guzman, of California, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration, 2:30 p.m., SD–215.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: to hold hearings to examine vaccines for vets, focusing on ending the COVID–19 pandemic, 4 p.m., SD–G50.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of William Joseph Burns, of Maryland, to be Director of the Central Intelligence Agency; to be immediately followed by a closed hearing in SVC–217, 10 a.m., SR–301.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Defense, hearing entitled “Future Defense Spending”, 9:30 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, budget hearing on the Judiciary, 10 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled “Ready or Not: U.S. Public Health Infrastructure”, 10 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, hearing entitled “Health and Wellness of Employees and State of Damage and Preservation as a Result of the January 6 Insurrection”, 10 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled “Fanning the Flames: Disinformation and Extremism in the Media”, 12:30 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Monetary Policy and the State of the Economy”, 10 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “How Invidious Discrimination Works and Hurts: An Examination of Lending Discrimination and Its Long-term Economic Impacts on Borrowers of Color”, 3 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled “America Forward: Restoring Diplomacy and Development in a Fracturing World”, 1:30 p.m., Webex.


Committee on Oversight and Reform, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Legislative Proposals to Put the Postal Service on Sustainable Financial Footing”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Regulations, hearing entitled “Perspectives from Main Street: Raising the Wage”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, hearing entitled “Examining Equity in Transportation Safety Enforcement”, 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Webex.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
12 noon, Wednesday, February 24

Senate Chamber
Program for Wednesday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Jennifer Mulhern Granholm, of Michigan, to be Secretary of Energy, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 4 p.m.

(Senate will recess from 3 p.m. until 4 p.m. for an all Senators briefing.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10 a.m., Wednesday, February 24

House Chamber
Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 803—Colorado Wilderness Act of 2021 (Subject to a Rule).
Consideration of H.R. 5—Equality Act (Subject to a Rule).

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