Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 9, 2021, at 3 p.m.

House of Representatives

MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2021

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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


I hereby appoint the Honorable Debbie Dingell to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

LET’S NOT RESTRICT AMERICANS’ FREEDOMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Joyce) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, here in this Chamber, I have pledged to support and defend the United States Constitution in its entirety. The Second Amendment is a key tenet of the U.S. Constitution and Americans’ inalienable rights.

The right to keep and bear arms is a basic freedom that was enshrined in law by the Framers of our Constitution, the leaders who overcame tyranny to form a representative government of, by, and for the people. More than two centuries later, their extraordinary vision for our country still endures.

In Congress, it is our job to uphold the Constitution and to protect Americans’ fundamental rights. Yet, this week, the House will consider radical legislation that would encroach on citizens’ freedoms while doing so little to prevent mass shootings or illicit violence. If enacted, both H.R. 8 and H.R. 1446 would impose restrictive background checks and unnecessarily burden law-abiding gun owners.

Thanks to the work of the previous administration and Republicans in Congress, our Nation already has safeguards in place to prevent wrongdoers from acquiring firearms. Rather than impose new restrictions, we should work together to ensure that the current laws on the books are enforced.

Instead of attempting to defund the police, we should equip our law enforcement officers with the necessary resources and training that they need to identify and respond to threats. Rather than make criminals out of law-abiding citizens, we should increase penalties for those who break the law. These are commonsense steps that would save lives and protect constitutional rights of citizens in my home State of Pennsylvania and across our country.

In recent months, I have heard from hundreds of Pennsylvanians who are concerned by the mounting attacks on the Second Amendment. I share these concerns, and I will continue to oppose any attempts to restrict Americans’ lawful gun rights. Unfortunately, the majority is set on restricting Americans’ personal freedoms and propelling an extreme agenda. This playbook is not the answer.

Right now, Congress should be focused on crushing the pandemic, getting Americans back to work, allowing our kids to safely return to the classroom. Instead of attacking Americans’ constitutional rights, we could be making real progress on accelerating vaccine production, rebuilding our economy, and restoring our American way of life.

As we consider H.R. 8 and H.R. 1446 this week, I urge all of my colleagues to reject this challenge to our Constitution, to uphold Americans’ intrinsic freedoms, and return this body to good-faith legislating that drives results for all of the American people.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROBERT HOLTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlemen from Nebraska (Mr. Bacon) for 5 minutes.

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

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

Printed on recycled paper.
Mr. BACON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor two women from our district for Women’s History Month because of their commitment to advancing opportunities and experiences for women. Gina Ponce and B.C. Clark are role models not only for women, but for all of us. They have demonstrated their service to help others succeed. Because of their commitment and dedication, the United States has increased by 114 percent in the last 20 years, and 64 percent of new women-owned businesses were started by women of color.

Accordingly (at 12 o’clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

Tender and loving God, we come to You on this International Women’s Day in gratitude for the care and example You have lifted up before us in the women whose lives in some way have touched our own, and those whose virtue in the face of untold and inconceivable challenges has provided us with a legacy of fortitude and faith.

For women like Rahab and Deborah whose bravery and courage challenged expectations and changed the course of nations.

For countless and hidden figures who continue to challenge institutional norms, influencing and enriching national research, advancements in technology, social sciences, and the arts.

For the unheralded mothers who challenge the hours in a day and find ways to manage households and nurture young leaders.

For the faithful, like Mary, Ruth, and Esther who in the face of cultural challenges, nonetheless yielded to Your will and effected Your loving plan for Your people.

As we go about our business and address the concerns of these days, may we hear from the wisdom of these paragons, the teaching of kindness. May we learn from their lives’ work, the importance of courage. May we be inspired by the strength and honor of these women, that our conduct would be worthy of their virtuous history.

Like them, Almighty God, call each of us to choose to challenge the limiting prejudice of expectations, the destructive norms of injustice, the overwhelming crush of daily living; that in facing these challenges, each of us would prove faithful to and honor the gift of life You give us this day.

We pray in the abiding love of Your holy name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.
Ms. NORTON led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:
I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

AMERICANS WANT TO BE RESCUED NOW
(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, with final passage of President Biden’s American Rescue Plan expected tomorrow, the priorities I pressed for, including $25 billion in rental assistance and $26 billion in rental assistance makes the Rescue Plan live up to its name.

The rescue extends to the District of Columbia, which retrieves $755 million taken from the District when Republicans treated the District as a territory in the CARES Act. Instead, the new bill treats D.C. as a State as usual because D.C. residents pay full Federal taxes, and it funds D.C. for city, State, and county levels because D.C. provides services at all three levels.

This bill resisted the Republican plan for less money because the American people want to be rescued now, not later. The American Rescue Plan Act will hasten our business together again on this House floor and getting the American people back to business and to school.

CONGRESS IS MAKING PROGRESS
(Mr. POSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, over the past 10 years we have made a lot of progress in making Congress more transparent and accountable.

After years of persistence, I was pleased to see that the House finally adopted the comparative text rule that I proposed.

The comparative text rule made it possible for Members of the House and the public to actually see and understand exactly what a bill changes.

Every legislature in the country does that. But sadly, boom, in an instant this year the House abolished that rule, even though it was a top priority with the bipartisan Government Efficiency, Accountability, and Reform Task Force for commonsense solutions to a better government.

Now, Mr. Speaker, that is shameful.

HELP IS ON THE WAY
(Ms. PLASKETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, the COVID pandemic and economic crisis are destroying the lives and livelihoods of tens of millions of Americans across the country. And our most vulnerable communities are bearing the brunt.

Thankfully, help is on the way. The American Rescue Plan will save lives and livelihoods by putting vaccines in arms, putting children safely back in school, putting money in people’s pockets, and finally putting people back in jobs.

I am proud to note the inclusion of provisions in this bill for the Virgin Islands and other territories that we all in this House have been fighting for. This plan creates equality in the child tax credit, the earned income tax credit, including an advancement of the child tax credit in 2021.

The child tax credit provision in the bill will be transformational in the lives of hundreds and millions of children, lifting them out of poverty. This is generational change. This will reduce poverty and improve the economic standing of Americans throughout our country. We are grateful for this bill.

THE MARS ROVER IS AN INCREDIBLE MARVEL
(Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago our country witnessed the incredible marvel of American ingenuity when NASA successfully landed its Perseverance rover on Mars, laying the groundwork for the next generation of space travel and exploration.

Perseverance has four primary goals: determine whether life ever existed on Mars, understand the climate of the planet, study the geology of Mars, and finally, make any preparations necessary for human exploration. These goals are crucial not only for our Nation’s eventual mission to send humans to Mars, but also for the continued advancement of mankind as a whole.

Before making its journey to the red planet, Perseverance spent some time in my backyard in northeast Ohio. It was researchers and scientists at Cleveland’s NASA Glenn Research Center that developed the rover’s power source and oversaw testing the rover’s parachute needed to land safely on Mars. Mars truly is the next frontier in space travel and exploration. I am incredibly grateful that northeast Ohio has added yet another chapter to our State’s already rich history in space travel and exploration.

I look forward to what Perseverance can teach us about this new unknown and what our next endeavor will be.

RECOGNIZING THE GREAT ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF WOMEN
(Ms. PELOSI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, today is International Women’s Day, a day to recognize the great accomplishments of women and the great possibilities that lie ahead.

During the course of the day we will be having some recognitions. But one very important one is that: As we speak here now, on the Senate side, they are finishing up the engrossment of the American Rescue Plan. This plan, as my distinguished colleague from the Virgin Islands pointed out, does so many great things for America’s children, America’s families, and America’s women. If you are a caregiver, whether for a child or a senior or whatever, childcare is substantially supported in this legislation.

The child tax credit and the refundable child tax credit, the earned income tax credit—as was mentioned by the distinguished chairwoman on the Ways and Means Committee, which was largely responsible, along with Rosa DeLAURO, RICHIE NEAL and MIKE THOMPSON in getting all this done—the point is, we will be having a further discussion about this bill as we move forward to its passage in the next 24, 48 hours.

It is important to acknowledge on International Women’s Day the connection between the advancement of women, the recognition of the contributions of women, and the needs that are met in the American Rescue Plan.

As President Biden said, help is on the way. That promise is kept in this legislation to all Americans. I wanted to acknowledge specifically the women of America.

VETERANS NEED VACCINES
(Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I join Madam Speaker in celebrating International Women’s Day.

Today, I rise in support of the VA VACCINES Act. This is a bipartisan bill that will expand the VA’s ability to provide COVID-19 vaccines to all veterans and their caregivers, regardless of whether or not they are enrolled in the VA healthcare system.

Mr. Speaker, the VA should not turn away any veteran who wants this lifesaving vaccine. You know, where I live in Florida—and I am sure it is like this in most places—it is still like playing the lottery to get a vaccine.

This vaccine is free to all Americans and is paid for by our tax dollars. So, in my opinion, Mr. Speaker, for our veterans who have selflessly served our
The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 16 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BEYER) at 2 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 46 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. MCBATH) at 4 p.m.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 842, PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE ACT OF 2021; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 8, BIPARTISAN BACKGROUND CHECKS ACT OF 2021; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1446, ENHANCED BACKGROUND CHECKS ACT OF 2021; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 188 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 188

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 842) to amend the National Labor Relations Act, the Labor Management Relations Act, 1947, and the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor or their respective designees; (2) the further amendments described in section 2 of this resolution; and (3) the amendments en bloc described in section 3 of this resolution; and (4) five minutes of debate for each amendment printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc offered pursuant to this section shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor or their respective designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

SNC. 3. It shall be in order at any time after debate pursuant to the first section of this resolution for the chair of the Committee on Education and Labor or his designee to offer amendments consisting of further amendments printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc offered pursuant to this section shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor or their respective designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

SNC. 4. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 8) to require a background check for every firearm sale. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees; (2) the further amendments described in section 3 of this resolution; (3) the amendments en bloc described in section 6 of this resolution; and (4) five minutes of debate for each amendment.

SNC. 5. After debate pursuant to section 4 of this resolution, each further amendment printed in part C of the report of the Committee on Rules not earlier considered as part of amendments en bloc pursuant to section 6 of this resolution 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 be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

SNC. 6. It shall be in order at any time after debate pursuant to section 4 of this resolution for the chair of the Committee on Education and Labor or his designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in part C of the report of the...
Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc offered pursuant to this section 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 the Judiciary or their respective designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

SIC. 7. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 1446) to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to strengthen the background check procedures to be followed before a firearms licensee may transfer a firearm to a person who is not such a licensee. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendments to the bill, and shall not be subject to motion to recommit.

SIC. 8. After debate pursuant to section 7 of this resolution further amendments that printed in part D of the report of the Committee on Rules not earlier considered as part of amendments en bloc pursuant to section 9 of this resolution shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

SIC. 9. It is understood that the committee to which this resolution shall be referred and to which it shall be referred pursuant to the provisions of section 11 of this resolution shall be composed of 16 Members, Delegates, or the Resident Commissioner, of whom 7 shall be appointed on the recommendation of the Majority Leader and 9 on the recommendation of the Minority Leader.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Genreal Leave

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, today, the Committee on Rules met and reported House Resolution 188, providing structured rules for consideration of H.R. 8, H.R. 1446, H.R. 82, and H.R. 1446. For H.R. 842, the rule self-executes a manager’s amendment by Chairman SCOTT, makes in order 19 amendments, and provides for 1 hour of debate on the 19 amendments by majority division of the chair and the ranking member of the Committee on Education and Labor.

For H.R. 8 and H.R. 1446, the rule makes in order eight and four amendments, respectively, and provides 1 hour of debate for each bill equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Committee on the Judiciary.

The rule further provides for en bloc authority and a motion to recommit for each bill.

The rule also adds an additional minority member to the Select Committee on the Climate Crisis.

Finally, the rule provides for recess instructions, suspension authority, and same-day authority from March 13 through April 22, and activates the Consensus Calendar.

Madam Speaker, this is the first time I have been able to be on the floor and present in almost a year. A year ago, as some of you know, I had an accident and proceeded to spend 6 weeks in the George Washington University Hospital intensive care unit, 4 of those weeks on a ventilator.

My sons came from California to be told by the doctors in a windowless room at George Washington that I had about a 10 percent chance of survival. From the next day, they got a phone call, expecting to hear that their dad had died. Instead, the doctor told them that I was doing better.

Madam Speaker, I know that you know how grateful we are to have the gun owners acquired their most recent firearm without a background check. That means that millions of Americans got millions of guns with no questions asked. Approximately 80 percent of all firearms acquired for criminal purposes are obtained through private party transfers, which currently do not require background checks.

In California, where I am proud to live and serve, all private gun sales must be completed through a licensed firearms dealer, requiring a background check—a universal background check and a mandatory waiting period. Not coincidentally—and the public health experts will let us know through their evidence-based research—California has the lowest rate of gun violence across the United States. Gun violence is a public health crisis, and our legislature in our state is struggling, and not only because of the coronavirus pandemic. Our Nation needs bold, meaningful changes to the rules on firearms.

Madam Speaker, nearly 40,000 people died from firearm injuries in the United States in 2019. History would show that enacting smart, evidence-based policies based on public health premises reduces this sad phenomenon.

Madam Speaker, 22 percent of U.S. gun owners acquired their most recent firearm without a background check. Finally, the rule provides for recess instructions, suspension authority, and same-day authority from March 13 through April 22, and activates the Consensus Calendar.

In California, where I am proud to live and serve, all private gun sales must be completed through a licensed firearms dealer, requiring a background check—a universal background check and a mandatory waiting period. Not coincidentally—and the public health experts will let us know through their evidence-based research—California has the lowest rate of gun violence across the United States. Gun violence is a public health crisis, and our legislature in our state is struggling, and not only because of the coronavirus pandemic. Our Nation needs bold, meaningful changes to the rules on firearms.

Madam Speaker, nearly 40,000 people died from firearm injuries in the United States in 2019. History would show that enacting smart, evidence-based policies based on public health premises reduces this sad phenomenon.

Madam Speaker, 22 percent of U.S. gun owners acquired their most recent firearm without a background check. That means that millions of Americans got millions of guns with no questions asked. Approximately 80 percent of all firearms acquired for criminal purposes are obtained through private party transfers, which currently do not require background checks.

In California, where I am proud to live and serve, all private gun sales must be completed through a licensed firearms dealer, requiring a background check—a universal background check and a mandatory waiting period. Not coincidentally—and the public health experts will let us know through their evidence-based research—California has the lowest rate of gun violence across the United States. Gun violence is a public health crisis, and our legislature in our state is struggling, and not only because of the coronavirus pandemic. Our Nation needs bold, meaningful changes to the rules on firearms.

Madam Speaker, nearly 40,000 people died from firearm injuries in the United States in 2019. History would show that enacting smart, evidence-based policies based on public health premises reduces this sad phenomenon.

Madam Speaker, 22 percent of U.S. gun owners acquired their most recent firearm without a background check. Finally, the rule provides for recess instructions, suspension authority, and same-day authority from March 13 through April 22, and activates the Consensus Calendar.

In California, where I am proud to live and serve, all private gun sales must be completed through a licensed firearms dealer, requiring a background check—a universal background check and a mandatory waiting period. Not coincidentally—and the public health experts will let us know through their evidence-based research—California has the lowest rate of gun violence across the United States. Gun violence is a public health crisis, and our legislature in our state is struggling, and not only because of the coronavirus pandemic. Our Nation needs bold, meaningful changes to the rules on firearms.

Madam Speaker, nearly 40,000 people died from firearm injuries in the United States in 2019. History would show that enacting smart, evidence-based policies based on public health premises reduces this sad phenomenon.
We know what we need to do to help protect millions of Americans. Universal background checks are supported by decades of evidence. The Bi-partisan Background Checks Act, H.R. 8, institutes universal background checks.

Additionally, the Enhanced Background Checks Act, H.R. 1446, ends the arbitrary rule that if a background check hasn’t been completed in 3 days, the gun can be sold regardless.

I fully support these bills because the evidence is clear that they will make our communities safer and save lives.

Madam Speaker, next, the rule will allow us to consider the Protecting the Right to Organize Act, or the PRO Act. The rise in inequality in this country has coincided with a decline in union membership. By most estimates, declining unionization accounted for about one-third of the increase in inequality—one-third—from 1980 through the late 1990s.

If you watch the data over the years, as States move as a group toward less union coverage, those same States have much worse income inequality. You cannot address inequality without increasing the power of workers to represent themselves. Unions do not only raise wages for the workers they represent, but they have also been shown to moderate the compensation of executives.

On top of the obvious benefits you think of that are associated with the labor unions, like higher wages, safer workplaces, some of the others that come along with union membership also help address the inequities in our society.

Union workers are more likely to receive paid leave, are up to 28 percent more likely to have employer-sponsored health insurance, and are up to 54 percent more likely to be enrolled in employer-sponsored pensions. Not only do workers have better access to pensions, but their employers contribute an average of 28 percent more toward those pensions, retirement security for Americans, than nonunion employers.

As the chairman of the subcommittee of jurisdiction, I know that the PRO Act simply updates labor law to ensure that workers in today’s economy are able to create and join labor unions to receive the same kinds of protections they see in other sectors. Nothing more.

As President Eisenhower once said during the largest expansion of the American economy in history, when labor unions had one-third of the workforce: “Only a fool would try to deprive working men and women of the right to join the union of their choice.”

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague from California for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I am also happy to see him back doing well. I appreciate that, and that we are here in the Chamber together.

Madam Speaker, we are here considering the rule for three controversial, divisive bills being moved forward by the majority with very little input from Republicans or the millions of Americans these bills will affect. Two of these bills are highly controversial gun control legislation that would undermine the constitutional right to bear arms.

H.R. 8, the so-called universal background check bill, would criminalize the private transfer of firearms. Combined with the restrictions already placed on transfers during the pandemic, this makes it impossible for law-abiding gun owners to acquire or even borrow or lend firearms.

Universal background checks do not stop criminals. In fact, the majority of the criminals in State and Federal prisons who used a firearm during their offense got that firearm by stealing it, taking it from a family member or friend, or just an underground market.

In 2013, the Department of Justice’s National Institute of Justice re-searched universal background checks and determined that they would not be effective without additional restrictions on firearms.

The other gun control bill, the Charleston bill, would permit the Federal Government to delay a firearm transfer indefinitely without any proof that the person is ineligible to possess a firearm. This bill under-mines the ability for Americans to legally purchase a firearm to subject the firearm dealers to the mercy of the Federal bureaucracy.

Before we jump straight to this kind of constitutional overreach, it is important to remember that gun control legislation isn’t going to stop criminals from gaining access to guns.

In the rural district I represent, many of my constituents are hunters, sportsmen, and law-abiding gun owners who utilize their Second Amendment rights. They understand their ability to do so, and flies in the face of unity that has been promised by the President and Democrats.

Lastly, we are considering a bill that amounts to a union boss wish list that the majority is pushing, circumventing regular order and without input from the minority.

Madam Speaker, labor law must strike a balance—a careful balance between labor unions’ rights to organize and employers’ abilities to respond to these efforts. However, the PRO Act, a monumental rewrite of Federal labor law, will massively tip the scales in favor of unions, leaving employers and small businesses with massive costs and burdensome or vague legal standards.

Among the most egregious, a section of this bill is applying a one-size-fits-all standard for union contracts, rendering the franchise industry completely unviable by increasing a burden some joint-employer Obama rule and requiring the disclosure of private information of employees to union organizers without their consent.

My great home State has a proud history of supporting organized labor, and I support employees’ right to collective bargaining. However, this legislation before us today represents a misguided and unbalanced approach to labor law.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to think twice before supporting these bills that could permanently alter our job market and threaten our constitutional rights. I urge opposition to this rule, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAUR), the distinguished chairwoman of the Committee on Appropriations.

Ms. DELAUR. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I am so glad he is back.

Madam Speaker, I rise to speak in support of the Protecting the Right to Organize Act, or the PRO Act.

I am the daughter of a garment worker. So the fight for workers’ rights has always had a special place in my heart. My mother toiled and worked every single day in the sweatshops in New Haven, Connecticut, sewing shirt collars and dresses. She was piecework, which meant she got pennies on the dollar.

As chair of the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, I work every day to ensure that her early struggles were not in vain.

I am proud to be a cosponsor of the PRO Act, introduced by the chair of the Committee, Congressman BOBBY SCOTT. It strengthens the right of working people to come together in unions to secure better wages and better working conditions.

The COVID-19 pandemic has further exposed the single biggest economic challenge of our times, which is that people’s pay does not keep up with the rising costs of healthcare, education, and childcare.

And from 1980 to 2017, average incomes for the bottom 90 percent of households stagnated to a 1.1 percent increase, while skyrocketing more than 180 percent for the wealthiest 1 percent in this country. It is no coincidence that at the same time, union membership fell for a record low to 10 percent.

Economists at Princeton found that the alarming rise of income inequality more than 50 years ago can be at least partially attributed to the decline in union membership.

The PRO Act is about leveling the playing field for working people. It would directly address the issues facing workers across the entire economy and give equal access to the collective bargaining process. In sum, it would ensure workers’ rights keep pace with the new economy.

As Nobel prize winning economist Joseph Stiglitz has said; “Inequality is not inevitable. It is about the public policy choices we make, not globalization, not technology.”
Madam Speaker, we have the opportunity today to choose a public policy that, in fact, will defend and protect working people in this country. Pass the PRO Act.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. RESCHENTHALER), my good friend and colleague from the Rules Committee.

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative FISCHBACH for yielding to me.

Madam Speaker, the rule before us today makes in order two pieces of legislation that this Chamber already considered last Congress. I am incredibly disappointed, yet once again, that we are considering legislation that makes it harder for law-abiding citizens to exercise their Second Amendment rights, but does nothing, nothing at all, to address the root cause of gun violence.

Despite what the majority claims, these bills would not have prevented any of the profile mass shootings. These bills would not have prevented criminals from obtaining firearms. The overwhelming majority of criminals who commit crimes or are in possession of a firearm, they commit those crimes with firearms that were acquired through theft, the underground market, or straw purchases; and these are already illegal. Nothing in these bills would stop criminals from continuing to break the law.

Instead, H.R. 8 and H.R. 1446 would make it harder for domestic violence victims to protect themselves. It would give unelected bureaucrats the power to indefinitely delay legal gun purchases. It could even be used to create a national gun registry.

If you don’t believe me, the Obama administration even said that universal background checks are unworkable unless you have a national registry. But let’s just get back to the text.

As we pointed out last Congress, H.R. 8 is so poorly drafted that a transfer of a firearm to another person during a life-threatening emergency could land somebody in jail. That is how poorly this is drafted. So, again, these bills do nothing except penalize law-abiding citizens.

You know, I learned to shoot from my grandfather. I was very young and learned how to shoot in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. Guns and firearms are very important to towns and too a lot of my constituents. I can attest and I can assure you that the vast majority of gun owners are hardworking, law-abiding citizens looking to protect their families, looking to hunt and shoot with their friends.

But my colleagues on the left would be wise to just stop their grandstanding and focus on solutions that actually prevent, deter, and prosecute firearm violence.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote “no” on this rule, vote “no” on H.R. 8, and vote “no” on H.R. 1446.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD an article published in the March 3 USA Today titled: “Congress renews gun safety push with background check bills.”

[From USA TODAY, Mar. 3, 2021]

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE H1089

BACKGROUND CHECK BILLS

Congressional lawmakers this week revived an effort to enact significant gun safety laws for the first time in more than 25 years by introducing bills to establish a universal background check system that has broad support from the public.

The bills introduced Tuesday in the House and Senate would extend current federal background check requirements to transactions conducted by unlicensed and private sellers.

Legislation was reintroduced in Congress to extend background checks to transactions conducted by private and unlicensed gun sellers.

The gun safety group Giffords estimates that 22% of U.S. gun owners purchased their last firearm without completing a background check. Polling shows that more than 90% of Americans support a universal background check system.

The measures are what gun safety advocates predicted would be a first step in pursuing new gun laws now that Democrats control the White House and both chambers of Congress. In recent years, gun safety bills stalled even when they had bipartisan support, in part because Republican Majority Leader Mitch McConnell did not bring them up for votes when he led the Senate from 2015 to 2021.

Rep. Mike Thompson, a California Democrat who chairs a congressional gun violence prevention task force, on Tuesday reintroduced bipartisan House legislation that would require background checks for all firearm sales. The House first passed the bill in 2019, one year after a mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

“Time and time again, we have seen that the American people want universal background checks, in fact public polling shows that the majority of people, Democrats, Republicans and independents, support this,” Thompson said in a statement.

The Senate is evenly split between Democrats and Republicans, and the measure would have to pick up bipartisan support to pass that chamber given that most legislation must clear a 60-vote threshold.

“But this Congress has the opportunity to make common sense gun reforms up for a vote in the House and the Senate, and the single most popular and effective proposal we can consider is universal background checks,” Murphy said in a video about the effort.

When the House passed background check legislation in 2019, the bill ran aground in the then Republican Senate, where McConnell, a Kentucky Republican, did not bring it up for a vote.

“Now, with Senate Democrats in the Majority, we have a duty to act on this overwhelmingly popular, lifesaving legislation to protect American communities,” Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer said in a statement earlier this month.

Advocates for new gun safety laws have hoped that with President Joe Biden in the White House and Democrats controlling the House and Senate, there is an opportunity for action. The NRA is also grappling with multiple crises: New York’s attorney general is investigating whether its leaders misappropriated more than $60 million for personal use, and the NRA filed for bankruptcy in January. Its remaining officials insist the organization remains solvent, and it plans to reincorporate in Texas.

“This is the moment,” said Shannon Watts, the founder of Moms Demand Action, a grassroots organization started in late 2012 that now has nearly 6 million supporters.

“We have a trifecta and they have a mandate to act on this. Every day until our leaders miss an opportunity to actually prevent, deter, and prosecute firearm violence.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. RESCHENTHALER), my good friend and colleague from the Rules Committee.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I conclude in the RECORD an article published in the March 3 USA Today ti-
Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for the time.

Madam Speaker, I am concerned about H.R. 1446, the Enhanced Background Checks Act, that is part of this rule. This bill would eliminate the 3-day waiting period for a National Instant Criminal Background Check system determination. Under current law, if no determination is made within 3 days, a firearms sale may proceed. This bill that will be before Congress this week would expand the 3 days to require a 10-business-day waiting period with an additional 10 days allowed for the Attorney General to process any petitions.

But rather than eliminate the 3-day waiting period, we should be removing from commerce those firearms that are sold to individuals who are later found to be ineligible. In 2016 the Department of Justice Inspector General audit found that less than 1 percent of those who were sold a firearm and then found later to be ineligible through the delayed background check were investigated and prosecuted.

According to a 2018 Government Accountability Office report, the FBI conducted just over 25 million firearm background checks through the NICS system that year. One percent of attempted purchases were denied, or about 191,000. If only 1 percent of those denials were investigated, that still leaves 179,000 NICS denials where an individual may have been inappropriately sold a firearm, but, in fact, were never investigated. Even one firearm illegally in commerce, unfortunately, can lead to tragedy.

Rather than place further burdens on law-abiding gun owners, we should be investigating and prosecuting those who are selling firearms illegally. Enforcement of our existing laws would be the first step to preventing gun violence.

During rules consideration, I submitted an amendment to H.R. 1446 to require the Department of Justice Inspector General to report to Congress on the number of NICS denials referred for investigation.

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

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I yield the gentleman from Texas an additional 15 seconds.

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for the time.

Madam Speaker, this bill would create a de facto gun registry by involving the Federal Government in every gun transfer, including private transfers and gifts.

How else would we enforce these requirements?

For my Democrat friends who suggest that Conservatives and gun owners are paranoid about a national registry, Madam Speaker, you bet we are. We know our history, and we know what has happened in other countries. Madam Speaker, I oppose this rule and all three of these bills.

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

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California.

Mr. GOOD. Madam Speaker, I agree with my colleague and friend on the Rules Committee that we should enforce existing laws. In States like California where we have universal background checks, we have seen that gun violence has gone down, as I said in my earlier remarks. We have also seen that 30 percent of the guns used in criminal activity are actually imported into the State from other States.

To the previous comments that we need a national standard, that is why we need a national standard. It doesn’t mean that States like California, Connecticut, and Massachusetts can’t do these things, and it is a good laborator, as Justice Brandeis said, that States should be the laboratory for innovation. We know these things work.

So I would agree that we should enforce and get the revenue, the existing law.

But clearly, eliminating the background checks loophole would help make America safer.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from the Fifth District of Oklahoma (Mrs. Bice).

Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Minnesota for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the combined rule and to the underlying measures, including H.R. 842, the PRO Act.

We find ourselves today, Madam Speaker, at a time when businesses are struggling just to stay afloat, and in many States, unemployment numbers remain high. The last thing Congress should be doing at a time like this is making it harder for workers to find good employment.

But that is just what the PRO Act would do. It cuts the opportunity for workers to keep more of their paychecks, and makes it impossible for entrepreneurs to operate as independent contractors.

Proponents of this bill don’t want you to know that the so-called ABC test, based off a flawed California State law and used in this bill to define employment, would essentially abolish independent contracting and upend the gig economy.

There is a reason that in the last few decades 27 States, including my home State of Oklahoma, have passed right-to-work laws. We the people want freedom in the marketplace, not a bill that does the bidding for union bosses. I implore my colleagues to oppose this bill and instead focus on solutions that make it easier for Americans to find good jobs in the economy.

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

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOOD).

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Madam Speaker, the bottom line is this rule would advance unconstitutional legislation that undermines the Second Amendment for law-abiding citizens. It is amazing that lawful gun ownership has been so politicized by the left that it is no longer commonsense for our position on the Second Amendment, as if our constitutional rights are subject to opinion.

The question before us is not: Do we believe in the Second Amendment? Currently, any firearm purchase from a federally licensed dealer is subject to a background check. But this legislation would expand this system—along with the fees and bureaucracy that comes with it—to private transfers.

For what other constitutional rights will we now assign a fee or a tax? Our First Amendment rights? Our Fifth Amendment rights?

This bill creates a de facto gun registry by involving the Federal Government in every gun transfer, including private transfers and gifts.

How else would we enforce these requirements?

For my Democrat friends who suggest that Conservatives and gun owners are paranoid about a national registry, Madam Speaker, you bet we are. We know our history, and we know what has happened in other countries.

Madam Speaker, I oppose this rule and all three of these bills.

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

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN).

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I was hoping when I flew back last night that the fence would be gone from around the Capitol. Unfortunately, it is still there. But given the bills we have before us today, maybe it is only fitting when you look at the Capitol you see a fence around it. It makes the Capit­ol appear as if it is a capital of a more totalitarian state looking at the bills we have before us today.

The first bill is H.R. 8, the Bipartisan Background Checks Act. They call this an assault on the Second Amendment, something our forefathers put in the Constitution because they knew that the power in this country has to rest with the people. Instead, we have a bill here making it much more difficult to transfer a firearm and putting one in a position where they could face prison or a $100,000 fine if they do something wrong.

It is just beyond belief. It is hard to believe when you look at this bill, Madam Speaker, that until 40 years ago when they began a war on the police, the murder rate in this country had fallen over 20 years in a row. Unfortunately, the majority is going to try to make it much more difficult to transfer a firearm as well as create a situa­tion where you would have to go for your NICS check, if the FBI doesn’t get back to you, you are delayed in getting a firearm.
Madam Speaker, I urge rejection of the rule.

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

Madam Speaker, I have one comment. The self-imposed limitations are a misinterpretation of the Second Amendment. For the sake of interpretation, there are 13 States, as I understand it, right now, who have universal background checks. Of all of them are working consistent with upholding the Second Amendment. Californians who have a universal background check cannot go out and legally buy a gun. It just decreases the number of deaths and injuries when you have this kind of law, Madam Speaker.

So I agree with the gentleman who spoke and said it shouldn’t be about opinion. Neither of us decides what is constitutional in this instance. The courts do, and the courts have allowed local and State governments to implement these commonsense laws.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from the First District of Iowa (Mrs. HINSON).

Mrs. HINSON. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Minnesota for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the rule. I think we can all agree that guns should not be allowed to fall into the wrong hands. But these bills do nothing to stop the bad guys from illegally purchasing guns or reduce gun violence meaningfully. Instead, they punish law-abiding gun owners and arbitrarily deny Iowans their Second Amendment rights.

H. R. 1446 allows the government to delay the sale of a firearm for an indefinite amount of time. H. R. 8 infringes on the rights of law-abiding gun owners, criminalizing everyday transfers of guns between friends, family, and neighbors, including lending of weapons that were obtained lawfully.

Madam Speaker, these bills trample on the constitutional rights of Iowans, and I strongly oppose them.

Mr. DeSAULNIER, Madam Speaker, a correction. The bill doesn’t say indefinitely for the background checks. It says 10 days with the availability of an additional 10 days for a maximum of 20 days. So it is not indefinite.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from the Third District of Florida (Mrs. CAMMACK).

Mrs. CAMMACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to this rule as well as H. R. 8 and H. R. 1446, a/k/a the legislation to deny Americans their Second Amendment rights.

Common sense and data tell us that these bills will do nothing to prevent criminals from obtaining firearms or stop mass shootings in the United States. Instead, these bills will make it more difficult for law-abiding citizens to exercise their constitutionally protected rights.

H. R. 8 would lead to a national gun registry which every American should be concerned about. Even former Obama officials acknowledge that universal background checks are only effective with a national registry in place. H. R. 1446 would lead to unnecessary and potentially indefinite delays in law-abiding citizens purchasing the tools necessary to defend their families and their homes.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle claim that H. R. 1446 would close a loophole, but we know the truth. The only loophole will be that the criminals will continue to get guns on the black market while lawful citizens are denied their rights.

As Members of Congress we swore an oath to defend the Constitution, and that includes the Second Amendment; and it reads plainly: shall not be infringed.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to stand up for all Americans’ rights to bear arms, uphold their constitutional oath, and reject this rule and these horrendous bills.

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I would just like to point out that having a gun in your home actually makes you more likely to be a victim of gun violence.

Of the over 40,000 Americans who lost their lives to gun violence in 2018—the last year we have up-to-date statistics—two-thirds of those were by suicide. This is one of the big contributing factors to what are the so-called diseases of despair which happen everywhere in this country right now in these difficult times, and it has gotten worse under COVID. But the proximity to the guns actually leads to more of the opportunity for people to be the victim of gun violence.

It does not take a feat of imagination to see more moms and pops get busted for firearm transfers between law-abiding citizens while not reducing criminals’ access to guns at all. I predict we will see more moms and pops get busted for firearm transfers between law-abiding citizens while not reducing criminals’ access to guns at all. I predict we will see more moms and pops get busted for firearm transfers between law-abiding citizens while not reducing criminals’ access to guns at all. I predict we will see more moms and pops get busted for firearm transfers between law-abiding citizens while not reducing criminals’ access to guns at all. I predict we will see more moms and pops get busted for

No legislative measure is foolproof, and none will reliably defeat a determined gun man. The idea of a gun control, rather, is to build a matrix of laws that deter and detect individuals who, were they to obtain a firearm, would pose a threat to themselves or others. Maryland's law advances that cause.

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Madam Speaker, this isn't about taking away the rights of law-abiding Americans. Those claims are nonsense. This is about protecting the lives of all Americans.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from the Ninth District of Georgia (Mr. CLYDE).

Mr. CLYDE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the rule providing combined consideration for H. R. 8, H. R. 1446, and H. R. 842.

I want to focus on the first two. That is where Democrats are peddling their dangerous gun control agenda under the guise of working to stem the tide of firearms used in crime and under the guise of helping make our communities safer. These Democratic efforts are part of their larger radical and shameful plot to slowly chip away at the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens.

As a Federal firearms dealer by trade, I remain staunchly opposed to any effort that abridges our God-given Amendment right to keep and bear arms—those inalienable rights recognized by the Constitution.

If enacted, H. R. 8 will criminalize many common and often necessary firearm transfers between citizens while not reducing criminals' access to guns at all. I predict we will see more moms and pops get busted for
illegitimate possession or transfer of a firearm than we will violent gang members or criminals. How on Earth will criminalizing moms and pops curtail firearms used in a crime? The answer is that it won’t. My Democrat colleagues are naive to think that criminals are suddenly going to rush to the closest firearms dealer to buy a gun. I know.

Even more egregious than H.R. 8 is H.R. 1446, as it not only sets up a process by which American citizens would have to give up their government to exercise their right to bear arms, but it also extends the amount of time before a dealer can legally transfer a purchased firearm.

Current law provides a 3-business-day safety valve to ensure the government doesn’t further infringe on the customer’s constitutional rights, and that must not be extended.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote “no” on the rule and “no” on the underlying bills.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I would like to point out to my friends and colleagues that, again, even Justice Scalia, in the Heller majority decision, said that local and State governments could enact reasonable gun violence protection laws.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Alabama’s Second District (Mr. MOORE).

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Madam Speaker, if enacted, H.R. 8 would turn law-abiding citizens into criminals in the name of preventing crime.

H.R. 8 would establish universal background checks that aren’t universal at all, nor would we have prevented any of the recent crimes involving firearms. The criminals involved either passed a Federal background check or the firearms they used. This should prove that background checks aren’t the problem.

This bill doesn’t stop at the transfer of firearms, but it also requires background checks for temporary transfers of possession. Under this bill, simply handing a gun to someone could result in a penalty of up to 1 year in prison and a $100,000 fine.

For example, this weekend, my son brought some of his friends over to the house to sort, shoot, and one of the young men borrowed my gun. So now, are we criminals when we loan a young man a gun for learning to shoot skeet? I don’t understand how in the world we are going to start to criminalize everyday activities in this country.

We are talking about a waiting period. Remember, when we got this mask, they told us 2 weeks to flatten the curve? We are a little over a year now.

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

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mrs. HARSHBARGER).

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the attempts to take away our Second Amendment rights.

As a gun owner myself, I am a strong supporter of the Second Amendment, and for the past 30 years, I have supported it personally.

Years ago, myself and my employees were held at gunpoint in my own pharmacy. Fortunately, we all made it out safe. Do you want to know why we made it out safe? Because we had a gun as well.

But I know we were more fortunate than most who have a similar experience. I have utilized my gun carry permit ever since.

I believe Americans should have the right to defend themselves like I did. This experience is just one reason why I oppose attempts to weaken our right to carry.

Without our Second Amendment rights, we undermine our own rights to self-defense for ourselves, our businesses, and our families. This would be a terrible mistake, to try to take away our inalienable right to self-defense.

Madam Speaker, I hope my colleagues will oppose us with legislation that threatens our Second Amendment rights, including H.R. 8 and H.R. 1446.

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

Just a brief comment. In that same decision of Justice Scalia that I mentioned earlier, he said that Second Amendment protections are not unlimited, and that is the point of this bill. They have been done. They have been done constitutionally, as I said, by 13 States. And they statistically work.

I, too, have been robbed at gunpoint, but I didn’t have to have a gun to survive. That was providence and the San Francisco Police.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will amend the rule for an amendment to provide for consideration of Congresswoman HINSON’s bill, H.R. 682, the Reopen Schools Act.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment in the RECORD along with extraneous materials, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, H.R. 682, the Reopen Schools Act, provides a safe and responsible path forward to reopen schools and to get our students back in the classroom.

To speak further on the bill, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. HINSON), my colleague.

Mrs. HINSON. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Minnesota for yielding the time.

Madam Speaker, I rise today as a voice for the thousands of students across this country who have not stepped foot in a classroom or on a playground for over a year.

In Iowa, our Governor has put students’ education, their mental health, and their safety first. Our schools have remained safely open.

My kids got on a school bus this morning and went to a classroom, and they rode that same school bus home. They got to play with their friends. They got to learn in a classroom.

Schools nationwide have a plan to reopen before it is too late for our students. The mental health toll of long-term school closures on our students is staggering. Recent data shows that mental healthcare claims for children ages 13-18—these are our teenagers, our next generation—have doubled over the past year, according to that data.

Emergency room doctors are saying that they are treating more and more young people in crisis than ever before.

Now, 1 year out of the classroom is turning into 2, at least. Who knows?

We must act. We must act today. We must act quickly. That is why I introduced the Reopen Schools Act. This legislation would ensure that our school districts are using money that was appropriated from this body, $54 billion of it, on proven safety measures that will allow them to reopen safely as soon as possible and have a plan to do so.

Throwing more and more money at this problem, and then letting it go unused, is truly a disservice to taxpayers, and it is an injustice to our students.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in standing with our kids by defeating the previous question. It is an important issue for our next generation.

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

On the last point, I would just say that in California, in particular, in my district, having had multiple conversations with teachers, their labor representatives, and superintendents, we are getting schools back open, but we are doing it in a way to make sure that it is done efficiently and safely for everyone, the students, most particularly, their families, and their teachers.

We have come so far in this country, those of us who have listened to the science and the Centers for Disease
Control. We just want to make sure it is done right. In the most efficient, effective way for the kids.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, the Centers for Disease Control has indicated schools can operate safely with students in the classroom, yet many schools across the country remain closed.

President Biden has chosen to side with political allies and big labor groups over scientists, and our students are being denied their right to a good education as a result.

Kids need to be in school, and we should follow the science and reopen the schools for in-person instruction now.

Madam Speaker, I urge a 'no' on the underlying measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague. Nicely done.

First, on the gun bills, of course, we are all respectful of the Speaker pro tempore's courage and the experience that she has had. For those of us who have had family members who have lost their lives because of gun violence—my dad is buried over at Arlington. He is a combat veteran from World War II who, a little over 30 years ago, took his own life.

As we know, the tragedies of homicide, as the Speaker pro tempore knows personally, and losing a loved one, as I know from losing a loved one to suicide—suicide is two-thirds of the total of people who die—both are awful.

All of us respect the Constitution. We know the inequality that Ms. Pelosi referred to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yea and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yea and nays are ordered.

As my friend from Minnesota said, it is the law. The courts have allowed us to implement these laws, and they work.

I really don't understand, and maybe it is because of my own personal belief and also from my experience as a city councilman in a mayor, a member of the California Legislature, and now in Congress, why we don't follow the research and the evidence that it saves lives, out of respect for all those people who have lost their lives to gun violence.

Then, on the PRO Act, as a former member of a Teamsters union, that job helped me to get through college when my dad had lost his job. I loaded trucks. It was that union that provided me protection, and enough for myself and my coworkers.

When I moved to San Francisco, I didn't have any money. I got a job in a hotel restaurant business, and I was in that local. Then, I was able to save enough money to open my own businesses.

There have been some comments that somehow this bill would hurt small businesses. The reality is that people are organizing in workplaces where their employer is not treating their employees appropriately.

We know the inequality that Ms. DeLAURO talked about, this historic inequality that is strangling our country and hurting millions of Americans, destroying the middle income that we have all benefited from, that opportunity to move up and to give to our kids something better than we had. That is the legacy of this country, and labor unions are a big part of that, and entrepreneurs and individual business owners are a big part of that. But it is the balance between these two.

As John Kenneth Galbraith said a long time ago, and he wrote a boring book about this, but it is interesting: Wage and employment have countervailing institutions. They have to balance each other.

As my friend from Minnesota said, it is a balance. Right now, after 50 years of attacks, starting with President Reagan, the working people in this country don't have the voice they once had. That not only hurts them and their kids; it hurts all of us.

When you have a robust middle class, and you have workers represented appropriately in a working class, the economy grows; there is more money to spend in businesses like mine; and there is a camaraderie, having teamwork. A good employer knows that, whether they have a unionized workforce or a nonunionized workforce, your employees are what make your business work. That is what gives you goodwill. That is what Americans took so much pride in, in the 1950s and 1960s, after World War II, after we had come to the great country we were after World War II, with a middle class that no one has ever seen on this planet. Since then, we have eroded that middle class.

The one most important thing to improve our economy is to give working Americans a voice. Let them join together. Let it be fair. A good employer will respect that and work with that.

As Eisenhower said, as I quoted in my opening, only a fool would try to keep a working American from organizing into a union.

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

The material previously referred to by Mrs. FISCHBACH is as follows:

AMENDMENT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 188

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 19. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall resolve into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 822) to require local educational agencies to resume in-person instruction at elementary and secondary schools, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and not exceed the hour, divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. When the committee rises and reports the bill back to the House with a recommendation that the bill do pass, the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit. If the Committee of the Whole rises and reports that it has come to no resolution on the bill, then on the next legislative day the House shall, immediately after the third daily order of business under clause 1 of rule XIV, resolve into the Committee of the Whole for further consideration of the bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

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

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yea and nays. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yea and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 59 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830 AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUÉLLAR) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 842, PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE ACT OF 2021; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 8, BIPARTISAN BACKGROUND CHECKS ACT OF 2021; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1446, ENHANCED BACKGROUND CHECKS ACT OF 2021; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 188) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 842) to amend the
Mr. HUIZENGA changed his vote from "yea" to "nay.

Messrs. COURTNEY and WELCH changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

The result of the vote was announced as follows:

Not voting—23

Mr. BROYD changed his vote from "yea" to "nay."

Mr. SCHROEDER changed his vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as follows:

Stated for:

Thompson (MS)  Underwood
Vargas  Welch
Vosney  Weston
Vilanquez  Wild
Wasserman Schultz  Williams (GA)
Schuette  Williams (FL)
Yarmuth  Yarmuth

Mr. SEWELL, Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted yea on rollcall No. 63.

MEMBERS RECORDS PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Alred (Davis (KS))  Kirkpatrick
Amodei (Kelly (PA))  LaRoe (Nevada)
Amodei (Kelly (NV))  Lasker (Waldorski)
Barbara (Bender)  Lawlor (CT)
Barbara (Bender)  Lefgren (Kelley)
Barbara (Bender)  Leoni (Leoni)
Barbara (Bender)  Lefgren (Jeffries)
Barbara (Bender)  Lowenthal (Roybal-Alard)
Barbara (Bender)  Lowenthal (Roybal-Alard)
Barbara (Bender)  Lowenthal (Roybal-Alard)
Barbara (Bender)  Lowenthal (Roybal-Alard)
Barbara (Bender)  Lowenthal (Roybal-Alard)
Barbara (Bender)  Lowenthal (Roybal-Alard)
Barbara (Bender)  Lowenthal (Roybal-Alard)
Barbara (Bender)  Lowenthal (Roybal-Alard)
Barbara (Bender)  Lowenthal (Roybal-Alard)

The SPEAKER pro tempore.

The question is on the resolution.

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

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The vote was taken by electronic device; and there were—yeas 218, nays 197, not voting 16, as follows:

Mr. COURTNEY and WELCH changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

Mr. SCHROEDER changed his vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as follows:

Stated for:

Thompson (MS)  Underwood
Vargas  Welch
Vosney  Weston
Vilanquez  Wild
Wasserman Schultz  Williams (GA)
Schuette  Williams (FL)
Yarmuth  Yarmuth

Mr. SEWELL, Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted yea on rollcall No. 63.
Passing the American Rescue Plan means saving as many as 4 million jobs and returning to full employment as quickly as possible. It means setting up more vaccination sites in our communities. Let’s pass this bill this week and get it to the President’s desk for signature.

HONORING JIM KENNEDY, EAGLE SCOUT

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of my dear friend and fellow Eagle Scout, Jim Kennedy. I got to know him well over the years through the Juniata Valley Council where he was the Council Scout Executive.

Jim embodied the Scouting oath and law. He was trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, and courteous, to name just a few. His dedication to service and worked diligently to better his community, making significant improvements to the Seven Mountains Scout Camp and earning national recognition for the Council.

Jim is survived by his wife of nearly 40 years, Andrea, and their three sons: Matthew, Phillip, and Lincoln. Jim, his family, and the Juniata Valley Scout community are all in our prayers as we grieve this loss together.

Trail signs taught in Scouting, Mr. Speaker, show a circle of stones with one stone in the center as the sign for gone home. Jim Kennedy reached the end of his trial in life and returned home living Scouting values. Rest in peace, Scouter.

HONORING ARIEL GIBBS

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life and memory of Ariel Gibbs whom we lost 5 years ago.

Ariel was a beloved neighbor and friend to so many members of our East Harlem community. She loved working with seniors and children and helping improve the lives of those around her. She was a direct care worker at United Cerebral Palsy and often volunteered at after-school programs in her community.

Ariel will continue to be remembered as a strong, wise leader and a dedicated friend and daughter, as well as a loving mother. Her two energetic and inquisitive sons, now 6 and 7 years old, as well as her many friends and family members—including her dynamic dad, Eddie Gibbs, a leader in East Harlem—will always hold her in their hearts.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY

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

Ms. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to extend my remarks.

Ms. BURCHETT. I rise today on behalf of the women in this Chamber to recognize the important contributions and achievements that women have made and continue to make in all aspects of life.

The truth is that we are in danger of doing too little, not too much. As Nobel Prize-winning economist Joseph Stiglitz wrote, “Congress must legislate this was legislation or risk an anemic and devastatingly incomplete recovery.”

After the 2008 financial crash, Washington bailed out the largest financial institutions without passing a large economic relief package. The resulting recovery was weighted heavily against working people. We cannot make that same mistake today.

COVID RELIEF PACKAGE

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

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, I know that no one in this Chamber needs to be reminded that we are here to represent people. In my community and nation-wide, many people have been facing unprecendented financial hardship and personal struggles for a year now. Despite that fact, some people in this town will grow louder and louder in saying that the American Rescue Plan is too large and that after passing tax cuts for the super-rich, we cannot afford to come to the aid of everyday working people and small business owners.

The truth is that we are in danger of doing too little, not too much. As Nobel Prize-winning economist Joseph Stiglitz wrote, “Congress must legislate this was legislation or risk an anemic and devastatingly incomplete recovery.”

After the 2008 financial crash, Washington bailed out the largest financial institutions without passing a large economic relief package. The resulting recovery was weighted heavily against working people. We cannot make that same mistake today.

Mr. VAN DREW changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.” So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (David) (KS)
Amodei (PA)
Bairin (Nehls) (TX)
Davids (Hayes) (FL)
McClain (Jeffries) (SC)
Roybal-Allard (Jeffries) (CA)
Stark (Rangel) (NY)

HONORING JIM KENNEDY, EAGLE SCOUT

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of my dear friend and fellow Eagle Scout, Jim Kennedy. I got to know him well over the years through the Juniata Valley Council where he was the Council Scout Executive.

Jim embodied the Scouting oath and law. He was trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, and courteous, to name just a few. His dedication to service and worked diligently to better his community, making significant improvements to the Seven Mountains Scout Camp and earning national recognition for the Council.

Jim is survived by his wife of nearly 40 years, Andrea, and their three sons: Matthew, Phillip, and Lincoln. Jim, his family, and the Juniata Valley Scout community are all in our prayers as we grieve this loss together.

Trail signs taught in Scouting, Mr. Speaker, show a circle of stones with one stone in the center as the sign for gone home. Jim Kennedy reached the end of his trial in life and returned home living Scouting values. Rest in peace, Scouter.

HONORING ARIEL GIBBS

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life and memory of Ariel Gibbs whom we lost 5 years ago.

Ariel was a beloved neighbor and friend to so many members of our East Harlem community. She loved working with seniors and children and helping improve the lives of those around her. She was a direct care worker at United Cerebral Palsy and often volunteered at after-school programs in her community.

Ariel will continue to be remembered as a strong, wise leader and a dedicated friend and daughter, as well as a loving mother. Her two energetic and inquisitive sons, now 6 and 7 years old, as well as her many friends and family members—including her dynamic dad, Eddie Gibbs, a leader in East Harlem—will always hold her in their hearts.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY

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

Ms. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to extend my remarks.

Ms. BURCHETT. I rise today on behalf of the women in this Chamber to recognize the important contributions and achievements that women have made and continue to make in all aspects of life.

The truth is that we are in danger of doing too little, not too much. As Nobel Prize-winning economist Joseph Stiglitz wrote, “Congress must legislate this was legislation or risk an anemic and devastatingly incomplete recovery.”

After the 2008 financial crash, Washington bailed out the largest financial institutions without passing a large economic relief package. The resulting recovery was weighted heavily against working people. We cannot make that same mistake today.
minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, today is International Women’s Day, and I rise to celebrate three special women who are in my life.

My mother, Joyce Burchett, was the youngest of seven. One of her brothers was actually killed by the Nazis shortly after D-day in the Second World War.

She flew planes in World War II to help with the war effort. That is my wonderful mama right there. She was doing that when my dad was off fighting the Japanese during the Second World War.

She was the youngest of seven, as I stated, and she didn’t even have electricity until she was a senior in high school.

This is my wife, Kelly, and my daughter, Isabel. Kelly was a single mom when I met her. Being a mom is already a really tough job, and doing it alone is even tougher. I am blessed to raise Isabel along with Kelly and to be a father to her. She has been one of the greatest joys in my life. They both have been.

My mother was and Kelly and Isabel are strong and determined women. They influence and inspire me every day, and I am grateful to have them in my life.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, today is International Women’s Day, and the theme is #ChooseToChallenge—choose to challenge domestic violence, choose to challenge poverty, and choose to challenge desperate conditions that women are in to be opposed to.

So we ask that in this day that women will realize that they are ready and able to challenge what is wrong.

This is International Women’s Day, and I know that the American Rescue Plan Act will take women out of the quagmire of COVID-19 and economic depression.

As well, we look forward this evening to introducing the Violence Against Women Act of which I am the lead sponsor with over 150 cosponsors, so women again can have the protection that is needed by law. International Women’s Day, yes, we should choose to challenge.

GUN CONTROL

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, this week our colleagues on the other side of the aisle are proposing more gun control measures under H.R. 1146 and H.R. 8.

Mr. Speaker, our Constitution protects all your rights, not selectively by the State or issue. One bill makes you ask permission via background checks with no limits when and how you can purchase a firearm. If they don’t complete their work in time, then no gun for you.

This is an indefinite delay of your rights.

Another supposed background check bill is designed to make criminals out of Americans who are merely trying to help out others. Under this bill if a neighbor with issues, domestic violence, or maybe a suicidal situation decides to give you their gun for safekeeping, you could end up with a fine and a year in prison—$100,000 fine and a year in prison for helping them by possessing that gun for them.

The same if someone has a problem with stalking or domestic violence. Maybe you loan a woman a gun. You could be also threatened with prosecution under that guise.

Neither of these bills work because they violate a simple truth: criminals don’t follow gun laws. They are criminals. I have a more reasonable path: amendments to guarantee your rights under the Second Amendment.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF NORM NITSCHKE

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in celebration of the life of a great and rare American, Toledoan Norm Nitschke.

Mr. Nitschke passed away in February at the age of nearly 101. He led a full and exceptional life. As an inventor, an engineer, and a renowned pioneer of glass and solar manufacturing, Norm Nitschke literally changed the world.

He was pivotal in the development of tempered glass and creating a market for it in the automotive industry. It is a technology many of us take for granted today, but it has been instrumental in saving lives and making modern cars safer.

Then, he went on to found Glasstech Solar and Solar Cells, pioneering thin-film cadmium telluride technology, central to modern solar panels like those installed on homes and buildings across our country and now the world.

His pathbreaking work with Dr. Harold McMaster created America’s most important company in solar energy, First Solar in Toledo, Ohio.

In retirement, he gave back generously to our community and is a benefactor of so many educational institutions: University of Toledo’s engineering school, Bowling Green State University, Toledo Symphony, and Toledo Museum of Art.

I simply cannot say enough about this great American.
American hero, alongside hundreds of others, marched and risked his life to protect the voice of the many. His courage, and that of so many others, brought us the Voting Rights Act of 1965, a law passed by a bipartisan Congress whose conscience had been shocked awake. These Members of the Congress, Republicans and Democrats, could no longer turn their eyes from the brutality that they witnessed on television at Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama. They knew it was time in history to come together for justice against all the injustices.

Without the Voting Rights Act, Mr. Speaker, our democracy would be in name only.

We are here tonight at another inflection point in this country, where we shall decide to follow the forces of partisanship, divisiveness, and anger, or we will do the right thing. I am so pleased to be here today for that right thing. That right thing is for us to do good and to make good trouble because history will judge all of us on our good trouble.

Let me end by saying, tonight, the Congressional Black Caucus stands here to remind you, as our late great brother, friend, and colleague John Lewis said:

I say to the people here today, we must be prepared because if you believe in something, you have to go for it. As individuals, we may not live to see the end.

Tonight, through our message, the Congressional Black Caucus will continue his fight in his name and the names of all others who laid the foundation for the work we do. I call on all Members to do the right thing because it is always the right time to do what is right.

Let’s pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and H.R. 1 for the people.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the distinguished gentlewoman from Ohio for setting just the right tone of why members of the Congressional Black Caucus are on the floor today.

Let me acknowledge the gentleman from New York, who is now Speaker pro tempore, who is my co-anchor. How appropriate for him to be presiding over this Special Order dealing with the deeply embedded segregationist, violent period when we were fighting for voting rights.

Isn’t it interesting that we are now in the midst of fighting for the passage of H.R. 1, but we are in the midst of a battle to ensure the passage of H.R. 4, the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.

Let me briefly set the tone, as my members continue to do, and to tell the story. Maybe many of us may not know the significance. I realize that there was some discussion on the Edmund Pettus Bridge, which I have crossed now for almost 30 years during Bloody Sunday, which was, in fact, yesterday, March 7.

It was named after Edmund Pettus. Isn’t it interesting that it was named more than three decades after his death? They wanted to honor a symbol of the Confederacy. They wanted to honor someone who was soaked in the blood and the anguish of slavery. This river was called the Red River, was a key route for the slave plantation and cotton economy during slavery. That is what the Edmund Pettus Bridge was, a key route for the cotton economy during slavery and Reconstruction. The route from the Montgomery cotton and cotton economy crossed this bridge during our darkest hour.

That is who the bridge is named after, and this is the bridge that the foot soldiers Martin King, Hosea Williams, Andy Young, John Robert Lewis, Albert Turner, and many others crossed.

This 56th commemoration is extremely important today, and it is to recognize that the fight and struggle still goes on. Do realize that this was not, in fact, a simple process. This was not a circumstance where this was an easy task. This was a dark moment. It was based on the courage of those who were willing to lose their life. It was based on the courage of these men and women and little children as young as 8 years old. It was based on the death of Jimmie Lee Jackson, in 1964, who had gone to one of the meetings and was actually shot by a law enforcement official.

Tonight, this is a serious moment in history. This is a moment in history that the Congressional Black Caucus is more than able to present to the American people. Listen to us over these 60 minutes as we tell the story of how imperative it is to ensure that the Voting Rights Act is actually passed.

Let me just give you the words of John Robert Lewis as we also pay tribute to him. He said recently.

“My philosophy is very simple. When you see something that is not right, not fair, not just, say something, do something. Get in trouble, good trouble.”

Recently, of course, preceding his death, this is something we are always reminded of. We can see John Lewis, who gave all that he could so that we, in America, African Americans, Black Americans, and all people, could have the precious right to vote. Tonight you will hear these stories in tribute to him, in tribute to all those whose lives were lost in that battle, that their memory never be forgotten, their fight never be forgotten. The Congressional Black Caucus makes them a promise that it will not.

Mr. Speaker, fifty-six years ago, in Selma, Alabama, hundreds of heroic souls risked their lives for freedom and to secure the right to vote for all Americans by their participation in marches for voting rights on “Bloody Sunday.”

“Turnaround Tuesday” or the final, completed march from Selma to Montgomery.

Those “foot soldiers” of Selma, who were led by our beloved colleague, the late Congressman John Lewis of Georgia, were brave and determined men and women, boys and girls, persons of all races and creeds, who loved their country so much that they were willing to risk their lives to make it better, and to bring it even closer to its founding ideals.

The foot soldiers marched because they believed that all persons are created equal and the right to equal treatment under the law, and in the making of the laws, which is the fundamental essence of the right to vote.

On March 15, 1965, before a joint session of the Congress and the eyes of the nation, President Lyndon Johnson explained to the nation the significance of “Bloody Sunday”:

I speak tonight for the dignity of man and the destiny of democracy. . . . At times history and fate meet at a single time in a single place to shape a turning point in man’s unending search for freedom.

So it was at Lexington and Concord.

So it was a century ago at Appomattox.

So it was last week in Selma, Alabama.

The previous Sunday, March 7, 1965, more than 600 civil rights demonstrators, including our beloved colleague, Congressman John Lewis of Georgia whose skull was battered by police batons, were brutally attacked by state and local police at the Edmund Pettus Bridge as they marched from Selma to Montgomery in support of the right to vote.

“Bloody Sunday” was a defining moment in American history because it crystallized for the nation the necessity of enacting a strong and effective federal law to protect the right to vote of every American.

No one who witnessed the violence and brutality suffered by the foot soldiers for justice who gathered at the Edmund Pettus Bridge will ever forget it, the images are deeply seared in the American memory and experience.

Mr. Speaker, what is so moving, heroic, and awe-inspiring is that the foot soldiers of Selma faced their heavily armed adversaries fortified only by their love for their country and for each other and their audacious faith in a righteous cause.

The example set by the foot soldiers of Selma showed everyone, here in America and around the world, that there is no force on earth as powerful as an idea whose time has come.

These great but nameless persons won the Battle of Selma and helped redeem the greatest nation on earth.

But we should not forget that the victory came at great cost and that many good and dear persons lost their lives to win for others the right to vote.

Men like Jimmie Lee Jackson, who was shot by Alabama state trooper as he tried to protect his mother and grandmother from being beaten.

Women like Viola Liuzzo, a housewife and mother of five, who had journeyed to Selma from Detroit to join the protests after witnessing on television the events at Edmund Pettus Bridge on “Bloody Sunday” and who was shot and killed by Klansmen while driving back from a trip shuffling fellow voting rights marchers to the Montgomery airport.

Persons of faith, goodwill, and non-violence like the Reverend James Reeb of Boston, a minister from Boston who headed the call of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to come
to Selma and who succumbed to the head injuries he suffered at the hands of his white supremacist attackers on March 9, two days after "Bloody Sunday."

Mr. Speaker, in the face of unspeakable hostility, violence, brutality, and hatred, the foot soldiers of Selma would not be deterred—would not be moved—would not be turned around.

They kept their eyes on the prize and held on.

And help came the very next week when President Johnson announced to the Nation that he would send to Congress for immediate action a law designed to eliminate illegal barriers to the right to vote by striking down "restrictions to voting in all elections—Federal, State, and local—which have been used to deny Negroes the right to vote."

On August 6, 1965, that legislation—the Voting Rights Act of 1965—was signed into law by President Johnson and for the next 48 years did more to expand our democracy and empower racial and language minorities than any act of government since the Emancipation Proclamation and adoption of the Civil War Amendments.

But the work is not done; the dreams of Dr. King and of all those who gave their lives in the struggle for justice are not behind us but still before us.

Mr. Speaker, in the wake of the Supreme Court’s 2013 decision in Shelby County v. Holder, which severely crippled the Voting Rights Act, we have seen many states across our nation move to enact legislation designed to limit the ability of women, the elderly, and racial and language minorities to exercise their right to vote.

To honor the memory of the foot soldiers of Selma, we must rededicate ourselves to a great task remaining before us—to repair the damage done to the Voting Rights Act by working to pass legislation like H.R. 4, the Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2019, introduced in the 116th Congress, which I was proud to be one of the original co-sponsors.

As I have stated many times, the 1965 Voting Rights Act is no ordinary piece of legislation.

For millions of Americans, and for many in Congress, it 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.

As we remember and honor the foot soldiers of Selma, let us resolve also to restore the Voting Rights Act of 1965 so that the Voting Rights Act remains a lasting monument to their heroism and devotion to the country they loved.

Our leader on this, who has taken up the mantle, who has worked with John Robert Lewis, is, how should I say, a sister of the South, of Alabama, a scholar and a lawyer, but with a passion and a heart for voting rights, for justice. And, yes, as we both have said, our beloved brother, John Robert Lewis, has a special place in our hearts. I know that he has a special place in mine, and he has a special place in the heart of the distinguished gentlewoman from Alabama, TERRI SEWELL.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Alabama (Ms. SEWELL).

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, JOYCE BEATTY.

I would like to thank the original anchors of tonight’s and every CBC Special Order hour, the distinguished gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) and the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. TORRES). I thank them forinquiring to me, just for tonight’s Special Order hour, the opportunity to be a guest anchor.

Yesterday, we commemorated the 56th anniversary of Bloody Sunday, an event in American history where ordinary Americans in my hometown of Selma, Alabama, achieved extraordinary social change as they peacefully demonstrated for the equal right to vote.

Each year, those foot soldiers would return to the Edmund Pettus Bridge to girl grow up and watch her hero, year after year, always during Bloody Sunday, come back to Selma to remind the world that his cause, their cause, was not over yet.

We know that progress is elusive. We know that every generation must fight and fight again, that progress that was made by the previous generation, and they must advance it as well.

When I look at John Lewis on the Edmund Pettus Bridge, I can’t help but be reminded of the very young John Lewis, who 56 years ago, carried a backpack. Now, you know, madam co-anchored, that in that backpack, he had an apple, he had a toothbrush, and he had a Bible. He said that he wanted to be prepared to spend the night in jail.

He and Hosea Williams and 600 marchers peacefully marched for the right to vote. But they were met on that bridge by a sea of Alabama State Troopers who told them that they had 5 minutes to disperse—5 minutes to disperse. They wanted to gather and pray. They almost started to kneel, but they didn’t have time to do that, because the very people whose job it was to protect and serve the people were the ones who beat them with billy clubs while riding horses and passed their batons.

When I think about John Lewis, it is this iconic picture of John being beaten at the foot of the Edmund Pettus Bridge.

He wasn’t alone. So many people that people don’t know about, like Amelia Boynton Robinson, who I had the great fortune, during the 215th State of the Union, on the 100th anniversary, to be my special guest. Ms. Boynton, not quite as known as John Lewis, but never the less as an angel right here on Earth, that she would send to Congress for immediate action to enforce the very bill that John Lewis and so many unknown Americans in Alabama and Selma—the Voting Rights Act of 1965—was signed into law by President Johnson and for the next 48 years did more to expand our democracy and empower racial and language minorities than any act of government since the Emancipation Proclamation and adoption of the Civil War Amendments.

But the work is not done; the dreams of Dr. King and of all those who gave their lives in the struggle for justice are not behind us but still before us.

Faith in politics. I know so many people who will be speaking tonight will be pictured right here on this iconic photo. Representative STEVENS HOYER, BARBARA LEE, SHEILA JACKSON LEE, so many would come year after year with John.

Why was it important for us to come? It was important, because as John said, we must never forget.

When I got the news that John passed—you know, we knew that pancreatic cancer, stage 4, was a kiss of death, but we also knew if anyone could fight it, it would be John. I can remember sitting in my bedroom, as I heard about John’s death, having spoken to him only 2 weeks prior, my heart was heavy. But at the same time, my spirit soared, because I knew that we had an opportunity to walk among an angel right here on Earth, that he gave us the roadmap, he told us that we must never give up, that we must never give in, that we have to keep the faith.

He believed, more than anything, that America’s best days were ahead of it. It is now incumbent upon us to pick up that baton and to carry it to the next leg.

Who would have ever thought when I was a child sitting in Brown Chapel, singing in the choir, singing in the choir on those commemorative Bloody Sundays, with Coretta Scott King there, Juanita Abernathy there, C.T. Vivian there, Joseph Lowery there, and John Lewis there—but one, by one, by one, they are now gone. And we, who are their beneficiaries, must pick up their cause. Their cause must become our cause, too.

I never would have thought that 56 years would pass, and I, as Alabama’s first Black Congresswoman, would have to seek congressional action in order to enforce the very bill that John Lewis and so many unknown Americans in Alabama and Selma—that we, Congress Members, must stand up to the task.

The Shelby v. Holder decision struck down section 4. But H.R. 4, the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, is a reaffirmation to keep the promise of the Voting Rights Act and to live up to its promise, its promise of equality and justice for all.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back to the Chair.
In 2020 we mourned the loss of a giant: the late, great Congressman John Lewis; my dear friend and mentor. Though I am not sure is if we can get enough of our Republican colleagues—so many of whom came on those pilgrimages with John Lewis, walked side by side in a bipartisan effort to show the world that what happened on those sacred places in my district, Birmingham—to visit the 16th Street Baptist Church where the four little girls were killed, to see in Montgomery the very spot where Rosa Parks could not sit on a bus, to walk across the Edmund Pettus Bridge. It was not just a photo op, I pray, but rather a call to action that now they, too, can pay it forward.

When we file H.R. 4, it will be after we have prepared, had an evidentiary hearing and all the evidence. We will be informed. That formula will be informed by the most egregious of actors, because we know it has to be narrowly tailored. We know that we can’t just submit the same formula, and we won’t. Because here is what is important: What is important is Federal oversight, as we have seen State after State recently impose more egregious, restrictive photo I.D. laws and restrictive barriers to voting.

I am honored today to be a part of this journey to John Lewis. I know so many want to speak. I am just going to say in closing, John is always in our heart. I am going to take up this baton of voter equality and continue to level the playing field, why are we still advocating for our right to vote in 2021.

May we all be renewed by the 56th Bloody Sunday anniversary and recommit ourselves to the ideals of equality and justice for which the foot soldiers marched. Let our words and actions stir the soul of our Nation. Let’s get into good trouble.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I think of the gentlewomen for her powerful message on good trouble and doing the right thing. I can hear John Lewis right now.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON), the distinguished chairwoman of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, 56 years ago, our beloved colleague, the late Congressman John Lewis, and hundreds of other heroes marched across the Edmund Pettus Bridge. We now know this infamous day in American history as Bloody Sunday.

These warriors of justice were brutally harassed, beaten, and murdered by Alabama State Troopers and county citizens, all fellow Americans.

But it was because of their courage on that day, because of their unwavering commitment to finishing that march that inspired President Lyndon Johnson to sign into law the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

And it was because of their continued advocacy that the Voting Rights Act was reauthorized in 1970, 1975, 1982, 1992, and again in 2006.

When I was chair of the CBC in the 107th Congress, we worked diligently in a bicameral fashion to protect voting rights in this country.

I teamed up with former Senators Tom Daschle, Chris Dodd, and our current Senator Dick Durbin, and passed the Help America Vote Act of 2002.

Specifically, this bill was signed into law by President Bush on October 29, 2002.

Help America Vote provided funds to our States to improve voting equipment and train workers at polling places.

But even with all of the policy work to level the playing field, why are we still advocating for our right to vote in 2021.

The answer is that there has been a widening gap of epic proportions between the ideals of the Voting Rights Act and the harsh reality that many
Black and Brown Americans face; that is, blatant and recognizable acts of voter suppression.

Some of the ways it manifests itself is through partisan gerrymandering, obstrusive voter I.D. laws, felony disenfranchisement, just to name a few.

But, today, we have doors of opportunity open, and we still must refer back to Bloody Sunday and to John Lewis’s leadership. Take this Special Order hour, hosted by the Congressional Black Caucus, and in the memory of John, as a prime example of our progress.

Mr. Speaker, it is in that spirit that I call upon Congress to pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act. We must eliminate that type of discrimination, and we must protect and preserve widespread voting access for all Americans.

I thank Congresswoman BEATTY and Congresswoman SEWELL for hosting this Special Order tonight on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus. It is time.

My last question is: How long?

Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for that question of how long. Now it is my privilege to yield to a distinguished leader of the House, the co-chair of the Steering and Policy Committee, a senior member on Appropriations, the Honorable BARBARA LEE.

Ms. LEE of California. Thank you. Congresswoman JACKSON LEE, for yielding, for your tremendous leadership on so many issues, and for once again bringing us together tonight. You and our Speaker pro tempore who is managing the floor tonight, Congressman RITCHIE TORRES, I thank you both so much for really continuing to beat the drum throughout the country about issues that are so important not only the African-American community, but to our entire country.

Also, to our Chairwoman, Congresswoman JOYCE BEATTY, I just want to salute you for your leadership and for really ensuring that the Congressional Black Caucus stays the conscience of the Congress in so many ways on so many issues, being such an inclusive caucus under your leadership, which is, I guess, the largest one ever now on our 50th anniversary. So thank you so much.

And to Congresswoman TERRI SEWELL, daughter of Selma, I know your mother is very proud of you, and I know that John Lewis is shining his light upon you and Selma and this 50th anniversary of Bloody Sunday.

Congresswoman SEWELL, I just have to say that I have been with her many times in Selma, in Alabama. She fights so hard for her constituents, but also to make sure that Selma gets the recognition she deserves, and also the resources that it so deserves as being that historical place where, had it not been for Bloody Sunday and Selma, we would not be here tonight as a strong Congressional Black Caucus leading the way on so many issues.

A year later, after John Lewis’s passing, of course, we celebrate his life and his legacy, but also we honor him for really passing on to our young people, who he knew would take that baton and run this next lap of the race.

I had the privilege to attend the Faith & Politics pilgrimages for many, many years and I have taken children, young people from my Martin Luther King Jr. Freedom Center on these pilgrimages. We crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge many times each year. John Lewis was so committed. Even with the 500, 600 people there, he took time to talk to young people, to explain to them not only the historical context upon which we were marching across that bridge, but he took time to encourage them and to empower them to take that baton and run this lap of the race for justice.

I just have to tell you now with what is going on in the country now with voter suppression efforts throughout, we cannot go back to the days of Jim Crow. I think 56 years later, after Bloody Sunday, the moment that we are in, because we must run this lap of the race and we must run it much faster now.

Bloody Sunday was just that. It was bloody. It was bloody. Those who were beaten and bloody 56 years ago, they deserve our gratitude and our honor by passing the John Lewis Voting Rights Act, H.R. 4. Because of those heroes and heroines, even still stand here as Members of Congress.

Because of John Lewis, he believed in the promise of liberty and justice for all and the beloved community, which we all are fighting for and insisting that freedom and the right in our democracy to vote.

I mean, John was such a mentor to all of us and he encouraged us. Tonight is just very powerful for all of us to be able to recognize him, thank him, and say we must pass H.R. 4 in his honor. This is our power and this is our message.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her remarks.

Mr. Speaker, how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman has 25 minutes remaining.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure now to yield to the distinguished gentlewoman from Detroit, the co-chair of the Women’s Caucus, and an officer with the Congressional Black Caucus. That is the Honorable BRENDA LAWRENCE.

Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. Speaker. I rise today in honor of a legend and the conscience of this Congress, a civil rights hero and a dear friend, the late Representative John Lewis.

I stand here today also to give honor to the facilitator for this hour, and that is SHERI JACKSON LEE, and also to honor the current chair of the Black Caucus because we in the Black Caucus remind ourselves that we are the conscience of Congress. We could never forget that with John Lewis and his guidance because the pictures that you saw displayed by TERRI SEWELL are the things that when we looked at John Lewis, we have flashbacks of the sacrifices he made so that we could enjoy the freedoms that we have.

We are on the 56th anniversary of Bloody Sunday, the first of which was commemorated without John standing there welcoming all of us. Although he is not with us, his life serves as a blueprint of how we can make this country a better place. Every single day John was committed to justice, equality, and a little bit of good trouble. We must carry on this legacy by working to restore the Voting Rights Act.

I remember one time being challenged by John. He said, “Why do you think they worked so hard? Why do you think they worked so hard to take away your right to vote?” He said that we have to stand up, and we can’t allow that freedom and the right in our democracy to vote.

We passed the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act once before. And I stand with my colleague, TERRI SEWELL, in honor of John’s memory and the hundreds of civil rights activists who were beaten on the Edmund Pettus Bridge and the countless others who have fought for voting rights, we must pass this bill again.

As John famously said, “Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get into good trouble.”

He reminded us that that good trouble was necessary trouble for the rights and freedoms of Americans—all Americans.

While we say we miss John, he has not left because of the memories, the
blood he shed, the example he led, and his constant voice in our ears to never, ever give up. I stand here today to honor him.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her remarks. She reminds us that his sacrifice was not simple one. He shed blood. John Robert Lewis shed blood because of his beliefs and his commitment.

Mr. Speaker, it is now my privilege to be able to yield to the distinguished gentleman, the chair and founder of the Historically Black College Caucus, a longtime academician and professor at a historically Black college, and that is the gentlewoman from North Carolina, ALMA ADAMS.

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Texas and our co-anchors. I want to thank our Chairwoman, Congresswoman BEATTY; Congresswoman SEWELL, as well; and to all who have participated tonight. Thank you, Ms. TORRES, as well.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of my colleague and friend, my hero to all of us, John Lewis, and to mark the anniversary of the Bloody Sunday march on March 7.

When our country was founded almost 250 years ago, African Americans were denied full access and participation in society, and we have been fighting to rectify these wrongs ever since. Among the most important influencers and agents of this mission was John Lewis, the conscience of this Congress; a mastermind of good, good, good trouble; a courageous and compassionate man who gave everything, including his blood and his body, to the civil rights movement.

From Selma to the U.S. House, John wasn’t afraid to put everything on the line for what he believed in. Fifty-six years ago, he marched so that people who look like me could be full participants in society. Fifty-six years later, we are still fighting to be seen, to be heard, to be counted in our democracy, a democracy that we helped to build.

For centuries, this country has made promises to marginalized communities that have gone mostly unmet, promises of freedom, equality, and access to opportunity.

In my home State of North Carolina, discriminatory voter regulations plagued every step of our progress. Most recently, we have experienced a decade of voter suppression laws that target minority voters with surgical precision and illegally gerrymandered maps that have thrown our election into chaos. Voting in North Carolina has never been treated as it should be, as a fundamental right for all citizens.

The For the People Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act will address this by cleaning up corruption in Washington and returning us to a government of, by, and for the people.

H.R. 1 will protect and expand voting rights, restore integrity to government, and put the priorities of the American people ahead of special interests. The John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act provides the tools to address discriminatory election practices and will protect all Americans’ right to vote.

These important bills are critical first steps toward healing our democracy. I won’t allow voter suppression to continue to be the norm in North Carolina or in our Nation. That is why we must honor our friend John’s legacy by passing the Voting Rights Advancement Act and sending both of these bills to the President’s desk.

Our power, our message.

2100

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman ADAMS for saying what our power is all about.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD), the first vice chair of the Congressional Black Caucus and a leader in the fight for labor rights that brought him to the United States Congress.

Congressman HORSFORD is the distinguished gentleman from Nevada, and I hope I have been there many times, and I know that I have to get it right.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Texas for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the designees for this Special Order hour, Congresswoman SEWELL and, of course, our chair JOYCE BEATTY and all of the members of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Today I rise to honor my friend, my mentor, my colleague, the late Congressman John Lewis and all of those who marched for justice across the Edmund Pettus Bridge 56 years ago.

As they marched, each of those heroes carried an unshakeable belief that America would answer their call for racial equality. But at the end of that bridge they were met with a violent mob that was determined to preserve the status quo of brutality against Black Americans. Bloody Sunday shocked the world, and it shamed our government into action.

Just days after Bloody Sunday, President Johnson sent a voting rights bill to Congress. By August of 1965, the Voting Rights Act had passed the House and Senate with bipartisan majorities.

For decades, the Voting Rights Act protected the right to vote and was reauthorized. But 8 years ago, a conservative majority on the Supreme Court turned their back on decades of progress and struck down critical sections of the law.

After the Supreme Court’s decision, State governments began to immediately purge voter rolls and institute burdensome requirements on voting to block communities of color from the ballot box.

In the last election, many States refused to expand vote-by-mail options that would have kept voters safe. Instead of using billy clubs and dogs, they used the pandemic’s deadly toll on communities of color to try and suppress the vote.

In the face of this cruelty, we fought back with record setting voter turnout. But voter suppression continues to be a stain on our democracy.

So we must restore every inch of the Voting Rights Act, and we must do it now.

Two years ago, House Democrats introduced and passed H.R. 4, the Voting Rights Advancement Act. This bill, which is now named for Congressman John Lewis, would restore the protections that were eliminated in Shelby v. Holder and end voter suppression.

Last Congress, this bill passed with just one Republican vote. This session, I am calling on all of my colleagues to follow the example that our predecessors set back in 1965 and to come together for the American people. Because the right to vote is fundamental.

I wanted to share in closing this picture that I treasure in my office. As a freshman Member, I had the honor to stand with Congressman John Lewis and STENY HOYER, the minority leader at the time, when we introduced the Voting Rights Act.

And the picture captured me in the middle as we were talking about the Voting Rights Act, and its importance, and it is something that I look at for inspiration. And so I say to you my friend, we will carry on your baton. We will carry on your legacy. And we will carry on the fundamental right to protect the vote for all Americans. That is our message. That is our power.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman. We will carry on the fight. Thank you for challenging us tonight. I think that everyone knows that we will not rest until we have the John Lewis Voting Rights Act, H.R. 4, the John Robert Lewis bill is passed.

Mr. Speaker, it is now my privilege to yield to the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. EVANS), who stood at this podium some years ago as the leader of the Special Order. And I am delighted to seek to grow as tall as he is in this job, because he is now a leading member of the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from the great State of Texas for that introduction and along with my colleague from the great State of Alabama.

When I had my first visit ever in my life to Alabama it was because of Terri SEWELL who got me down there, and to the chairwoman of our fantastic caucus, Congresswoman BEATTY.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues from the Congressional Black Caucus in honoring the memory of Congressman John Lewis and renewing his call for good trouble.
to be here to stand at this anniversary of the Bloody Sunday march in Selma when Congressman Lewis and so many others risked their lives for the right to vote.

This year we have seen more than 250 State-level bills that will restrict voting. Members of the Pennsylvania legislature have introduced at least 14 restrictive voting measures, 14 bills including some that would require a State-approved excuse to vote absentee. That would be a rollback of the voting-by-mail law.

It is important to stand, Mr. Speaker, to stand tall and for us to learn from the great John Lewis that if you see something, do something. There is no way that I could not add my voice to this effort. I must stand because I see something, and I plan to do something.

It is important to understand that we need to keep working on the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act by getting into good trouble. We need to all be prepared, Mr. Speaker, to continue this fight.

Although Congressman Lewis is physically not with us, his spirit is with us, and we all must recognize that only through the collective effort in the spirit that he has imparted upon us that we must continue this effort.

So I need to make sure that my voice is added to the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, and I want to do everything that I can to ensure that it takes place because it is for these types of efforts that we need a constant reminder.

Mr. Speaker, I say to Congresswoman Sewell, yes, we must continue our journey to Alabama, to Selma. We must continue these discussions and raise our voice. We must continue to show people that until this happens, we are not going to stop. It is important to all of us.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman Beatty for showing the leadership, along with Congresswoman Jackson Lee, for us showing this collective effort, for us working together to pass this act today.

Ms. Jackson Lee, Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania, who has provided our road map that we are going to use to take this long journey, and we are not going to stop until we finish the job.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Georgia (Mrs. McBath). This Congresswoman has a voice of passion for an issue that John Lewis had a voice of passion for, and I believe that if clearly was before she came, if I am not mistaken, that John Lewis led a floor boycott so that gun bill be passed.

You see, he is and was the conscience of the Congress. I think he must have known that Congresswoman McBath was coming to Congress.

Mrs. McBath, Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Representative Sheila Jackson Lee for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday marked the 56th anniversary of the Bloody Sunday march, but for the first time we observed the solemn anniversary feeling the tremendous absence of our colleague, our friend, our brother, John Lewis.

Though John is no longer with us, his spirit and his words still fill this Chamber. And even amidst the noise and the bitter rancor, one can still hear his words ringing so loudly that they cannot be ignored. “Get in good trouble, necessary trouble, and help redeem the soul of America.”

John Lewis was widely known as the conscience of Congress, and I can’t think of a more fitting description of our friend, a man who nearly lost his life on that bridge in Selma in the struggle for voting rights.

John went on to represent his community in Congress for 33 years. Whether marching for freedom in Selma or sitting on the House floor in support of safer gun laws, while I was on the outside leading a rally for the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, I implored each one of us of the importance of getting into good, necessary trouble. It was one of the greatest honors of my life to be his colleague and fellow Member of Georgia’s congressional delegation.

As Americans we owe a great debt of gratitude to those who were on that bridge in Selma, for sacrificing their blood in pursuit of a more perfect Union. We honor the legacies those men and women left behind by picking up the mantle of equality and justice for all and supporting the fight for what is right and for what is just.

Because even in this moment we are painfully reminded that the work remains unfinished. For many years before we mourned the death of John Lewis, we grieved the loss of the Federal protections which the Voting Rights Act once afforded all Americans, rights for which John Lewis nearly gave his life long before he ever had the chance to serve his community in Congress. And 56 years later the struggle to protect voting rights continues back home in my State of Georgia and in State legislatures all across this country.

As John would often say, we have a moral obligation, a mission, and a mandate to do what we can to make our country and our world a better place and to help usher in a loving community where no one is left out or left behind.

Those words ring louder and louder for every day that goes by without the sacred protections of the Voting Rights Act. And so today, we must again step forward with a renewed unity of purpose to do what is necessary to restore and protect the right to vote for all Americans and to fulfill the vision laid forth by those heroes who marched before us. Heroes like our John Lewis.

And it is more important than ever now to pass H.R. 4, the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.

Ms. Jackson Lee, Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for reminding us of how broad Congressman Lewis’ civil rights fight was. And he was the conscience to change all that was bad to make it good.

Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time I have remaining?

The Speaker pro tempore. The gentleman from New York (Mr. Jones), who has come with a storied history on fighting for those who cannot fight for themselves.

Mr. Jones, Mr. Speaker, 56 years ago, 600 peaceful protesters, led by the late John Lewis, prepared to cross the Edmund Pettus Bridge for the right to vote. On the other side stood Sheriff Jim Clark and his armed patrolmen ready to stop them.

The protesters marched on. Clark and his troopers put on their gas masks, blasted the marchers with tear gas, and then brutally beat them with billy clubs and cattle prods.

Some of Clark’s men mounted their horses and charged into the crowd trampling protesters while unleashing a rebel yell. They beat John Lewis so hard, they broke his skull. He and dozens of his fellow marchers were hospitalized.

Ms. Jackson Lee. Mr. Speaker, 5 months after Bloody Sunday, Congress enacted the Voting Rights Act. As we remember Bloody Sunday, let us also recognize the Jim Clarks who blocked the bridge to democracy today.

Five decades after Bloody Sunday, the Supreme Court struck down the heart of the Voting Rights Act in a decision in 2013 called Shelby. As we commemorate our first Bloody Sunday without John Lewis, Republicans in Georgia have passed a new law cracking down on the right to vote.

Today, as we answer John’s call to cross the bridge to democracy once again, let us hope that no Supreme Court Justice stands in our way on the other side. If they do, may we, like our ancestors, march on.

Ms. Jackson Lee, Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much. Concise but powerful. We know what our guidepost is: Mr. Speaker, I don’t think that the history of the United States has had a more civil rights activist as Speaker, one who is a fighter for justice. We are delighted to have her joining us this evening. Her voice has been alongside John Robert Lewis.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. Pelosi), our distinguished Speaker of the House, joining us on the commemoration of Bloody Sunday.

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

Mr. Speaker, I will take a few seconds to say thank you to the Congressional Black Caucus, to Congresswoman Beatty, to Congresswoman Sewell; the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, Joyce Beatty; and so many members.
Mr. Speaker, I have been watching the presentation. It is so heart-warming, but I did not want to miss the chance to say thank you to all of you for this commemoration of this 56th anniversary. For so many of us who have gone there many times over, it is important to 'get into good trouble' and those that my colleagues to join him that day. There nightclub in Orlando, FL. It was his drive and after 49 people died during a shooting at a to try and get a vote on gun control legislation of my greatest honors happened when we out of the U.S. House of Representatives. One such a mild-mannered man. He didn't just tion and signing of the VRA, we are still fight- man, women being brutally beaten by police officers wielding billy clubs and tear gas are still haunting. The vio- tion because of the extent of their injuries. Con- gressman Lewis often remarked that he "shed a little blood" on that bridge that day, when his skull was crack by state troopers—people who were supposed to protect and serve. Why? Because, people who look like him, look like me, wanted the right to vote, the right to have a voice in our democracy. Bloody Sunday is still one of the darkest days in our nation's history, but we commemo- rate it because the courage and the violence Congressman Lewis and the over 600 march- ers endured put the atrocities of this nation centerstage for the world to see and served as a catalyst for the Voting Rights Act being signed into law. More than five decades later, after that hor- rific display of intimidation and overt suppress- tion and signing of the VRA, we are still light- ing for voting rights for communities of color. It is shameful, that the same frustrations our ancestors felt—being denied at the ballot box for failing a literacy test, having to travel far ancesters felt—being denied at the ballot box for failing a literacy test, having to travel far for voting rights for communities of color. These tactics are once again rearing their ugly head and it is disheartening that some of the same forces are trying to link their votes to the ballot box using old tactics, new tricks. In Georgia, legislators just passed a bill that restricts access to absentee ballots, restricts ballot dropbox locations and early voting hours. We saw in the 2020 election how poll closures created long lines in Georgia. And, now, to add insult to injury, Georgia law- makers are proposing making it a crime to give people food and water while they stand hours in line to vote—food and water! It is shameful and inhumane. There is not a day that goes by that I don't think about Congressman Lewis. We all miss him dearly. This year, the Bloody Sunday Ju- bliee weekend was not the same without him. However, it is bittersweet that he is not here to witness the country he loved, the country he had such high hopes for still making it harder—not easier—for people to vote. But as the first Black woman to represent Georgia's 5th District, a seat formally held by Congressman Lewis and Ambassador Andrew Young, I came to Congress to assure my constituents and the American people I will not let the trauma suffered on March 7, 1965 or bat- tles fought for the sake of voting rights since then be in vain. The spirit of Congressman Lewis lives in all of us and we will protect his legacy with our lives. Mr. COMER, Mr. Speaker, in the weeks since President Biden took office, we have seen a dramatic reversal from the America First policies that we saw under President Trump. Mr. Speaker, after 4 years of policies that empowered middle-class Ameri- cans to prosper, the working class is now getting the shaft under Joe Biden. And it is all happening through heavy- handed executive orders, not through legislation that reflects the voice of the people's representatives. On day one, he acted recklessly to cancel the Keystone Pipeline, which provided thousands of good-paying energy jobs to the American people. From there, it was only worse. Rejoining the Paris climate agree- ment, reentering the communist-com- promised World Health Organization, and reducing security on our southern border were all executive actions that will make America less safe and pros- perous. The President's radical pro- posal to grant amnesty to 11 million il- legal immigrants, while 11 million Americans are unemployed, is the defi- nition of putting Americans last. As it relates to immigration, this ad- ministration's reckless policies know no bounds. Due to President Biden's lowering of security on our southern border, we are sending a message to the world that our immigration laws can be violated without consequence. Stopping construction of the wall and weakening enforcement, especially during a pandemic, is a huge national security and health risk to the Amer- ican people. The Biden administration, specifically the Department of Home- land Security, must answer questions the Committee on Oversight and Re- form has asked about how they plan to keep the American people safe as they incentivize illegal immigration. Rather than focus on the unity out- lined in his inaugural speech, President Biden has issued divisive executive or- ders and hurt the safety of the Amer- ican people. Mr. Speaker, it is time for this Presi- dent to work in a bipartisan way to take his duties seriously and enforce our immigration laws. It is also long past time to reopen schools and get Americans back to work. These are the things the American people expect us to be working on, not engaging in ex- cessive partisanship. If we continue to see an approach to governing focused on pandering to our
far-left base rather than putting America first. American jobs, national security, and energy independence will suffer greatly.

CONGRATULATING GRAVES COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL JROTC

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Graves County High School JROTC for their first-place finish in the All-Service Raider National Competition, Co-Ed Division, in Molena, Georgia.

The cadets, led by Lieutenant Jason Caldwell, competed against 12 other schools, including military prep schools, in various physical activities. They should be proud of this outstanding achievement.

Over the summer, many competitions were canceled due to COVID-19, leaving each cadet to train individually to prepare for the competition. This victory is a testament to the hard work and dedication of each of these students under unusual circumstances.

Graves County was very well-represented by this talented group. The Junior ROTC program at Graves County High School cultivates leadership and service skills in its cadets that will benefit their local community, the First District of Kentucky, and our Nation for many years to come.

Once again, congratulations to the Graves County High School Junior ROTC for their victory in this very prestigious competition.

HONORING ALLEN COUNTY JAILER LARRY PIPER

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my good friend and a political powerhouse, Larry Piper, of Allen County, Kentucky, who recently retired after serving as Allen County jailer since 2007. At the end of January, Larry stepped aside after faithfully serving his community for years in this important role.

During his time in public office, Larry was known for always performing his duties well, treating everyone with respect, and doing what was asked of him. These traits are the hallmark of a good and honest public servant and worthy of a tee.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate my friend, Larry Piper, on a successful career, and I wish him and his wife, Patricia, the very best in a well-earned retirement.

ELECTION SYSTEM CONCERNS

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I want to talk a little bit about H.R. 1, which passed the House of Representatives last week.

Speaker PELOSI and the Democrats made clear what their top priority in this new Congress would be: a swamp takeover of America’s elections.

At its heart, this radical legislation is a massive Federal takeover that enables ballot harvesting, requires mass mail-in voting, and uses taxpayer money to fund political campaigns. This bill, mistakenly named the "For the People Act," is targeted toward helping politicians, not the people. At a time when the American people are struggling, why is helping politicians, like herself, Speaker PELOSI’s top priority?

Whenever Washington gets involved, chaos and dysfunction follow closely behind. If somehow signed into law, H.R. 1 will follow in that familiar pattern.

Mr. Speaker, 2020 brought to light serious concerns with our election system. We saw dramatic delays, uncertainty, and chaos from policies like universal mail-in voting and allowing votes to be counted for days after the election—and in the case of New York, weeks and months after the election. These concerns present the need for fundamental reforms, but these reforms should be addressed by States, not Congress. And they should be the exact opposite of the disastrous H.R. 1.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation sanctions the very practices that created chaos and uncertainty in the 2020 election and sowed widespread voter distrust. Banning voter ID laws and taking away States’ ability to promote a safe and secure election is a massive Washington power grab.

The legislation allows absentee ballots to come in up to 10 days—10 days—after the election date. Does anyone in this body think that is a good idea?

Mr. Speaker, I would invite anyone in America to come to my home community of Monroe County, Kentucky, and come down on election night in 2022—the primary election because it is a pretty Republican county, 91 percent Republican, to be exact. I would invite anyone to come to my community on election day when all the people who voted in person, which would be about 95 percent of the voters, voted. Let’s say a magistrate, a constable, or a jailer can’t own firearms until you are 21. Seriously?

Mr. Speaker, I would invite anyone in America to come tell that magistrate candidate, constable candidate, or jailer candidate gets the most votes on that primary election day. Then, 10 days later, a wad of absentees comes in after the election date, does anyone in this body think that is a good idea?

Mr. Speaker, I would invite anyone in America to come tell that magistrate candidate, constable candidate, or jailer and come down on election night in 2022, the primary election because it is a pretty Republican county, 91 percent Republican, to be exact. I would invite anyone to come to my community on election day when all the people who voted in person, which would be about 95 percent of the voters, voted. Let’s say a magistrate, a constable, or a jailer candidate gets the most votes on that primary election day. Then, 10 days later, a wad of absentees comes in after the election date, does anyone in this body think that is a good idea?

That is what H.R. 1 would do. It makes no sense. This bill is nothing but a Democrat attempt to consolidate power. It places Washington in control of elections and enables voter fraud. And like every other priority bill we pass this week, that is the first step in rolling back our basic constitutional rights. These proposals come in addition to the bills which implement new registration requirements for firearms and ammunition, and disallow adults under 21 from owning firearms.

So you can join the United States military and fight, and even die on the battlefield when you are 18, but you can’t own firearms until you are 21. Seriously?

These radical proposals coming from the Democrat majority infringe on the basic rights and privacy of gun owners, and should be stopped in their tracks.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly oppose these measures, which are extremely radical and the opposite of what Kentuckians sent me to Congress to do. Instead, I will continue to work to support and promote legislation that upholds the fundamental rights found in the Second Amendment.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank all of the law-abiding gun owners in Kentucky, whose continued advocacy makes a real difference in the fight against gun control.
Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Sarah Bridges of Reidland, Kentucky, a Marshall County High School student who is using her talent at sewing to provide swaddling blankets for infants at the ICU. According to recent reporting from the Paducah Sun, Sarah has been busy crafting swaddling blankets for Baptist Health Paducah’s neonatal intensive care unit to help newborns who are too young to attend to their comfort needs of local infants.

Sarah’s drive to use her talents to fill a vital need reflect her high character and desire to positively impact her community and region. Given her extensive track record of community service and school involvement, it is no surprise that she is now giving back in this admirable way.

On behalf of the entire First Congressional District of Kentucky, I thank Sarah Bridges for this outstanding and caring project she has taken on.

HONORING OCIE KEY ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Ocie Key of the First District of Kentucky, who is turning 100 years old on March 18.

Mrs. Key was born in Burkesville, Kentucky, and continues to reside in Cumberland County. In 1939, Mrs. Key married Paul, and together they have three daughters, six grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. She is a lover of quilting, sewing, and basket-making, and enjoys spending time with family and friends.

Mrs. Key is a woman of faith and a member of the Christian Chapel Church of Christ in Burkesville, Kentucky. She is also the queen of the Cumberland County Red Hat Society and has been a member of the Cumberland County Homemakers for over 50 years.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent everyone in Cumberland County and throughout the Commonwealth in wishing her a very happy 100th birthday.

NEED FOR TRANSPARENCY IN SPENDING

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to talk about transparency in government spending. That is one of the main objectives of the House Oversight and Reform Committee. Not only do we ensure the prevention of waste, fraud, and abuse, but also we want and expect government transparency, just like the people who send us here to be their voice in Washington.

There is no greater disgrace to the taxpayers than the nearly $2 trillion in debt we are facing as a nation. But instead of taking this burden we are leaving to our children and grandchildren seriously, Democrats are barreling through a partisan $2 trillion package推向 Congress, $2 trillion of deficit spending.

Congress has already spent $4 trillion to fight the coronavirus in a bipartisan manner. And $1 trillion of that $4 trillion we have already appropriated is unspent. That is why I introduced a resolution with Budget Committee Ranking Member JASON SMITH requiring President Biden to provide this body with information about the $1 trillion unspent taxpayers money.

Congress should have the information before we spend more taxpayer money. The American people must have transparency and accountability for how their tax dollars are spent. People find that hard to believe, that 25 percent of the last COVID relief bill hasn’t been spent, and we don’t have a full accounting of where that money is, where the unspent funds are, where it is going, why it hasn’t been spent. But we are going to appropriate another $2 trillion. We are not. You all are. Two trillion dollars more of deficit spending.

Transparency and responsibility weren’t on the minds of the House last week when the Democrats passed in a partisan manner $2 trillion additional deficit spending.

This is not responsible governing, especially in light of concerns from economists that the Democrats’ massive spending bill most likely will cause an economic crash. It is definitely causing inflation. If you have gone to fill up gas, if you have gone to Lowe’s or Home Depot or anywhere for home improvements, or if you tried to buy any commodities, you have gone to refinance your house, you are starting to see higher prices.

And with the $2 trillion in that fund, along with the $1 trillion that still hasn’t been spent, you are going to create the kind of inflation that I studied about in the 1970s.

This bill wasn’t about relief for Americans. I have supported targeted relief, including the direct stimulus checks supported by President Trump. I voted for the $2,000. I was one of the few Republicans that voted for the $2,000. I was one of the few Republicans that voted for the $2,000. I was one of the few Republicans that voted for the $2,000. I was one of the few Republicans that voted for the $2,000. I was one of the few Republicans that voted for the $2,000. I was one of the few Republicans that voted for the $2,000.

I also support funding to help with vaccine distribution and actually win the fight against COVID-19, but only 9 percent of NANCY PELOSI’s and Joe Biden’s so-called relief bill went toward fighting COVID, and less than 1 percent went towards vaccines. Instead, the focus was on satisfying the far left political agenda.

This is not an America-first proposal. Before Democrats even attempt to spend another dime of taxpayer dollars, Congress needs to act to prevent government waste, fraud, and abuse; and we need to refocus our attention on actually helping the American people.

I hope to see the United States Senate exercise the due diligence that taxpayers deserve, and that the House did not provide, in only passing funding that is targeted directly to the pandemic.

HONORING VETERAN THOMAS BRUZAN

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and legacy of Thomas Bruzan, who passed away in December at his home in Cadiz, Kentucky, at the age of 71, after a lifetime of service to his country.

Tom was a decorated Marine Corps veteran, who received a Purple Heart for his service in Operation Meade during the Vietnam war. After his military service, Tom served as a volunteer at Pennyroyal Veterans Center in Christian County.

Tom was also a member of the American Legion and a charitable giver to Nonnie’s Place, a nonprofit in Lyon County, Kentucky, which supports women and mothers going through hard times.

Mr. Speaker, I join Tom’s family, friends, and all impacted by his sacrifice, in celebrating his life of devoted service to our country.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I want to conclude my remarks with mentioning the First Congressional District of Kentucky. Tom was a true American patriot, and his bravery and kindness will not be forgotten.
matter, where I stand on this issue, and that is the issue of earmarks and whether or not to end the ban on congressional earmarks. I am opposed to that for many reasons. First of all, I have learned this over the 4 years I have served in Congress: Congress is not a democratic place, especially when it comes to money. We are going to have a debate—and it is going to be in the press—about whether or not to bring back earmarks.

But, in fact, there have always been earmarks. This last COVID bill had earmarks in there for Speaker PELOSI. The CARES Act had earmarks for legislative leaders on both sides, Democrats and Republicans.

Bringing back earmarks will only give certain people the ability to spend more money at the expense of a majority of Members, and I can’t believe that Republicans would put a whole lot of consideration into supporting the bringing back of congressional earmarks.

Another reason why I oppose earmarks is common sense. We have to get serious about deficit spending. We are $28 trillion in Federal debt.

Congress has to set the example. And the example is standing up and saying that we are going to do more earmarks, bring earmarks back, bring back pork?

More pork?

That is a terrible example, and somebody has to stand up for the American taxpayer. Somebody has to stand up for the children and grandchildren who are going to inherit this $28 trillion in debt, and I want to stand up for those people and oppose earmarks.

Lastly, as the top Republican on the House Oversight and Reform Committee, one thing I have studied in oversight, not just in Congress, but in my time in the Kentucky General Assembly and in my study of history and American politics, is that there is always a direct correlation between earmarks and corruption.

I said that to some Members, and they said: Oh, no, my earmarks won’t be corrupt, they are going to go to building projects.

The corruption is seldom with the municipalities. The corruption is with the contractors and the subcontractors in the pork projects. There is usually a direct correlation between earmarks and campaign contributions.

At a time when we have got too many special interests with their paws in the pot in Washington, bringing back earmarks is a bad idea.

I want everyone in Kentucky to know exactly where I stand on that issue.

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

H1106

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE
March 8, 2021

PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE RULES

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON RULES FOR THE 117TH CONGRESS

COMMITTEE ON RULES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to clause 2(a)(2) of rule XI, the Committee on Rules’ rules of procedure for the 117th Congress are transmitted herewith. They were adopted on January 29, 2021. Second reading adopted February 12, 2021 by a nonrecord vote.

Sincerely,

JAMES P. MCOVENER,
Chairman,
House Committee on Rules.

RULE 1.—GENERAL PROVISIONS

(a) The Rules of the House are the rules of the Committee and its subcommittees so far as applicable, except that a motion to recommit from day to day, and a motion to dispense with the first reading (in full) of a bill or resolution, if printed copies are available, are non-debatable privileged motions in the Committee. A proposed investigative or oversight report shall be considered as read if it has been available to the members of the Committee for at least 24 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays except when the House is in session on such day).

(b) Each subcommittee is a part of the Committee, and is subject to the authority and direction of the Committee and to its rules so far as applicable.

(c) The provisions of clause 2 of rule XI of the Rules of the House are incorporated by reference as the rules of the Committee to the extent applicable.

(d) The Committee’s rules shall be published in the Congressional Record not later than 30 days after the Committee is elected in each odd-numbered year.

RULE 2.—REGULAR, ADDITIONAL, AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

REGULAR MEETINGS

(a) The Committee shall regularly meet at 5:00 p.m. on the first day on which votes are scheduled of each week when the House is in session.

(b) A regular meeting of the Committee may be dispensed with if, in the judgment of the Chair, there is no need for the meeting.

(c) Additional meetings and hearings of the Committee may be called by the Chair.

NOTICE FOR REGULAR MEETINGS

(b) The Chair shall notify in electronic or written form each member of the Committee of the agenda of each regular meeting of the Committee at least 48 hours before the time of the meeting and shall provide to each member of the Committee unless a majority of the members of the Committee determines to be of an emergency nature; provided, however, that the Chair has made an effort to consult the ranking minority member, or, in such member’s absence, the next ranking minority party member of the Committee.

(2) As soon as possible after calling an emergency meeting of the Committee, the Chair shall notify each member of the Committee of the time and location of the meeting.

To the extent feasible, the notice provided under paragraph (2) shall include the agenda for the emergency meeting and copies of available materials which would otherwise have been provided on clause 2(g)(2) if the emergency meeting was a regular meeting.

SPECIAL MEETINGS

(d) Special meetings shall be called and convened as provided in clause 2(c)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the House.

RULE 3.—MEETING AND HEARING PROCEDURES IN GENERAL

(a)(1) Meetings and hearings of the Committee shall be called to order and presided over by the Chair or, in the Chair’s absence, by the member designated by the Chair as the Vice Chair of the Committee, or by the ranking minority member of the Committee as Acting Chair.

(2) Meetings and hearings of the Committee shall be open to the public unless closed in accordance with clause 2(g) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

(3) Any meeting or hearing of the Committee that is open to the public shall be open to coverage by television, radio, and still photography in accordance with the provisions of clause 4 of rule XI of the Rules of the House which are incorporated by reference as part of these rules.

(4) Before a motion to report a rule is offered, a copy of the language recommended shall be furnished to each member of the Committee.

QUORUM

(b)(1) For the purpose of hearing testimony on requests for rules, five members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

(2) For the purpose of taking testimony and receiving evidence on matters of original jurisdiction before the Committee, three members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

(3) A majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the purposes of: reporting any measure or matter; authorizing a subpoena; closing a meeting or hearing pursuant to clause 2(g) of rule XI of the Rules of the House (except as provided in clause 2(g)(2)(A) and (B)); or taking any other action.

VOTING

(c)(1) No vote may be conducted on any measure or motion pending before the Committee unless a majority of the members of the Committee is actually present for such purpose.

(2) A record vote of the Committee shall be provided on any question before the Committee upon the request of any member.

(3) No vote by any member of the Committee on any measure or matter may be cast by proxy.

(4) A record vote of the member of the Committee on each record vote on any measure or matter before the Committee shall be made publicly available in electronic form within 48 hours, and with respect to any record vote on any amendment or report, shall be included in the report of the Committee showing the total number of
votes cast for and against and the names of those members voting for and against.

HEARING PROCEDURES

(4)(x) With regard to hearings on matters of original jurisdiction, to the greatest extent practicable,
(A) each witness who is to appear before the Committee shall file with the Committee at least 21 days before the hearing a statement of proposed testimony in written and electronic form and shall limit the oral presentation to the Committee to a brief statement of the same;
(B) in the case of a witness appearing in a nongovernmental capacity, a written statement of proposed testimony shall include—
(i) the amount and country of origin of any payment or contract related to the subject matter of the hearing originating with a foreign government;
(ii) the amount and country of origin of any payment or contract related to the subject matter of the hearing originating with a foreign government;
(C) such statements, with appropriate redactions to protect the privacy or security of the witness, shall be made publicly available in electronic form 24 hours before the witness appears to the extent practicable, but not later than one day after the witness appears;
(2) The five-minute rule shall be observed in the interrogation of each witness before the Committee until each member of the Committee has had an opportunity to question the witness.
(3) The provisions of clause 2(k) of rule XI of the Rules of the House shall apply to any hearing conducted by the Committee.

SUBPOENAS AND OATHS

(8)(1) Pursuant to clause 2(m) of rule XI of the Rules of the House, a subpoena may be obtained and issued by the Committee or a subcommittee in the conduct of any investigation or series of investigations, only when authorized by a—majority of the members voting, a majority being present.
(2) The Chair may authorize and issue subpoenas under such clause during any period in which the House has adjourned for a period of longer than three days.
(3) Authorized subpoenas shall be signed by the Chair or by any member designated by the Committee, and may be served by any person designated by the Chair or such member.
(4) The Chair, or any member of the Committee designated by the Chair, may administer oaths to witnesses before the Committee.

RULE 4.—GENERAL OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITIES

The Committee shall review and study, on a continuing basis, the application, administration, execution, and effectiveness of those laws, or parts of laws, the subject matter of which is within its jurisdiction.

RULE 5.—SUBCOMMITTEES

ESTABLISHMENT AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF SUBCOMMITTEES

(a)(1) There shall be three subcommittees of the Committee as follows:

(A) Subcommittee on Legislative and Budget Process, which shall have general responsibility for measures or matters related to relations between the Congress and the Executive Branch;
(B) Subcommittee on Rules and Organization of the House, which shall have general responsibility for measures or matters related to the process and procedures of the House, relations between the two Houses of Congress, relations between the Congress and the Judiciary, and internal operations of the House;
(C) Subcommittee on Expedited Procedures, which shall have general responsibility for measures or matters related to expedited procedures and consideration in law or in the Rules of the House of Representatives.

(2) In addition, each such subcommittee shall have specific responsibility for such other measures or matters as the Chair refers to it.
(3) Each subcommittee of the Committee shall review and study, on a continuing basis, the application, administration, execution, and effectiveness of those laws, or parts of laws, the subject matter of which is within its general responsibility.

REFERRAL OF MEASURES AND MATTERS TO SUBCOMMITTEES

(b)(1) No special order providing for the consideration of a measure or resolution shall be referred to a subcommittee of the Committee.
(2) The Chair shall refer to a subcommittee such measures or matters of original jurisdiction as the Chair deems appropriate given its jurisdiction and responsibilities.
(3) All other measures or matters of original jurisdiction shall be subject to consideration by the full Committee.
(4) In referring any measure or matter of original jurisdiction to a subcommittee, the Chair may prescribe a date by which the subcommittee shall report thereon to the Committee.
(5) The Committee by motion may discharge a subcommittee from consideration of any measure or matter referred to a subcommittee of the Committee.

COMPOSITION OF SUBCOMMITTEES

(c) The size and ratio of each subcommittee shall be determined by the Committee and members shall be elected to each subcommittee, and to the positions of chair and ranking minority member thereof, in accordance with the rules of the respective party caucuses. The Chair of the full committee may designate a member of the majority party on each subcommittee as its vice chair.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS AND HEARINGS

(d)(1) Each subcommittee of the Committee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive testimony, mark up legislation, and report to the full Committee on any measure or matter referred to it.
(2) No subcommittee of the Committee may meet or hold a hearing at the same time as a meeting or hearing of the full Committee is being held.
(3) The chair of each subcommittee shall schedule meetings and hearings of the subcommittee only after consultation with the Chair.

QUORUM

(e)(1) For the purpose of taking testimony, two members of the subcommittee shall constitute a quorum.
(2) For all other purposes, a quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of a subcommittee.

EFFECT OF A VACANCY

(f) Any vacancy in the membership of a subcommittee shall not affect the power of the remaining members to execute the functions of the subcommittee.

RECORDS

(g) Each subcommittee of the Committee shall provide the full Committee with copies of such records of the committee and such other records with respect to the subcommittee necessary for the Committee to comply with all rules and regulations of the House.

RULE 6.—STAFF

IN GENERAL

(a)(1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), the professional and other staff of the Committee shall be appointed, by the Chair, to work under the general supervision and direction of the Chair.
(2) All professional, and other staff provided to the minority party members of the Committee shall be appointed, by the ranking minority member of the Committee, and shall work under the general supervision and direction of such member.
(3) The appointment of all professional staff shall be subject to the approval of the Committee as provided by, and subject to the provisions of, clause 9 of rule X of the Rules of the House.

ASSOCIATE STAFF

(b) Associate staff for members of the Committee may be appointed only at the discretion of the Chair in consultation with the ranking minority member regarding any minority party associate staff, after taking into account any staff ceilings and budgetary constraints in effect at the time, and any terms, limits, or conditions established by the Committee on House Administration under clause 9 of rule X of the Rules of the House.

SUBCOMMITTEE STAFF

(c) From funds made available for the appointment of staff, the Chair of the Committee shall, pursuant to clause 8(d) of rule X of the Rules of the House, ensure that sufficient staff is made available to each subcommittee to carry out its responsibilities under the rules of the Committee, and, after consultation with the ranking minority member of the Committee, that the minority party of the Committee is treated fairly in the appointment of such staff.

COMPENSATION OF STAFF

(d) The Chair shall fix the compensation of all professional and other staff of the Committee, after consultation with the ranking minority member regarding any minority party staff.

CERTIFICATION OF STAFF

(e)(1) To the extent any staff member of the Committee or any of its subcommittees does not work under the direct supervision and direction of the Chair, the member or any of its subcommittees who supervises or directs the staff member’s work shall file with the Chief of Staff of the Committee (not later than the tenth day of each month) a certification regarding the specific staff member’s work for that member for the preceding calendar month.
(2) The certification required by paragraph (1) shall be in such form as the Chair may prescribe, shall identify each staff member by name, and shall state that the work engaged in by the staff member and the duties assigned to the staff member for the member of the Committee with respect to the month in question met the requirements of clause 9 of rule X of the Rules of the House.
(3) Any certification of staff of the Committee, or any of its subcommittees, made by the Chair in compliance with any provision of law or regulation—
(A) on the basis of the certifications filed under paragraph (1) to the extent the staff is
not under the Chair’s supervision and direction, and
(B) on his own responsibility to the extent the staff is under the Chair’s direct supervision and direction.

RULE 7.—BUDGET, TRAVEL, PAY OF WITNESSES

BUDGET

(a) The Chair, in consultation with other members of the Committee, shall prepare for each Congress a budget providing amounts for staff, travel, investigation, and other expenses of the Committee and its subcommittees.

TRAVEL

(b)(1) The Chair may authorize travel for any member or staff member of the Committee in connection with activities or subject matters under the general jurisdiction of the Committee, before such authorization is granted, there shall be submitted to the Chair in writing the following:

(A) The purpose of the travel.
(B) The dates during which the travel is to occur.

(C) The names of the States or countries to be visited and the length of time to be spent in each.

(D) The names of members and staff of the Committee for whom the authorization is sought.

(2) Members and staff of the Committee shall make a written report to the Chair on any travel they have conducted under this subsection, including a description of their itinerary, expenses, and activities, and of pertinent information gained as a result of such travel.

PAY OF WITNESSES

(c) Witnesses may be paid from funds made available to the Committee in its expense resolution subject to the provisions of clause 5 of rule XI of the Rules of the House.

RULE 8.—COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATION

REPORTING

(a) Whenever the Committee authorizes the favorable reporting of a bill or resolution from the Committee:

(1) The Chair or acting Chair shall report it to the House or designate a member of the Committee to do so.

(2) In the case of a bill or resolution in which the Committee has original jurisdiction, it shall, to the extent that the anticipated floor schedule permits, any member of the Committee a reasonable amount of time to submit views for inclusion in the Committee report on the bill or resolution.

Any such report shall contain all matters required by the Rules of the House of Representatives (or by any provision of law enacted as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the House) and such other information as the Chair deems appropriate.

(b)(1) There shall be a transcript made of each regular meeting and hearing of the Committee, and the transcript may be printed if the Chair determines it is appropriate or if a majority of the members of the Committee requests such printing. Any such transcripts shall be a substantially verbatim account of remarks and actions during the proceedings, subject only to technical, grammatical, and typographical corrections authorized by the person making the remarks.

Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to require that all such transcripts be subject to correction and publication.

(2) The Committee shall keep a record of all actions of the Committee and of its subcommittees. The record shall contain all information required by clause 2(e)(1) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives and shall be available for public inspection at reasonable times in the offices of the Committee.

(3) All Committee hearings, records, data, charts, and files shall be kept separate and distinct from the congressional office records of the Chair, shall be the property of the House, and the House shall have access thereto as provided in clause 2(e)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the House.

(4) The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use in accordance with rule VII of the Rules of the House. The Chair shall notify the ranking minority member of any decision, pursuant to clause 3(b)(3) or clause 4(b) of the rule, to withhold a record otherwise available, and the matter shall be presented to the Committee for a determination on written request of any member of the Committee.

AUDIO AND VIDEO COVERAGE

(c) The Chair shall provide, to the maximum extent practicable:

(1) complete and unedited audio and video broadcasts of all committee hearings and meetings; and

(2) for distribution of such broadcasts and unedited recordings thereof to the public and for the storage of audio and video recordings of the proceedings. Proceedings shall be broadcast live on the Majority Committee’s website and recordings shall be made available on such website within one calendar day of the proceedings.

COMMITTEE PUBLICATIONS ON THE INTERNET

(d) To the maximum extent feasible, the Committee shall make its publications available in electronic form.

JOURNAL

(e)(1) The Committee shall maintain a Committee Journal, which shall include all matters referred to or reported by the Committee and all bills, resolutions, and other matters reported to or relating to which a rule of the House has been granted or formally requested, and such other matters as the Chair shall direct. The Journal shall be published periodically, but in no case less often than once in each session of Congress.

(2) A rule is considered as formally requested when the Chairman of a committee of primary jurisdiction which has reported a bill or resolution (or a member of such committee authorized to act on the Chairman’s behalf):

(A) has requested, in writing to the Chair, that a hearing be scheduled on a rule for the consideration of the bill or resolution; and

(B) has supplied the Committee with the bill or resolution, as reported, together with the final committee report thereon.

SURVEY OF ACTIVITIES REQUIREMENT

XI.—RULES OF THE COMMITTEE

(F) The Committee’s Survey of Activities, filed pursuant to clause 1(d) of rule XI of the Rules of the House, shall include a compilation of all known waivers of points of order previously disclosed in reports from the Committee on Rules pursuant to paragraph (a)(3) of this rule or included in the Congressional Record.

OTHER PROCEDURES

(g) The Chair may establish such other Committee procedures and take such actions as may be necessary to carry out these rules or to facilitate the effective operation of the Committee and its subcommittees in a manner consistent with these rules.

RULE 9.—AMENDMENTS TO COMMITTEE RULES

(a) The rules of the Committee may be modified, amended or repealed, in the same manner and method as prescribed for the adoption of committee rules in clause 2 of rule XI of the Rules of the House. Any written notice of the proposed change has been provided to each Member at least 48 hours before the time of the meeting at which the vote on the change occurs. Any such change in the rules of the Committee shall be published in the Congressional Record within 30 calendar days after their approval.

PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE RULES

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON ETHICS FOR THE 117TH CONGRESS

HON. NANCY PELOSI

Speaker of the House of Representatives,

The Capitol, Washington, DC.

MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to clause 2 of Rule XI, I submit to the House the Rules of the Committee on Ethics filed pursuant to clause 1(d) of rule XI of the Rules of the House for publication in the Congressional Record.

Sincerely,

THOBER E. DEUTCH,
Chairman.

(Adopted February 25, 2021)

FOREWORD

The Committee on Ethics is unique in the House of Representatives. It is the only standing committee with the duty to carry out its advisory and enforcement responsibilities in an impartial manner, the Committee is the only standing committee of the House of Representatives with the membership of which is divided evenly by party. These rules are intended to provide a fair procedural framework for the conduct of the Committee’s activities and to help ensure that the Committee serves well the people of the United States, the House of Representatives, and the Members, officers, and employees of the House of Representatives.

PART I—GENERAL COMMITTEE RULES

RULE I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

(a) So far as applicable, these rules and the Rules of the House of Representatives shall be the rules of the Committee and any subcommittee thereof. The Committee may adopt these rules under the authority of clause 2(a)(1) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, 117th Congress.

(b) The rules of the Committee may be modified, amended, or repealed, by a vote of a majority of the Committee.

(c) The Committee may adopt any procedures, not inconsistent with these rules, deemed necessary to resolve a particular matter before it. Copies of such special procedures shall be furnished to all parties in the matter.

(d) The Chair and Ranking Minority Member shall have access to such information that they request as necessary to conduct Committee business.

RULE 2. DEFINITIONS

(a) “Committee” means the Committee on Ethics.

(b) “Complaint” means a written allegation of improper conduct against a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives filed with the Committee with the intent to initiate an inquiry.
(c) “Inquiry” means an investigation by an investigative subcommittee into allegations against a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives.

(d) “Investigate,” “Investigating,” and/or “Investigative” mean review of the conduct of a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives that is conducted or authorized by the Committee, an investigatory subcommittee, or the Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee.

(e) “Board” means the Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics.

(f) “Referral” means a report sent to the Committee from the Board pursuant to House Rule XXVIII that contains specific allegations of a violation of the Code of Official Conduct, or of a law, rule, regulation, or other standard of conduct applicable to the House of Representatives, or to each of the Committees of the House of Representatives, as submitted by the Office of Congressional Ethics.

(g) “Investigative Subcommittee” means a subcommittee designated pursuant to Rule 19(a) to conduct an inquiry to determine if a Statement of Alleged Violation should be issued.

(h) “Statement of Alleged Violation” means any written document filed by an investigative subcommittee with the Committee containing specific allegations against a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives of a violation of the Code of Official Conduct, or of a law, rule, regulation, or other standard of conduct applicable to the performance of official duties or the discharge of official responsibilities.

(i) “Adjudicatory Subcommittee” means a subcommittee designated pursuant to Rule 22(a)(1) to conduct an inquiry to determine if a Statement of Alleged Violation should be issued.

(j) “Advisory” means any report on a request for advice or submitted travel forms, any response to such a request, except as authorized by the Committee.

(k) “Advisement” means any request for advice from a Member, officer, or employee who has submitted a written request for advice regarding prospective conduct may not be used as the basis for initiating an investigation under clause 3(a)(2) or clause 3(b) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, if such Member, officer, or employee is in good faith in accordance with the written advice of the Committee.

(l) “Board” means the Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics.

(m) “Referral” means a report sent to the Committee from the Board pursuant to House Rule XXVIII that contains specific allegations of a violation of the Code of Official Conduct, or of a law, rule, regulation, or other standard of conduct applicable to the performance of official duties or the discharge of official responsibilities.

(n) “Investigative Subcommittee” means a subcommittee designated pursuant to Rule 19(a) to conduct an inquiry to determine if a Statement of Alleged Violation should be issued.

(o) “Statement of Alleged Violation” means any written document filed by an investigative subcommittee with the Committee containing specific allegations against a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives of a violation of the Code of Official Conduct, or of a law, rule, regulation, or other standard of conduct applicable to the performance of official duties or the discharge of official responsibilities.

(p) “Adjudicatory Subcommittee” means a subcommittee designated pursuant to Rule 22(a) to conduct an inquiry to determine if a Statement of Alleged Violation should be issued.

(q) “Advisory” means any report on a request for advice or submitted travel forms, any response to such a request, except as authorized by the Committee.

(r) “Advisement” means any request for advice from a Member, officer, or employee who has submitted a written request for advice regarding prospective conduct may not be used as the basis for initiating an investigation under clause 3(a)(2) or clause 3(b) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, if such Member, officer, or employee is in good faith in accordance with the written advice of the Committee.
(1) the date such report is required to be filed, or
(2) if a filing extension is granted to such individual, the last day of the filing extension period, is required by such Act to pay a late filing fee of $200. The Chair and Ranking Minority Member are authorized to approve requests that the fee be waived based on extenuating circumstances.

(g) Any late report that is submitted without a required filing fee shall be deemed procedurally deficient and not properly filed.

(h) The Chair and Ranking Minority Member are authorized to approve requests for waivers of the aggregation and reporting of gifts and contributions in 102(a)(3) of the Ethics in Government Act. If such a request is approved, both the incoming request and the Committee response shall be forwarded to the Legislative Resource Center for placement on the public record.

(i) The Chair and Ranking Minority Member are authorized to approve blind trusts as qualifying under section 102(c)(3) of the Ethics in Government Act. The correspondence relating to formal approval of a blind trust, the trust document, the list of assets transferred to the trust, and any other documents required by law to be made public, shall be forwarded to the Legislative Resource Center for such purpose.

(j) The Committee shall designate staff who shall review reports required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act and, based upon information contained therein, prepare a form and make a determination, as described by the Committee whether the Statement appears substantially accurate and complete and the filer appears to be in compliance with applicable laws and rules.

(k) Each report required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act shall be reviewed within 90 days after the date of filing.

(l) If the reviewing staff believes that additional information is required because (1) the report required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act appears not substantially accurate or complete, or (2) the filer may not be in compliance with applicable laws or rules, then the reporting individual shall be notified in writing of the additional information believed to be required, or of the law or rule with which the reporting individual appears to be noncompliant. Such notice shall also state the time within which a response is to be submitted. Any such notice shall remain confidential.

(m) If the report is not as specified, including any extension granted in accordance with clause (d), a reporting individual who concurs with the Committee’s notification that the report required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act is not complete, or that other action is required, shall submit the necessary information or take appropriate remedial action.

(n) Any amendment shall be placed on the public record in the same manner as other reports required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act. The individual designated by the Committee to review the original report required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act shall review any amendment thereto.

(o) Within the time specified, including any extension granted in accordance with clause (d), a reporting individual who does not agree with the Committee that the report required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act is deficient or that other action is required, shall be provided an opportunity to respond orally or in writing. If the explanation is accepted, a copy of the response, if written, or a note summarizing an oral response, shall be retained in Committee files with the original report.

(p) The Committee shall be the final arbiter of whether any report required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act requires clarification or amendment.

(q) If the Committee determines, by vote of a majority of its members, that there is reason to believe that an individual has willfully failed to file a report required to be filed under Title I of the Ethics in Government Act or has willfully falsified or willfully failed to file information required to be reported, then the Committee shall refer the matter to staff for investigation with the evidence supporting its finding, to the Attorney General pursuant to section 104(b) of the Ethics in Government Act. Such referral shall not preclude the Committee from initiating such other action as may be authorized by other provisions of law or the Rules of the House of Representatives.

RULE 5. MEETINGS

(a) The regular meeting day of the Committee shall be the second Tuesday of each month, except when the House of Representatives is not meeting on that day.

(b) The Committee shall establish the agenda for meetings of the Committee, and the Ranking Minority Member may make additional items on the agenda.

(c) All meetings of the Committee or any subcommittee shall occur in executive session unless the Committee, by an affirmative vote of a majority of its members, opens the meeting to the public.

(d) Any hearing held by an adjudicatory subcommittee or hearing held by the Committee, shall be open to the public unless the Committee or subcommittee, by an affirmative vote of a majority of its members, closes the hearing to the public.

(e) A subcommittee shall meet at the discretion of its Chairman.

(f) Insofar as practicable, notice for any Committee or subcommittee meeting shall be provided at least seven days in advance of the meeting. The Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee may waive such time period for good cause.

RULE 6. COMMITTEE STAFF

(a) The staff is to be assembled and retained as a professional, nonpartisan staff.

(b) Each member of the staff shall be professional and demonstrably qualified for the position for which the individual is hired.

(c) The staff as a whole and each individual member of the staff shall perform all official duties in a nonpartisan manner.

(d) No member of the staff shall engage in any partisan political activity directly affecting any congressional or presidential election.

(e) No member of the staff or outside counsel may accept public speaking engagements or write, for publication on any subject that is in any way related to the employment or duties with the Committee of such individual without specific prior approval from the Chair and Ranking Minority Member.

(f) All staff members shall be appointed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee. Such vote shall not be taken by a majority of the Committee of the Committee during each Congress and as necessary during the Congress.

(g) Subject to the approval of the Chair and Ranking Minority Member, the Committee may retain counsel not employed by the House of Representatives whenever the Committee determines, by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee, that the retention of outside counsel is necessary and appropriate.

(h) The Committee may retain counsel not employed by the House of Representatives whenever the Committee determines, by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee, that it is necessary to retain staff members for the purpose of a particular investigation or other proceeding, then such staff shall be retained in accordance with the particular investigation or proceeding.

(i) Outside counsel may be dismissed prior to the end of a contract between the Committee and counsel not employed by the House of Representatives, if the Committee determines, by vote of a majority of the members of the Committee.

(j) In addition to any other staff provided for by law, rule, or other authority, with respect to each Committee, the Chair and Ranking Minority Member each may appoint one individual as a shared staff member from the respective personal staff of the Chair or Ranking Minority Member to perform services for the Committee. Such shared staff may assist the Chair or Ranking Minority Member on any subcommittee on which the Chair or Ranking Minority Member serves.

Only paragraphs (c) and (e) of this Rule and Rule 7(b) shall apply to shared staff.

RULE 7. CONFIDENTIALITY

(a) Before any Member or employee of the Committee, including any investigatory subcommittee selected under clause 5(a)(4) of Rule X of the House of Representatives and shared staff designated pursuant to Rules 7(c) and 13(c) of this Rule, may disclose any information that is confidential under the rules of the Committee, the following oath (or affirmation) shall be executed in writing: “I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will not disclose, to any person or entity outside the Committee on Ethics, any information received in the course of my service with the Committee, except as authorized by the Committee or in accordance with its rules.”

Copies of the executed oath shall be provided to the Clerk of the House as part of the records of the House. Breaches of confidentiality shall be investigated by the Committee and appropriate action shall be taken.

(b) No member of the staff or outside counsel may make public, unless approved by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee, any information received in the course of my service with the Committee, except as authorized by the Committee or in accordance with its rules.

(c) No committee members and staff shall not disclose, to any person or entity outside the Committee on Ethics, any information received in the course of my service with the Committee, except as authorized by the Committee or in accordance with its rules.

(d) This rule shall not prohibit the Chair or Ranking Minority Member from disclosing to the Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics the existence of a Committee investigation, the name of the Member, officer, or employee of the House involved in that investigation, and a brief statement of the scope of that investigation in a written request for referral pursuant to Rule 17A(k). Such disclosures will only be made subject to written confirmation from the Board that the information provided by the Chair or Ranking Minority Member will be kept confidential by the Board.

(e) A Statement of Alleged Violation and any written response thereto shall be made public at the first meeting or hearing on the matter, except that if the person against whom the respondent has been given full opportunity to respond pursuant to Rule 22. Any other materials in the possession of the Committee or otherwise in the public as authorized by the Committee to the extent consistent with the Rules of the
House of Representatives. If no public hearing is held on the matter, the Statement of Alleged Violation and any written response thereto shall be included in the Committee's final report on the matter to the House of Representatives.

(f) Unless otherwise determined by a vote of the Committee, only the Chair or Ranking Minority Member of the Committee in writing consultation with each other, may make public statements regarding matters before the Committee or any subcommittee.

g) The Committee may establish procedures necessary to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of any testimony or other information received by the Committee or its staff.

RULE 8. SUBCOMMITTEES—GENERAL POLICY AND STRUCTURE

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules, the Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee may consult with an investigative subcommittee either on their own initiative or on the initiative of the subcommittee, shall have access to evidence and information before a subcommittee with whom they so consult, and shall not thereby be precluded from serving as full, voting members of any adjudicatory subcommittee or the Committee. The Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee may refer any bill, resolution, or other matter to an appropriate subcommittee for consideration. Any such bill, resolution, or other matter may be submitted subsequently to an appropriate subcommittee for consideration. Any such bill, resolution, or other matter may be discharged from the subcommittee to which it was referred by a majority vote of the Committee.

(b) Any member of the Committee may sit with any noninvestigative and nonadjudicatory subcommittee and may assign to them such functions as it may deem appropriate. The membership of such committee shall provide equal representation for the majority and minority parties.

(c) The Chair may refer any bill, resolution, or other matter before the Committee to an appropriate subcommittee for consideration. Any such bill, resolution, or other matter may be discharged from the subcommittee to which it was referred by a majority vote of the Committee.

(d) Any member of the Committee may sit with any noninvestigative and nonadjudicatory subcommittee and any member of the Committee, or the subcommittee, shall have access to evidence, or conduct business shall consist of a majority plus one of the members of the adjudicatory subcommittee.

(e) Except as stated in clauses (a) and (b) of this rule, a quorum for the purpose of conducting business consists of a majority of the members of the Committee or subcommittee.

(f) A member of the Committee shall be ineligible to participate in any Committee or subcommittee proceeding in which such Member is a respondent.

(g) A hearing in an investigative subcommittee may be closed to the public.

(h) A hearing in an investigative subcommittee may be closed to the public by a vote of a majority of the members of the Committee or subcommittee.

RULE 9. QUORUMS AND MEMBER DISQUALIFICATION

(a) The quorum for the Committee or an investigative subcommittee to take testimony and to receive evidence shall be two members, unless otherwise authorized by the House of Representatives.

(b) The quorum for an adjudicatory subcommittee to take testimony, receive evidence, or conduct business shall consist of a majority plus one of the members of the adjudicatory subcommittee.

(c) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(d) Television cameras shall not be placed in the chamber so as to obstruct or interfere with the visibility of that witness and that member to any witness giving evidence or testimony.

(e) Television cameras shall be placed so as to not obstruct in any way the space between any witness giving evidence or testimony and any member of the Committee, or the visibility of that witness and that member to each other.

(f) Television cameras shall not be placed in positions that unnecessarily obstruct the coverage of the hearing or meeting by the other media.

RULE 11. COMMITTEE RECORDS

(a) All communications and all pleadings pursuant to these rules shall be filed with the Committee's office or any other office as designated by the Committee.

(b) All records of the Committee which have been delivered to the Archivist of the United States shall be made available to the public in accordance with Rule VII of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

RULE 12. BROADCASTS OF COMMITTEE AND SUBCOMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

(a) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(b) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(c) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(d) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(e) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(f) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(g) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(h) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(i) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(j) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(k) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(l) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(m) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(n) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(o) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(p) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(q) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(r) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(s) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(t) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(u) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(v) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(w) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(x) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(y) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

(z) Television or radio coverage of a Committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting shall be without commercial sponsorship.

{...remainder of text...}
regulatory authorities, or when the Committee determines that it is appropriate for the conduct alleged in the complaint to be reviewed initially by law enforcement or regulatory authorities, or when the Chair and Ranking Minority Member jointly determine that information submitted to the Committee meets the requirements of the Rules of the House of Representatives and the Committee’s Rules.

(b) Whenever information offered as a complaint is submitted to the Committee, the Chair and Ranking Minority Member shall have 14 calendar days or 5 legislative days, whichever occurs first, to determine whether the information meets the requirements of the Committee’s rules for what constitutes a complaint.

(a) Whenever information offered as a complaint is submitted to the Committee, the Chair and Ranking Minority Member shall have 14 calendar days or 5 legislative days, whichever occurs first, to determine whether the information meets the requirements of the Committee’s rules for what constitutes a complaint.

(b) Whenever the Chair and Ranking Minority Member jointly determine that information submitted to the Committee does not meet the requirements for what constitutes a complaint set forth in the Committee’s rules, they may (1) return the information to the complainant with a statement that it fails to meet the requirements for what constitutes a complaint set forth in the Committee’s rules; or (2) recommend to the Committee that it authorize the establishment of an investigative subcommittee.

Rule 16. Duties of Committee Chair and Ranking Minority Member

(a) If a complaint is in compliance with House and Committee Rules, a copy of the complaint and the Committee Rules shall be forwarded to the respondent(s) within 5 days with notice that the complaint conforms to the applicable rules.

(b) A respondent may, within 30 days of the Committee’s notification in clause (a), provide to the Committee any information relevant to a complaint filed with the Committee. The respondent may submit a written statement concerning the complaint. Such a statement shall be signed by the respondent. If the statement is prepared by counsel for the respondent, the respondent shall sign the statement if the respondent has reviewed the response and agrees with the factual assertions contained therein.

(c) The Committee staff may request information from a respondent or obtain additional information relevant to the case from sources prior to the establishment of an investigatory subcommittee directed by the Chair and Ranking Minority Member.

(d) The respondent(s) shall be notified in writing regarding the Chair and Ranking Minority Member’s determination under Rule 16(e) or the Committee’s decision either to dismiss the complaint or to create an investigative subcommittee.

Rule 17A. Referrals from the Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics

(a) The Committee has exclusive jurisdiction over the interpretation, administration, and application of the Federal, State, or local election in which the Member, officer, or employee of the House engaged.

(b) Whenever the Committee receives either (A) a referral containing a written report and any findings and supporting documentation from the Board; or (B) a referral containing a written report and request under Rule 17A(k), the Chair shall have 45 calendar days or 5 legislative days after the date the referral is received, whichever is later, to transmit a copy of the referral and any findings and supporting documentation to the Member, officer, or employee of the House who is the subject of the referral.

(c) If the referral of the Board is made public under an investigatory subcommittee, then an investigative subcommittee may be established only by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee.

(d) If the Board transmits a report with a recommendation to dismiss or noting a matter as unresolved due to a tie vote, and the matter is extended for an additional period as provided in paragraph (b), the Committee is not required to make a public statement that the matter has been extended pursuant to paragraph (b)(1).

(e) If the Committee votes to dismiss a matter referred from the Board, the Committee is not required to make public the written report and findings of the Board pursuant to paragraph (b), except that if the Committee’s vote is inconsistent with the recommendation of the Board, a vote by the Committee to dismiss a matter is not considered inconsistent with the recommendation of the Board that the matter is unresolved by the Board due to a tie vote.

(f) Except as provided by any paragraph (g): (1) If the Committee establishes an investigatory subcommittee respecting any matter referred by the Board, then the report and findings of the Board shall not be made public until the conclusion of the investigatory subcommittee process. The Committee shall issue a public statement noting the establishment of an investigatory subcommittee, which shall include the name of the Member, officer, or employee who is the subject of the inquiry, and shall set forth the alleged violation.

(g) If the vote of the Committee is a tie or the Committee fails to act by the close of any applicable period(s) under this rule, the report and the findings of the Board shall be made public by the Committee, along with a public statement by the Chair explaining the status of the matter.

(h) If the Committee agrees to a request from an appropriate law enforcement or regulatory authority to defer taking action on a matter referred by the Board under paragraph (g), the Committee is not required to make public the written report and findings of the Board pursuant to paragraph (c), except that if the recommendation of the Board is that the matter requires further review, the Committee shall make public the written report of the Board but not the findings; and

(i) The Committee shall make a public statement that it is deferring taking action on the matter at the request of such law enforcement or regulatory authority within the applicable period (excluding any legislative day(s) or weekend(s)) of the day that the Committee agrees to the request.

(j) If the Committee has not acted on the matter referred by the Board as provided in paragraph (h) by the end of the 60th day after referral, the Committee shall make a public statement describing the Board’s report to the individual who is the subject of the referral.

(k) All public statements and reports and findings of the Board that are required to be made public under this rule shall be posted on the Committee’s website.

If the OCE report and findings are withheld for an additional 45-day period pursuant to paragraph (b)(1), the Chair shall—(1) make a public statement on the day of such decision or vote that the matter referred by the Board is being extended; and

(2) make public the written report and findings pursuant to paragraph (b) upon the termination of such additional period.

(l) If the Board transmits a report with a recommendation to dismiss or noting a matter as unresolved due to a tie vote, and the matter is extended for an additional period as provided in paragraph (b), the Committee is not required to make a public statement that the matter has been extended pursuant to paragraph (b)(1).

(m) If the Committee votes to dismiss a matter referred from the Board, the Committee is not required to make public the written report and findings of the Board pursuant to paragraph (b), except that if the Committee’s vote is inconsistent with the recommendation of the Board, a vote by the Committee to dismiss a matter is not considered inconsistent with the recommendation of the Board that the matter is unresolved by the Board due to a tie vote.

(1) Except as provided by any paragraph (g): (1) If the Committee establishes an investigatory subcommittee respecting any matter referred by the Board, then the report and findings of the Board shall not be made public until the conclusion of the investigatory subcommittee process. The Committee shall issue a public statement noting the establishment of an investigatory subcommittee, which shall include the name of the Member, officer, or employee who is the subject of the inquiry, and shall set forth the alleged violation.

(2) If the Committee has not acted on the matter referred by the Board under paragraph (g), the Committee is not required to make public the written report and findings of the Board pursuant to paragraph (c), except that if the recommendation of the Board is that the matter requires further review, the Committee shall make public the written report of the Board but not the findings; and

(3) The Committee shall make a public statement that it is deferring taking action on the matter at the request of such law enforcement or regulatory authority within the applicable period (excluding any legislative day(s) or weekend(s)) of the day that the Committee agrees to the request.

(4) If the Committee has not acted on the matter referred by the Board as provided in paragraph (h) by the end of the 60th day after referral, the Committee shall make a public statement describing the Board’s report to the individual who is the subject of the referral.

(5) All public statements and reports and findings of the Board that are required to be made public under this rule shall be posted on the Committee’s website.
statement that it continues to defer taking action on the matter. The Committee shall make a new statement upon the expiration of each succeeding one-year period during which the Committee has not acted on the matter.

(i) The Committee shall not accept, and shall return to the Board, any referral from the Board if the matter referred to the Board is not a matter that falls within that 60-day period until after the date of the election in which the subject of the referral is a candidate.

(j) The Committee may postpone any referral under this rule if, in its discretion, the Board is unable to resolve the matter previously referred to the Committee if the Board is undertaking a review of alleged conduct of a law, rule, regulation, or other standard of conduct applicable to the performance of a law, rule, regulation, or other standard of conduct applicable to the performance of conduct or any law, rule, regulation, or other standard of conduct applicable to the performance of any felony conviction of a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives in a Federal, State, or local court who has been convicted. Notwithstanding this provi-

section (a) of this Rule.

proceed in accordance with Rule 19.

The Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee shall designate four members (with equal representation from the majority and minority parties) to serve as an investigative subcommittee. The rules of the subcommittee shall be as follows:

Any inquiry undertaken by an investigative subcommittee shall be conducted in executive session and all evidence or testimony produced pursuant to subpoena or otherwise shall be deemed to have been taken or produced in executive session.

Any party who is a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives, including any appointed or elected official, shall be present in order to give evidence.

The oath or affirmation required of a witness shall be in writing and shall be administered by the Chair or by the Clerk, as the case may be. The Chair or the Clerk may administer the oath or affirmation orally if the oath or affirmation is administered under oath or affirmation and that documents be certified as to their authenticity and accuracy.

The subcommittee, by a majority vote of its members, may revoke, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of books, papers, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers, documents, and other items as it deems necessary to the conduct of the inquiry. Unless the Committee otherwise provides, the subpoena power shall rest in the Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee and a subpoena shall be issued upon the request of the investigative subcommittee.

Required testimony shall be given under oath or affirmation. The form of the oath or affirmation shall be as follows: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that the testimony you will give before this subcommittee in the matter now under consideration shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth (so help you God)?" The oath or affirmation shall be administered by the Chair to any individual designated by the Chair to administer oaths.

During the inquiry, the procedure respecting the admissibility of evidence and rulings shall be as follows:

(a) No evidence shall be admissible unless the evidence is privileged under the precedents of the House of Representatives.

(b) The Chair of the subcommittee or other presiding member at any investigative subcommittee proceeding shall rule upon any question of admissibility or relevance of evidence, motion, procedure, or any other matter, and may direct any witness to answer any question under penalty of contempt. A witness, witness counsel, or a member of the subcommittee may appeal any rulings to the full Committee; the decision of a majority vote of the members present at the appeal shall govern the question of admissibility, and no appeal shall lie to the Committee.

Whenever a person is determined by a majority vote to be in contempt of the subcommittee, the matter may be referred to the Committee to determine whether to refer the matter to the House of Representatives for consideration.

Committee counsel may, subject to subcommittee approval, enter into stipulations with a respondent and/or the respondent's counsel as to facts that are not in dispute. Upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the subcommittee members, and an affirmative vote of a majority of the full Committee an investigatory subcommittee may expand the scope of its inquiry.

Upon completion of the inquiry, the staff shall draft for the investigative subcommittee a comprehensive summary of the information received regarding the alleged violations.

An affirmative vote of a majority of the subcommittee members, and an affirmative vote of a majority of the full Committee, may adopt a Statement of Alleged Violation if it determines that the subcommittee has evidence of a violation of the Code of Official Conduct, or of a law, rule, regulation, or other standard of conduct applicable to the performance of duties or the discharge of the responsibilities of a Member, officer, or employee of the House of Representatives has
occurred. If more than one violation is alleged, such Statement shall be divided into separate counts. Each count shall relate to a separate violation, shall contain a plain and concise statement of the alleged facts of such violation, and shall include a reference to the provision of the Code of Official Conduct or law, rule, regulation, or other applicable law, rule, regulation, or standard of conduct, or on the grounds that the Committee lacks jurisdiction to consider the allegations contained in the Statement. Such objection shall be in writing and under oath, signed by respondent and respondent’s counsel. Failure to file an answer within 10 days after the subcommittee has replied to such motion, the respondent may file a Motion to Dismiss within 10 days of the date of transmittal of the Statement of Alleged Violation or, if a Motion for a Bill of Particulars has been filed, within 10 days of the date of the subcommittee’s reply to the Motion for a Bill of Particulars. If a Motion to Dismiss is filed, the respondent shall not be required to file an answer until 20 days after the subcommittee has replied to such motion. An answer may contain negative, affirmative, or alternative defenses and any supporting evidence or other relevant information.

RULE 21. COMMITTEE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

(a) Whenever an investigative subcommittee adopts a Statement of Alleged Violation but recommends that no further action be taken, it shall transmit a report to the Committee. A report shall contain a summary of the information received in the inquiry, its conclusions and reasons therefore, and any appropriate recommendations.

(b) An investigative subcommittee may transmit a single report regarding multiple respondents, but shall adopt a separate Statement of Alleged Violation for each respondent where applicable.

RULE 22. RESPONDENT’S ANSWER

(1) In the event of any failure of a majority of its members, amend its Statement of Alleged Violation any time before the Statement of Alleged Violation is transmitted to the Committee.

(b) Whenever an investigative subcommittee amends its Statement of Alleged Violation, the respondent is notified in writing and shall have 30 calendar days from the date of that notification to file an answer to the amended Statement of Alleged Violation.

RULE 23. ADJUDICATORY HEARINGS

(a) A respondent who fails to state facts that constitute any part thereof should be closed.

(b) The procedures set forth in clause 2(g)(1)–(4), (6)–(7) and (k) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives shall not apply to adjudicatory hearings. All such hearings shall be open to the public unless the adjudicatory subcommittee, pursuant to such clause, determines that the hearings or any part thereof should be closed.

(c) The adjudicatory subcommittee shall hold a hearing to determine whether any counts in the Statement of Alleged Violation have been proved, and shall make findings of fact, except where such violations have been admitted by respondent.

(d) The adjudicatory subcommittee may, by subpoena or otherwise, provide for the attendance of any witnesses or documents, and shall be provided the names of such witnesses committee counsel intends to call, along with a summary of their expected testimony, and a copy of any written statements taken under any investigatory proceeding.

(e) The procedures set forth in clause 2(g)(1)–(4), (6)–(7) and (k) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives shall apply to adjudicatory hearings. All such hearings shall be open to the public unless the adjudicatory subcommittee, pursuant to such clause, determines that the hearings or any part thereof should be closed.

(f) The adjudicatory subcommittee shall, in writing, notify the respondent that the respondent and respondent’s counsel have the right to inspect, review, and copy, at their own expense, books, papers, documents, photographs, or other tangible objects that committee counsel intends to use as evidence against the respondent in an adjudicatory hearing. Such evidence and such hearings shall be open to the public unless the adjudicatory subcommittee, pursuant to such clause, determines that the hearings or any part thereof should be closed.

(g) The procedures set forth in clause 2(g)(1)–(4), (6)–(7) and (k) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives shall not apply to adjudicatory hearings. All such hearings shall be open to the public unless the adjudicatory subcommittee, pursuant to such clause, determines that the hearings or any part thereof should be closed.
shall make available to the respondent any statement of the witness in the possession of the Committee which relates to the subject matter as to which the witness has testified.

(3) Any documentary evidence in the possession of the respondent shall, upon request, be made available to the respondent.

(4) No less than 5 days prior to the hearing, the respondent or counsel shall provide the adjudicatory subcommittee with the names of witnesses expected to be called, summaries of their expected testimony, and copies of any documents or other evidence proposed to be introduced.

(b) The respondent or counsel may apply to the subcommittee for the issuance of subpoenas for the appearance of witnesses or for the production of evidence. The application shall be granted upon a showing by the respondent that the proposed testimony or evidence is relevant and not otherwise available to the respondent. The application may be denied if not made at a reasonable time or if the testimony or evidence would be merely cumulative.

(1) No later than two weeks or 5 legislative days after the Chair of the Committee designates members to serve on an adjudicatory subcommittee, the Chair or the adjudicatory subcommittee shall establish a schedule and procedure for the hearing and for prehearing matters. The procedures may be established by the Chair or the adjudicatory subcommittee or by a majority vote of the members of the subcommittee. If the Chair makes prehearing rulings upon any question of admissibility or relevance of evidence, motion, procedure, or any other matter, the Chair shall make available those rulings to all subcommittee members at the time of the ruling.

(i) Any relevant evidence shall be admissible unless the evidence is privileged under the precedents of the House of Representatives.

(2) The Chair of the subcommittee or other presiding member at an adjudicatory subcommittee hearing shall rule upon any question of admissibility, relevancy, or weight of evidence, motion, procedure, or any other matter, and may direct any witness to answer any question of the committee. A witness, witness counsel, or a member of the subcommittee may appeal any ruling to the members present at that proceeding. A majority of members present at that proceeding on such an appeal shall govern the question of admissibility and no appeal shall lie to the Chair.

(3) Whenever a witness is deemed by a Chair or other presiding member to be in contempt of the subcommittee, the matter may be referred to the Committee to determine the matter. If the Committee does not vote in favor of the contempt of the House of Representatives for consideration.

(4) Committee counsel may, subject to subcommittee agreement into stipulations with the respondent and/or the respondent’s counsel as to facts that are not in dispute.

(k) Unless otherwise provided, the order of an adjudicatory hearing shall be as follows:

(i) The Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the subcommittee shall open the hearing with equal time and during which time, the Chair shall explain the adjudicatory subcommittee’s authority to conduct the hearing and the purpose of the hearing.

(3) The findings of the adjudicatory subcommittee shall be reported to the Committee.

RULE 2. SANCTION HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF SANCTIONS OR OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

(a) If no count in a Statement of Alleged Violation is proved, the Committee shall then recommend appropriate recommendations, based on the report of the adjudicatory subcommittee.
RULE 29. RIGHTS OF RESPONDENTS AND WITNESSES

(a) A respondent shall be informed of the right to be represented by counsel, to be provided at the respondent's own expense.

(b) A respondent may seek to waive any procedural rights or steps in the disciplinary process. A request for waiver must be in writing, signed by the respondent, and must detail the reasons that the respondent seeks to waive. Any such request shall be subject to the acceptance of the Committee or subcommittee as appropriate.

(c) Not less than 10 calendar days before a scheduled vote by an investigative subcommittee on a Statement of Alleged Violation, the respondent shall provide the subcommittee with a copy of the Statement of Alleged Violation it intends to adopt, together with all evidence it intends to use to prove those charges which it intends to adopt, including documentary evidence, witness testimony, memoranda of witness interviews, and physical evidence, unless the subcommittee by an affirmative vote of a majority of its members decides to withhold certain evidence in order to protect a witness, but if such evidence is withheld, the subcommittee shall inform the respondent that evidence is being withheld and of the count to which such evidence relates.

(d) Neither the respondent nor respondent's counsel shall, directly or indirectly, contact the subcommittee or any member thereof during the period of time set forth in paragraph (c) for the sole purpose of settlement discussions where counsel for the respondent and the subcommittee are present.

(e) If at any time after the issuance of a Statement of Alleged Violation, the Committee or any subcommittee thereof determines that it intends to use evidence not provided to a respondent under paragraph (c) to prove the charges contained in the Statement of Alleged Violation (or any amendment thereof), such evidence shall be made immediately available to the respondent, and it may be used in any further proceeding under the Committee's rules.

(f) Evidence provided pursuant to paragraph (e) shall be made available to the respondent and respondent's counsel only after each agrees, in writing, that no document, information, or other materials obtained pursuant to that paragraph shall be made public until—

(1) such time as a Statement of Alleged Violation is made public by the Committee if the respondent has waived the adjudicatory hearing; or

(2) the commencement of an adjudicatory hearing; provided that the respondent has not waived the adjudicatory hearing; but the failure of respondent and respondent's counsel to so agree in writing, and therefore not receive the evidence, shall not prejudice the issuance of a Statement of Alleged Violation at the end of the period referenced in (c).

(g) If the Committee issues a report with respect to a claim referred to the Committee by the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights pursuant to Section 416(e) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995, the Committee shall ensure that the report does not directly disclose the identity or position of the individual who filed the claim.

(h) A respondent shall receive written notice whenever—

(1) the Chair and Ranking Minority Member determine that information the Committee has received constitutes a complaint; and

(2) a complaint or allegation is transmitted to an investigative subcommittee;

(3) such information, evidence, or documents is obtained pursuant to that paragraph shall be made available to the respondent with respect to the allegations or charges before an investigatory or adjudicatory subcommittee;

(4) the Committee or any investigative subcommittee determines to take into evidence the trial transcript or exhibits admitted into evidence at a criminal trial pursuant to Rule 18(e)(3).

RULE 29.8. FRIVOLOUS FILINGS

If a complaint or information offered as a complaint is deemed frivolous by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee, the Committee may take such action as it, by an affirmative vote of a majority deems appropriate in the circumstances.

RULE 29.9. REFERRALS TO FEDERAL OR STATE AUTHORITIES

Referrals made under clause 3(a)(3) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives may be made by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 5(a)(1)(B) of House Resolution 8, the House stands adjourned until 11 a.m. tomorrow for morning hour debate and noon for legislative business.

Thereupon, at 9 o'clock and 48 minutes p.m., under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, March 9, 2021, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate and noon for legislative business.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 1491, the PAYGO Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 1085, the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 1491, the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act for Servicemembers Act, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated at zero.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV.

EC-543. A letter from the President of the United States, transmitting notification that the national emergency with respect to Iran, that was declared in Executive Order 12957 of March 15, 1995, is to continue in effect beyond March 15, 2021, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1622(d); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 202(d); (90 Stat. 1257) (H. Doc. No. 117–23), was taken from the Speaker's table, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.
REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. DIJANUER: Committee on Rules.
House Resolution 188. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 863) to amend the National Labor Relations Act, the Labor Management Relations Act, 1947, and the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959, for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 8) to require a background check for every firearm sale, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1446) to transfer a firearm to a person who is not allowed before a Federal firearms licensee may transfer a firearm to a person who is not such a licensee; and for other purposes. Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. McHenry (for himself, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. BUD, and Mr. DAVIDSON):
H.R. 1602. A bill to direct the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission to jointly establish a digital asset working group, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

By Mr. BACON:
H.R. 1605. A bill to increase access to agricultural labor and services, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. LOFGREN (for herself and Mr. NEwHOUSE):
H.R. 1603. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for terms and conditions for nonimmigrant workers performing agricultural labor or services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Education and Labor, 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. BACON:
H.R. 1604. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to combat straw purchases of firearms; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BACON (for himself, Mr. Good of Virginia, Mr. Hice of Georgia, and Mr. Luetkemeyer):
H.R. 1605. A bill to increase access to agency guidance documents; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. TAYLOR (for himself, Mr. Morello, and Ms. Moore of Wisconsin):
H.R. 1606. A bill to amend the Child Abuse and Prevention Act to require a study and report on marital age of consent; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. ALLRED (for himself, Mr. BERGEN, Mr. Kim of New Jersey, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. NUGUESE):
H.R. 1607. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to allow claims against foreign states for unlawful computer intrusion, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. ARRINGTON (for himself, Mr. Cuellar, Ms. Granger, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Tony Gonzales of Texas, and Mr. Armstrong):
H.R. 1608. A bill to amend the Intramural Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 with respect to the jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. AXNE (for herself, Mr. Larson of Connecticut, and Mr. Westerman):
H.R. 1609. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to provide, to the extent determined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, authority to temporarily waive or modify application of certain Medicare requirements with respect to ambulance services furnished during certain periods; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BERGMAN:
H.R. 1610. A bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to prioritize the timely processing of certain long-form applications for the Digital Opportunity Fund Phase I auction; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS (for himself and Mr. MURCIA):
H.R. 1611. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to add physical therapy and related services to the list of Medicare services to utilize locum tenens arrangements under Medicare; 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. BLUMENTHAUER (for himself, Mr. KILDER, Mr. GHJALVA, and Ms. BARRAGAN):
H.R. 1612. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify that products derived from tar sands are crude oil for purposes of the Federal excise tax on petroleum, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. ROEBERT:
H.R. 1613. A bill to secure the southern border of the United States against illegal border crossings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania:
H.R. 1614. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide that marijuana personally possessed by a U.S. citizen or resident alien shall not be considered for determinations of good moral character, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. San Nicolas, Ms. Barragan, Mr. Blumenauer, and Ms. Moore of Wisconsin):
H.R. 1615. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to expand and codify the transit Oriented Development Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. BURGESS:
H.R. 1616. A bill to provide for Federal and State agency coordination in the approval of certain authorizations under the Natural Gas Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:
H.R. 1617. A bill to establish a White House Rural Council, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. CLEAVER (for himself, Ms. Tlaib, Mr. Manzanares, Mr. Norton, Mr. Levin of California, Ms. Pressley, and Ms. Jayapal):
H.R. 1618. A bill to require the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Securities and Exchange Commission to issue an annual report to Congress projecting and accounting for the economic costs directly and indirectly caused by the impacts of climate change, to require the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board to establish a Federal Advisory Panel on the Economics of Climate Change, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CLYBURN (for himself, Ms. Adams, Mr. Butterfield, Mr. Price of North Carolina, Mr. Timmons, and Mr. Wilson of South Carolina):
H.R. 1619. A bill to clarify the status of gaming conducted by the Catawba Indian Nation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE (for herself, Mr. NADLER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. HOYER, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, California, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. BASS, Ms. BRATTTY, Ms. SPEREE, Ms. DINGELL, Mr. SCHULZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. COSTA, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TITUS, Ms. DelBENE, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. BLUMENTHAUER, Mr. WILSON of Florida, Mrs. DEMINGS, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. ROSS, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. KILMER, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. WILD, Mr. PHILLIPS, Ms. JAMES of California, Mr. MRVAN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. MENG, Mr. BROWN, Mr. KILDER, Ms. LURIA, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. O’HALLERAN, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. VARGAH, Mrs. WATSON-COLEMAN, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. DEAN, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. WELCH, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mr. COHEN, Mr. TROTTS, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. TONKO, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. CICILLINE, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. PAUL, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. VELA, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. SPANKHERE, Mrs. Washington, Ms. HOUHANIAN, Ms. MAMA, Mr. TREXLER, Mr. BOYLE of Texas, Mr. BROWNF of Pennsylvania, Mr. SOTO, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. EVANS, Mr. SMITH, Mr. MOUTOU, Mr. RYAN, Mr. JONES, Mr. CARSON, Mr. DEUTCH, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. LUSTING, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. Kim of New Jersey, Mr. NQUESE, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. MEERS, Mr. CASTEN, Mrs. FLETCHER, Ms. ENDOR, Mrs. NAPOLTANO, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. CROW, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mrs. MANNING, Mr. McKEE, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. ALLRED, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KAHLER, Mr. GHJALVA, Ms. IOHANSEN, Mr. BOYER, Mr. PA- NETTA, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. OMAR, Ms.
H.R. 1620. A bill to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, Ways and Means, Education and Labor, Energy and Commerce, Veterans’ Affairs, and Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself and Mr. ARMSTONG):

H.R. 1621. A bill to amend section 3661 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the consideration of acquitted conduct at sentencing; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GTHOMAS, Ms. DESAULNIER, Mr. HASTING, Mr. CARSON, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. TITUS, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. SCHUMACHER of Illinois, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. AGRENA, Ms. COLEMAN, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. MENG, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. MEeks, Ms. CHU, and Mr. NADLER: A bill to reduce the number of preventable deaths and injuries caused by underride crashes, to improve motor carrier and passenger motor vehicle safety, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself and Mr. WINTER):

H.R. 1622. A bill to amend title 39, United States Code, to modify procedures for negotiating pay and benefits of supervisory and other employees (exclusive of the United States Postal Service) and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself and Mr. MCKINLEY):

H.R. 1624. A bill to extend the right of appeal to the Merit Systems Protection Board to certain employees of the United States Postal Service; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. CRAWFORD (for himself, Mr. TURNER, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. STEWART, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. BACON, Mr. ROY, Mr. HELM of New York, and Mr. BALDERSON):

H.R. 1625. A bill to establish the Office of Intelligence in the Department of Agriculture; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), 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. CHENENSHAW (for himself, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. BURKIS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. McCaull, Mr. JACOBSON, Mr. PRESSLEY, Ms. LUGER, Mr. BARN, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. ROY, and Mr. CUELLAR):

H.R. 1626. A bill to reimburse the States for border security expenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CROW (for himself, Ms. WILD, Ms. SKLAVOUNOS, Ms. JACOBS of California, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. WELCH, Mrs. TORRES of California, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. CORREA, Ms. PLATKOFF, Mr. SPERRY, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KUSTER, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER):

H.R. 1627. A bill to direct the Architect of the Capitol to install in the United States Capitol an exhibit that depicts the attack on the Capitol that occurred on January 6, 2021; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. DAVIDSON (for himself, Mr. SOTO, Mr. BUD, Mr. GOTHENBERG, and Mr. JERRY):

H.R. 1626. A bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to exclude digital tokens from the definition of a security, to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to enact certain regulatory changes regarding digital units secured through public key cryptography, to authorize the creation of virtual currencies held in individual retirement accounts, to create a tax exemption for exchanges of one virtual currency for another, to create a tax deduction for gains realized from the sale or exchange of virtual currency for other than cash, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. DEAN (for herself and Mr. VEASEY):

H.R. 1629. A bill to amend the Federal Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to limitations on exclusive approval or licensure of orphan drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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. DEUTCH (for himself, Mr. DIAZ BALART, Ms. WEXTON, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey):

H.R. 1630. A bill to designate residents of the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region as Priority 2 refugees of special humanitarian concern, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. ESHOO (for herself, Mr. GOLDEN, Mr. NERAL, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. McGOVERN):

H.R. 1631. A bill to expand the Telecommunications Act of 1996 to preserve and protect the ability of State and local governments, public-private partnerships, and cooperatives to provide broadband services; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. FALLON:

H.R. 1632. A bill to prohibit the transfer or release of individuals detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to the United States; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. FOSTER (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Mr. MARINO, Mr. LAO of California, Mr. KRATING, and Ms. WEXTON):

H.R. 1633. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to allow certain payments made by public service employees to qualify for public service repayment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. GIBBS (for himself, Mr. PERRY, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, and Mrs. McCLINTON):

H.R. 1634. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to prohibit voting systems used to administer elections for Federal office from containing any computing component; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. HUDSON:

H.R. 1635. A bill to increase authorization of the grant program for school security in the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968; 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. HUFFMAN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAUER, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. DELFAZIO, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. TLAIR, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. BARRAGAN, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. WELCH, Mr. COHEN, Mr. McCaICHIN, Mr. RYAN, and Mr. LEVIN of California):

H.R. 1636. A bill to authorize funding for the purchase of electric or zero-emission vehicles for United States Postal Service fleet, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. CRAIG, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. FERNESTRA, Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. BOST, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. EMER, Mr. BACON, Mrs. FISCHBACH, and Mrs. HINSON):

H.R. 1637. 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; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.R. 1638. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to transfer certain National Forest System land to the State of South Dakota, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. KINZINGER (for himself and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 1639. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to restore State authority to waive for certain facilities the 33-mile rule for designating critical access hospitals under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; to the Committees on Energy and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KUSTOFF (for himself and Mr. WARREN):

H.R. 1640. A bill to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to ensure community accountability for areas repetitively damaged by floods, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. LYNCH (for himself and Mr. BALDERSON):

H.R. 1641. A bill to amend title 21, United States Code, to include a payment and performance security requirement for certain
infrastructure financing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS (for herself and Ms. MALONEY of New York): H.R. 1642. A bill to direct the Attorney General to prioritize the investigation and prosecution of Federal firearms offenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Mr. NADLER, and Ms. VELAZQUEZ): H.R. 1643. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to prohibit certain helicopter flights over cities with high population densities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. MATSUI (for herself, Ms. DE LAURO, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. AGUILAR, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. KILMER, Ms. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. DEFazio, Ms. DENT, Ms. DESEARO, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. SOTO, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. LEK of California, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MEERS, Ms. JACKSON-LEE, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. CLARK of New York, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Ms. DIJETT, Ms. MENDOZA, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. SIRS, and Mr. COSTA): H.R. 1644. A bill to prohibit the use of funds for the 2026 World Cup unless the United States Soccer Federation provides equitable pay to the members of the United States Women’s National Team and the United States Men’s National Team; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MCHENRY: H.R. 1645. A bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to make improvements to the regulation of consumer reporting agencies and protect consumers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. MCHENRY (for himself and Mr. HILL): H.R. 1646. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to instruct the World Bank and the Treasury to instruct the United States government to support and protect consumers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. MCKINLEY (for herself, Mr. TRONE, and Mr. BUD): H.R. 1647. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase the use of telehealth for substance use disorder treatment and mental health services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Appropriations, 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. PRESSLEY (for herself, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois): H.R. 1647. A bill to amend the Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Import Safety Act to improve consumer protections relating to debt collection practices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. SERRILL: H.R. 1648. A bill to amend the America COMPETES Act to strengthen reporting requirements relating to deficiencies in Federal research infrastructure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Ms. NORTON: H.R. 1649. A bill to make a technical correction to the ALS Disability Insurance Act of 2019; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MULLIN (for himself, Mr. LUCAR, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. HERN, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. LATUNER, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. RICE of Oklahoma, and Mr. COLE): H.R. 1650. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to study the current and forecast demand for broadband services in rural broadband networks associated with services offered by edge providers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. NADLER (for himself and Mr. CLINE): H.R. 1651. A bill to amend the CARES Act to extend the sunset for the definition of a small business debtor, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mrs. WAGNER, Ms. SCANLON, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. RYAN, Mr. KUSTNER, Mr. LANG, Mr. TUTTUS, Ms. SPEIR, Ms. WECTON, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mrs. McBATY, and Mr. McFATEY: H.R. 1652. A bill to deposit certain funds into the Crime Victims Fund, to waive matching requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. NEGUZE (for himself and Mr. PERLMUTTER): H.R. 1653. A bill to amend the America COMPETES Act to strengthen reporting requirements relating to deficiencies in Federal research infrastructure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Ms. ROCHELLE: H.R. 1654. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition and celebration of the National Women’s Hall of Fame; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. MOULTON (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. WAGNER, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. REILLY, Ms. GARCÍA of California, Mr. VULKANOVICH, Mr. HART, Mr. CONLEY of Illinois, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. CARSON, Mr. GREEN of Missouri, Mr. JUNNEY, Mr. JEFFFRIS, Ms. PLASKETT, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. MCCOLLUM, Mr. VELESAY, Ms. NOTTON, Mr. KELLY of Georgia, Mr. ALLRED, and Mrs. DEMINGS): H.R. 1655. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide coverage under the Medicare program for FDA-approved qualifying colorectal cancer screening blood-based tests, to increase participation in colorectal cancer screening in underscreened communities of color, to offset the COVID-19 pandemic driven declines in colorectal cancer screening and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. PERRY (for herself, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. ZEIGLER, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, and Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina): H.R. 1656. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Defense to furnish stallate ganglion block to veterans and members of the Armed Forces with post-traumatic stress disorder, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. PRESSLEY (for herself, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois): H.R. 1657. A bill to amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 and the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to improve consumer protections relating to debt collection practices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. SERRILL: H.R. 1658. A bill to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to promote a high-quality workforce welfare system; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. TORRES of New York (for himself, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BONAMICI, Mr. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. DEFazio, Ms. ESSHO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. GARCÍA of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. JOHNSON of New York, Ms. KHAHNA, Mrs. LEGIEZ FERNANDEZ, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. McGOVERN, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. NADLER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. VELASQUEZ, Mrs. WATSON COLMAN, Ms. TUTTUS, Mr. MEERS, Mr. TUNKO, and Ms. CHU): H.R. 1659. A bill to amend the Equal Credit Opportunity Act to require provision of small business loan data related to LGBTQ-owned businesses; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. TRAHAN (for herself, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. PAPPAS, and Ms. KUSTER):
the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. MCKINLEY:
H.R. 1646.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

By Mr. BOWEN:
H.R. 1647.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. MORELLE:
H.R. 1648.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, of the United States Constitution

By Mr. MOULTON:
H.R. 1649.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8

By Ms. MULLIN:
H.R. 1650.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8

By Mr. ANDERSON:
H.R. 1651.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clauses 3 and 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. MEGUSE:
H.R. 1653.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8

By Ms. NORTON:
H.R. 1654.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. PAYNE:
H.R. 1655.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 Clause 3—Congress has the ability to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. FERRY:
H.R. 1656.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section VIII of the US Constitution

By Ms. PRESSLEY:
H.R. 1657.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I of Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. SHEPPARD:
H.R. 1658.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 18 of Section 8 or Article 1 of the Constitution of the United States of America.

By Mr. TORRES of New York:
H.R. 1659.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8

By Mrs. TRAHAN:
H.R. 1660.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

[The Congress shall have Power . . . ] To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. TRONE:
H.R. 1661.
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. VAN DREW:
H.R. 1662.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. VARGAS:
H.R. 1663.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
(1) To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution;
(2) To make all laws necessary and proper for executing powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. VEASEY:
H.R. 1664.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8—The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Ms. WATSON COLEMAN:
H.R. 1665.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: The Congress shall have power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. WATSON:
H.R. 1666.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. WILD:
H.R. 1667.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: Under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power “to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof”.

By Mr. WITTMAN:
H.R. 1668.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: The Congress shall have power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. DeFAZIO:
H.R. 1669.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XIX, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:
H.R. 8: Mr. SARANES, Mr. LANDERVIN, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. KAPUR, Mr. HORNSBY, Mrs. LIRKIA, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. CROW, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. SLOTKin, and Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 8: Mr. HOYER, Ms. OMAR, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Mr. SOTO, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. MRVAN, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. BOURDEAUX, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. CROW, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. MRS. VARGAS, Ms. DIAN, Mr. RYAN, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. DELAURO, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mrs. ADAMS, Mrs. ANGUL, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. WILSON of Florida, Mr. McNERNEY, Ms. LARSEN of Washington, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. McGovern, Mr. KRISHNAKUMAR, Mr. WILCH, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. KILMER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. DIBLEN, Mr. CROWDY, Ms. SCHIUER, Mr. UNDERWOOD, Mr. CASE, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. HINES, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. SERRILL, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. KAHELE, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. POCAH, Ms. OKASHI-CORTEZ, Mr. COSTA, Mr. TRONE, Mr. SCHATZ McAROLYN of New York, Mr. CRIST, Mr. VELA, Mr. DELGADO, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. LOFROKEN, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. MUFME, Ms. PRSSELY, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. HOGINS of New York, Ms. CLARK of New York, Ms. SHER, Ms. CU, Ms. VUDS of Kansas, Mr. KEATING, and Mr. LAMB.
H.R. 18: Mr. CLINE and Mrs. CAMMACK.
H.R. 38: Mr. OBERLOITZ.
H.R. 53: Ms. WATERST, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. HOULAHAN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. DELGADO, Ms. BUSCH, and Mr. KIND.
H.R. 65: Mr. Garcia of Illinois and Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 67: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 69: Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. STRUBE, and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.
H.R. 72: Mr. REED.
H.R. 78: Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. GOOD OF VIRGINIA, and Mr. NEHLS.
H.R. 82: Mrs. TRAHAN, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. PERLMUTTER, and Mr. KATKO.
H.J. Res. 160: Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.
H.R. 188: Mr. LOUDERMILK and Mrs. CAMMACK.
H.R. 236: Mr. NEWHOUSE.
H.R. 239: Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. BLUNT ROCHester, Mr. POCAN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. TESS, Ms. BAHALIAN, Mrs. AXN, Mr. KILMER, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. NEWMAN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mr. GARCIA of Illinois.
H.R. 256: Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. KAHELE, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CARSON, and Mr. CASH.
CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MR. NADLER

The proposals that warranted a referral to the Committee on the Judiciary in H.R. 1446 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.
IN MEMORY OF REVEREND BRYANT WARDELL RAINES
HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR. OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, March 8, 2021

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay homage to an outstanding man of God, dedicated public servant, courageous soldier, and friend of longstanding. Reverend Bryant Wardell Raines. Reverend Raines transitioned from labor to reward on Wednesday, February 24, 2021. His homegoing service was held on Saturday, March 6, 2021, at 11 a.m. at the Macon City Auditorium in Macon, Georgia. He leaves behind a loving family, his dedicated church congregation at the New Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church (NPMB), and an appreciative community for his extraordinary life of service to God and mankind.

A native son of Macon, Reverend Bryant Wardell Raines was born on February 3, 1977, to the union of Mrs. Barbara Tharpe Raines and the late Reverend Curtis Raines, Sr. He thirsted for knowledge and self-improvement. He was a 1995 graduate of Central High School and a 1999 graduate of Clark Atlanta University, where he received B.A. Degrees in English, Philosophy, and Religion. In addition to attending Georgia Southern University (in pursuit of an M.A. Degree in Public Administration) and The Morehouse School of Religion at the Interdenominational Theological Center, he was also a 2001 graduate of the United States Army Chaplain Center and School. He was pursuing an M.A. Degree in Evangelism and Church Planting at Liberty University when the Lord called him home.

Reverend Raines served his country honorably in the United States Army as the Chaplain Assistant for the Installation Garrison Command, 3rd Infantry Division and the 4th Battalion 64th Armor Regiment of Fort Stewart, Georgia. He received awards for his valiant service including Army Service Ribbon (2001); Army Commendation Medal (2001, 2002, 2003, and 2004); National Defense Service Ribbon (2001); Primary Leadership Development Ribbon (2003); Presidential Unit Citation (2003); and Global War on Terrorism Service Medal (2003).

Reverend Raines was a man of God, truly devoted to his calling—a calling from God, passed to him through his father, Reverend Curtis Raines, Sr., who was his predecessor at NPMB and the past president of the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia. As the beloved Pastors of NPMB, they utilized their roles as spiritual leaders to fully engage with their community by creating numerous outreach programs and opportunities to enrich the lives of those around them. Before his transition, Reverend Bryant Raines worked tirelessly with The Curtis Raines, Sr. Foundation on the development of The Curtis Raines, Sr. Health and Wellness Facility. This holistic community center seeks to minister to the total person by providing programs and resources to promote both physical and spiritual wellness.

Reverend Raines believed strongly that involvement in his local and state-level sacerdotal communities was an integral part of his calling as a Minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Accordingly, he served in numerous roles that had as their purpose the uplift of humankind. In addition to being the beloved Pastor of NPMB, he served the Deacon, the Audio and Video, and the Evangelism Ministries at NPMB; President of the Sixth District of the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia, Inc.; Vice President of the Sixth District of the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia, Inc.; Member of the Board of Trustees at Wesley Glen Ministries; Member of the Rotary Club of Macon, Georgia; Member of the Baptist Minister’s Union of Macon and Vicinity; and as Founder of the Heal the Hood Initiative, a community initiative to combat violence and address the needs of the total community.

Mother Teresa once said that “At the end of life we will not be judged by how many diplomas we have received, how much money we have made, how many great things we have done. We will be judged by “I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was naked and you clothed me. I was homeless, and you took me in.” Reverend Bryant Wardell Raines, in his life, did just that, and the world is better because he passed this way. On a personal note, the advice, counsel, friendship, and support that I have received from Reverend Raines as Congressman for the Second Congressional District has been immeasurable. He never told me what I wanted to hear, but he always told me what he felt I needed to hear. And, for that, I will be forever grateful.

Reverend Raines accomplished much in his life, but none of it would have been possible without the Grace of God and the love and support of his family including his wife, Mrs. Illashia Brezial Raines; and his siblings, Shun, Curtis, Jr., and Varina. He loved his family. His family loved him back. And they will miss him along with all of us whose lives he touched.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with countless others throughout Georgia and the nation in saluting Reverend Bryant Wardell Raines for his service in the ministry, to his country, and to humankind; and in extending our deepest condolences to Reverend Raines’ family, friends, loved ones, and all those who mourn his loss. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.
Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.
ENDURING ROSE CORDASCO’S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ANDY KIM
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 8, 2021

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Rose Cordasco’s 100th birthday. Rose is a loving, kind mother, sister, grandmother and great-grandmother. She is beloved by her family and from how her family has described her, it is clear that she has made the most of each of her one-hundred years.

I wish her the best on achieving this milestone.

HONORING JOSEPHINE MORSE

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 8, 2021

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the extraordinary service of Josephine Morse, who served in the House Office of General Counsel as a Deputy General Counsel. During her tenure, Ms. Morse, a District of Columbia resident, played an integral role in safeguarding the legal interests of the House and its Members, Officers, and employees in federal court litigation involving issues of the highest institutional importance.

Ms. Morse provided invaluable legal counsel and representation to numerous House committees, greatly assisting them both in fulfilling their constitutionally authorized oversight functions and defending those prerogatives in litigation. Ms. Morse provided vital legal counsel to the House in both impeachments of President Trump and in defense of longstanding institutional prerogatives. Those prerogatives included the House’s constitutional authority under the Appropriations Clause and the power of House committees to issue subpoenas for both documents and testimony from the White House and Executive Branch agencies.

Of particular importance to the District of Columbia, Ms. Morse’s legal work in litigation involving the District’s quest to obtain the fundamental right of voting representation in Congress was exceptional, and her oral advocacy on behalf of the House’s position in support of voting representation for the District before a three-judge district court was highly effective.

Ms. Morse’s work on behalf of the House was of the highest caliber, and I have no doubt that the Office of Management and Budget, which she recently joined, will benefit from her outstanding legal counsel. On behalf of the entire House community, I thank Ms. Morse for her dedicated service to the House, and I wish her the very best in all of her future endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHARLES WALKER PREWITT SR.

HON. JOE COURTNEY
OF CONNECTICUT
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 8, 2021

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to observe and mourn the passing of a talented scientist, college professor, and most notably a “citizen of the world” who passionately advocated for world peace and justice.


My statement today could not begin to encapsulate all that Charlie had accomplished during his industrious life. Born in Indiana in 1918, he showed such academic aptitude from an early age when he entered the second grade by age five. A prolific musician, playing both piano and violin, he received a scholarship to play in the Transylvania University orchestra where he would then go on to earn a bachelor’s degree in chemistry.

Charlie also met the love of his life, Virginia Stewart, at his alma mater—a love that would last 65 years. Charlie went on to continue his education at Louisiana State University where his graduate work was interrupted by World War II. Due to his background in chemistry, he was conscripted to work at Dupont Chemical on extending the burn rate of gunpowder. That work led him to the Manhattan Project where he collected samples from reactors and ran titrations on plutonium. His involvement in the creation of nuclear weapons and intimate knowledge of their terrifying power was a driving motivation for his determined commitment to nuclear nonproliferation.

When the war ended, Charlie completed his graduate work, obtaining a Master’s in Education at University of Kentucky, followed by a Doctorate in Science Education at Columbia University. In 1952, he and Virginia finally landed in Willimantic, Connecticut where he taught and ran a music program at the then-named Willimantic State Teachers College, now Eastern Connecticut State University. His commitment to his students and his passion for educating educators was unmatched.

His leadership led to the establishment of a minor degree in Peace and Human Rights at the University and the development of a scholarship program for students pursuing this degree.

While he remained in Connecticut for the rest of his life and career, Charlie never lost sight of foreign affairs. He accepted a Fulbright Scholarship to Myanmar, a U.S. AID position in Afghanistan and finally joined a Ford Foundation project in Pakistan. His commitment to war resistance, social justice, peace, and advancement of human rights never wavered.

Charlie and I crossed paths many times during my time in public service, and while we would engage in healthy debate, our conversations always left me with a deeper understanding of the issues and an even deeper respect for his commitment to them. Charlie’s loss leaves a deep void in the activist community in Eastern Connecticut and around the world. He now goes on to join his loving wife Virginia, who regretfully predeceased him in 2007. Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues and this Chamber to join me in expressing our deepest respect for Charlie’s work and life and send our deepest condolences to the Prewitt Family. Charlie is survived by his children Charles Walker Jr., (Janet) David Prewitt and (Mary Steiner) Prewitt and their families who carry the indelible memory of Charlie and Virginia in their hearts so that their example of compassion and kindness will carry on.

TRIBUTE TO GAYLE GRIFFIN, AFGE’S DISTRICT 7 WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. GWEN MOORE
OF WISCONSIN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 8, 2021

Ms. Moore of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the career and ongoing legacy of Gayle Griffin, a retired nurse formerly employed at Milwaukee’s Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center and President of the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) Local 3. She is an exemplary voice in our community and has consistently used her position to defend others. I want to congratulate her on her recent selection as AFGE’s District 7 Woman of the Year.

Gayle is the first African American to ever be elected president of her Local AFGE branch. During her time in AFGE leadership, she has continually used her position to advocate for her members against anti-union executive branch racism and other inequities as a fierce champion for social justice.

Throughout her eleven-year career as a nurse serving our veterans at the Milwaukee VA, Gayle was one of many Black nurses who endured racism in her workplace. However, rather than backing down, she resolutely sought to protect and defend the rights of workers at the Local AFGE branch. She has spoken out about the tremendous struggles that VA nursing staff are facing amidst the COVID-19 pandemic and has repeatedly called for more honest communication from the Department of Veterans Affairs with its employees.

On February 21, 2021, Gayle was selected as AFGE’s District 7 Woman of the Year. This important award is granted to those who exhibit selfless dedication to union solidarity, public service, and workplace health and safety. This is an honor that Gayle has truly earned. She has fought tirelessly to protect the health of veterans, for workers’ rights, and for commonsense workplace safety and equity—especially during the devastation of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Her altruistic spirit and inspiring dedication to her colleagues and community are why Gayle is so deserving of the title of AFGE’s District 7 Woman of the Year. Wisconsin’s 4th Congressional District, and the veterans who depend on the VA for their health care, have been made better as a result of Gayle’s phenomenal work. I sincerely respect her determination and applaud her accomplishments.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor my constituent and her recent accomplishment and commend the great work that she and others in AFGE District 7 are doing in service to our veterans, our country and the state of Wisconsin.
HON. MARY E. MILLER
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, March 8, 2021
Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, by accident, I failed to vote on H.R. 1, the “For the People Act” while on the floor for the vote series. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 62.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HECTOR F. ELIZALDE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, March 8, 2021
Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a true champion for veterans, a dear friend, a wonderful employee and colleague, a proud resident of the City of Monroe, and a dedicated, caring gentleman in Hector Elizalde, our beloved Deputy District Director of the 32nd District, who died on February 7, 2021, from complications due to COVID-19. Hector, 54, lived his life devoted to his job of defending, advocating for, and serving veterans and their families, and tackling any problem that came his way. He was the embodiment of what it means to serve one’s nation and one’s community, holding true to his pledge to never leave a soldier behind, whether on the battlefield or city street.

Hector F. Elizalde was born in Chicago, IL on February 15, 1946. He served in the United States Army from July 31, 1964, until he was honorably discharged on July 28, 1967. Hector later graduated from California State University, Los Angeles with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. He worked for some of America’s most recognized companies, such as Anheuser-Busch, Stroh Brewery Company, PepsiCo, and Don King Productions. His career advancements led the Elizalde family to live throughout the country, from 1984, in the states of Michigan, Connecticut, New York, and Florida until his return to California in 1997. Hector could have continued excelling in lucrative professions, but he had a great sense of duty to any and all fellow veterans, and also to his neighbors.

From the very first day he entered our office in the spring of 2010 until his very last on this earth, Hector honorably served the veteran community. Whether it was helping a homeless veteran find a job or escorting the casket of a fallen servicemember at the airport, Hector’s compassion for helping veterans touched countless lives. Giving out his personal cell phone number was nothing out of the ordinary, and whenever he did so, he made sure everyone knew that it was a 24/7 number.

Hector understood the frustration many veterans felt because of delays in VA benefits and routine health checkups that would take an entire day. He took this personally and vowed we must do better. Under his tenure as Military/Veterans Liaison, we began to hold an annual Veterans Forum, to bring the VA to the Military/Veterans Liaison, we began to hold an annual Veterans Forum, to bring the VA to the

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, March 8, 2021
Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today in celebration of Mrs. Emmie ‘Boots’ Burk to commemorate the very significant milestone of her 100th birthday.

Emmie Fulton Burk was born on Texas Independence Day, March 2, 1921 in Kolenz, Germany to an American military family stationed overseas. Growing up in the State of Georgia she learned the importance of family and tradition. She was a member of the first Girl Scout troop on Ft. Screven, Georgia (Tybee Island). When her father, MSgt. Benjamin Fulton was later stationed at Ft. Sam Houston, San Antonio, Emmie moved to finish high school in 1939. She has been a proud Texan ever since.

In 1942, she married the love of her life, James William Burk. She helped raise their son and daughter and became very active in their children’s school and extracurricular activities, as well as church and other community service. She was independent and career driven. After the passing of her husband in 1979, she worked to solely support herself eventually going on to work in the early stages of market research. After several years in the industry, she began her own company, Burk Market Research, growing it into a successful venture through the 1970s to 1990s.

A faithful public servant, she worked with the United States Census Bureau assisting with many monthly studies, to include current population studies. This led her to travel across our great country to many different areas, where she helped lead the count. In 1991, she received the Bronze Medal for meritorious service. Mrs. Burk retired in 2011 at the age of 90 with 43 years of service, making her one of the longest serving members in the Bureau’s history.

Today you will find Mrs. Burk attending one of her great grandchildren’s events. A strong family-driven mind, Mrs. Burk dedicates her time to family and making new joyful memories. Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Mrs. Burk and a tremendous life well-lived. I thank Mrs. Burk for her many years of public service. It is my hope that she will share her 100th with all her loved ones.
Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I stand in solidarity with the Armenian American community in commemorating the pogroms against Armenians in the cities of Sumgait (February 27–29, 1988), Kirovabad (November 21–27, 1988) and Baku (January 19–19, 1990).

Thirty-three years ago, in the Azerbaijani town of Sumgait, peaceful Armenian residents were brutally targeted on the basis of their ethnicity and subjected to unspeakable crimes. The New York Times reported Armenians being “hunted” down and an account of a pregnant Armenian woman, who had been disemboweled. The U.S. Senate passed an amendment in July of 1989, noting that even the Soviet government had termed the murder of Armenians in Sumgait a “pogrom.”

The Sumgait Pogroms were the beginning of an escalation of violence against the Armenian minority, with a wave of anti-Armenian violence spreading to Kirovabad in November 1988 and to Baku in January 1990, which culminated in the forcible expulsion of 390,000 Armenians from Azerbaijan and the 1991–94 war over Artsakh (Nagorno Karabakh).

In response to the Sumgait and Kirovabad pogroms, over 100 leading academics and human rights advocates, including the Executive Director of the NAACP and Elie Wiesel, placed an advertisement in The New York Times titled: “An Open Letter to International Public Opinion on Anti-Armenian Pogroms in the Soviet Union.” The letter appealed to the international community to condemn the atrocities and prevent further violence by stating: “The international community of states . . . must prove the authenticity of its commitment to human rights in order to ensure that, due to indifference and silence bordering on complicity, another genocide does not occur.”

Unfortunately, Azeri attacks against Armenian civilians have only continued. In its latest bout of aggression against Armenia and Artsakh in the fall of 2020, Azerbaijan carried out indiscriminate attacks against civilians. A report by Human Rights Watch found that Azerbaijani forces used inherently indiscriminate cluster munitions and artillery rockets or other weapons that did not distinguish between military targets and civilian objects. Multiple strikes hit residential homes in less than a minute, suggesting bombardment of civilian areas.

Today, Armenians are still held captive in Azerbaijan, with no planned date to be returned to Armenia. Armenian prisoners of war have been subjected to physical beatings and other inhumane treatment at the hand of Azerbaijan. The government of Azerbaijan must be held accountable by the international community, and I will continue to work in Congress to shed light on and learn the lessons of such past and present atrocities.
items. Egolf opened the store early and closed late, operating from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week. He made it a point to talk with his customers and would take special orders of items that people wanted.

Egolf was one of the longest continuous business owners in Churubusco’s history. In addition to running his business, he frequently gave his time and money to local causes. But for Egolf’s partnership with the Churubusco News, the newspaper would not exist today. He also contributed to the community through various organizations, such as the Churubusco Area Jaycees. Churubusco Chamber of Commerce and as a longtime Smith Township trustee.

The story of Mr. Egolf is one that is uniquely American: defined by hard work, sacrifice, and service to others. Though Bob is no longer with us, his spirit of good will and generosity to those in Churubusco and beyond endures.

RECOGNIZING REVEREND FLOYD L. WHITE, III
HON. ANDY KIM
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, March 8, 2021

Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend Floyd L. White, III on his retirement. During his over twenty years of service, Reverend White has been a stalwart of the community, always putting other’s needs before his own.

Since 1988, in his private capacity, Reverend White has served as a Pastor for the Woodland Avenue Presbyterian Church, providing spiritual leadership to church members. In his public capacity, since 1988, Reverend White has served America’s servicemen and woman. Beginning as Battalion Chaplain, Reverend White administered to the spiritual and moral needs of approximately 150 soldiers and their families. Eventually, from 2012 to 2019, Reverend White served as the Director of Camden County Veteran Affairs where he worked to better the lives of veterans and their families. After twenty years of service, Reverend Floyd L. White, III more than deserves a peaceful retirement and I wish him the best.

I commend Reverend Floyd L. White, III for his dedication to serving the people of New Jersey and I know the Woodland Avenue Presbyterian Church will be sad to see him go.

HONORING DELWYN SHOWALTER AS IOWAN OF THE WEEK
HON. CYNTHIA AXNE
OF IOWA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, March 8, 2021

Mrs. AXNE, Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Delwyn Showalter, a long-time coach, athletic director, and mentor to many students in Mount Ayr, Iowa. Delwyn is set to retire from his roles this year, and I wish to recognize him as my Iowan of the Week for his outstanding service to his community.

Delwyn has been with the Mount Ayr Raiders since 1984, serving in a number of roles from teaching social studies, coaching numerous sports, and as athletic director. Under his leadership as co-coach of the Mount Ayr football team, the program has seen continued success with a recent playoff appearance. In fact, Delwyn and his co-coach Derek Lambert, are the winningest coaches in program history with 135 wins in 19 seasons. Even more impressive, the program has only one losing record. Delwyn’s coaching prowess doesn’t end there, however, as he has also coached the basketball team to three conference championships.

Beyond leading his teams to victories, Coach Showalter has also been a leader for his student athletes. His friends and colleagues describe him as a caring and supportive man with an ability to lead young men. His players talk about his work ethic and how he’s a man you can look up to as a mentor. He sets high standards for his students yet connects through humor and humility. We all know that there is much more to high school athletics than simply winning, and Coach Showalter is an example to all on the positive influence a coach can have on young student’s lives and their community.

For Delwyn, sports is also a family affair. His two sons, Daniel and David, followed in his footsteps. Daniel coaches with his father on the Mount Ayr staff and David is a teacher and coach in Ackley, Iowa. While I know his players and community will miss Delwyn on the sidelines, I am sure he will stay connected to the sport through his family. After 36 years with the Mount Ayr Raiders, Delwyn deserves this retirement and we all can be thankful for his service to his community. I am proud to recognize Coach Delwyn Showalter as my Iowan of the week.

GHANAIAN COMMUNITY IN AMERICA
HON. DANNY K. DAVIS
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, March 8, 2021

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Madam Speaker, the United States of America is home to hundreds and thousands of people of Ghanaian heritage including those who were born on this soil to those whose family emigrated here for education, job, or economic opportunities—for the American dream.

Ghanaian Americans are an important fabric in the tapestry of America from the cab driver to the medical doctor. You will find them in all parts of the country from Chicago to New York to suburban Ohio and Massachusetts. The culture is hard to ignore with rich food, the iconic Kente cloth, storytelling, inventions, architecture, and music.

Today more than ever Ghanaians living in the United States worry about racial injustice, home ownership, access to education, access to small business and immigration support. Like many Americans, the Ghanaian community in America is not exempt from the COVID-19 crisis. Ghanaian Americans are essential workers and are very active in the health care industry, especially as nurses, personal care aides, and nursing assistants. Ghanaian Americans include the 27.5 percent of all Black immigrant workers in the U.S.—more than 750,000—who work in the healthcare sector. Additionally, essential workers include frontline workers in other key industries like food and service & hospitality and leisure.

And Ghanaian Americans have been contributing to the success and business continuity of important industries during these dire times. Ghanaian Americans are included in 23 percent of immigrants in the U.S. who work in the food and service industry, as well as 20 percent of immigrants in the U.S. who work in hospitality and leisure.

We recognize March 6, 2021 as the 64th anniversary of Ghana’s independence, its thriving heritage and the rich contributions of its people who are important members of our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION
HON. TERRI A. SEWELL
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, March 8, 2021

Ms. SEWELL, Madam Speaker, on Monday, March 8, 2021, I was unavoidably detained and missed the vote on the Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule (H. Res. 188). If present, I would have voted YEA.

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, March 9, 2021 may be found in the Daily Digest of today’s RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED
MARCH 10

Time to be announced
Committee on the Budget
Business meeting to consider the nomination of Shalanda D. Young, of Louisiana, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
To hold closed hearings to examine domestic and foreign threats and other challenges facing the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

9:45 a.m.
Committee on Foreign Relations
Business meeting to consider pending nominations.
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Business meeting to consider the nomination of Shalanda D. Young, of Louisiana, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

SD–342

10 a.m.
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Donet Dominic Graves, Jr., of Ohio, to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce.

SR–253

Committee on Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine climate change in the electricity sector and fostering economic growth.

SD–G50

Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the state of democracy around the world.

SD–106/VTC

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Business meeting to consider the subcommittee assignments for the 117th Congress, and the nominations of Gary Gensler, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and Rohit Chopra, of the District of Columbia, to be Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

SH–216

Select Committee on Intelligence
To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SVC–217

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Indian Affairs
Business meeting to consider S. 325, to amend the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children Act to extend the deadline for a report by the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children, S. 314, to repeal the Klamath Tribe Judgment Fund Act, S. 144, to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Indian Health Service, to acquire private land to facilitate access to the Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center in Hemet, California, S. 371, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to take certain land located in Pinal County, Arizona, into trust for the benefit of the Gila River Indian Community, S. 108, to authorize the Seminole Tribe of Florida to lease or transfer certain land, S. 548, to convey land in Anchorage, Alaska, to the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, S. 549, to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Tanana Tribal Council located in Tanana, Alaska, S. 550, to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium located in Sitka, Alaska, and S. 559, to amend the Grand Ronde Reservation Act; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine Native communities and the climate crisis.

SD–628

Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action, and Federal Rights
To hold hearings to examine the Supreme Court and the Judiciary.

SD–226

3 p.m.
Committee on Veterans’ Affairs
To hold hearings to examine military toxic exposures, focusing on the human consequences of war.

SD–G50

MARCH 11

6:00 a.m.
Committee on Foreign Relations
To receive a closed briefing on the policy and legal rationale of U.S. airstrikes in Syria.

SVC–217

MARCH 18

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the final recommendations and report of the National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service.

SD–G50
Monday, March 8, 2021

**Daily Digest**

**Senate**

**Chamber Action**

The Senate was not in session, and stands adjourned until 3 p.m., on Tuesday, March 9, 2021.

**Committee Meetings**

No committee meetings were held.

---

**House of Representatives**

**Chamber Action**

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 67 public bills, H.R. 1602–1668; and 10 resolutions, H.J. Res. 29; and H. Res. 189–197 were introduced.

Additional Cosponsors:

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 188, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 842) to amend the National Labor Relations Act, the Labor Management Relations Act, 1947, and the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959; and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 8) to require a background check for every firearm sale; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1446) to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to strengthen the background check procedures to be followed before a Federal firearms licensee may transfer a firearm to a person who is not such a licensee; and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–10).

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Dingell to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Recess: The House recessed at 12:10 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m.

Recess: The House recessed at 2:16 p.m. and reconvened at 2:45 p.m.

Recess: The House recessed at 2:46 p.m. and reconvened at 4 p.m.

Recess: The House recessed at 4:59 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

Protecting the Right to Organize Act of 2021, Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2021, and Enhanced Background Checks Act of 2021—Rule for Consideration: The House agreed to H. Res. 188, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 842) to amend the National Labor Relations Act, the Labor Management Relations Act, 1947, and the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 8) to require a background check for every firearm sale; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1446) to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to strengthen the background check procedures to be followed before a Federal firearms licensee may transfer a firearm to a person who is not such a licensee; by a yea-and-nay vote of 218 yeas to 197 nays, Roll No. 64, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 213 yeas to 195 nays, Roll No. 63.

Senate Referrals:

S. 164 was held at the desk. S. 578 was held at the desk. S. 590 was held at the desk.

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H1084.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1094 and H1094–95.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 9:48 p.m.
Committee Meetings

PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE ACT OF 2021; Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2021; Enhanced Background Checks Act of 2021

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 842, the “Protecting the Right to Organize Act of 2021”; H.R. 8, the “Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2021”; and H.R. 1446, the “Enhanced Background Checks Act of 2021”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 8–3, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 842, the “Protecting the Right to Organize Act of 2021”, H.R. 8, the “Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2021”, and H.R. 1446, the “Enhanced Background Checks Act of 2021”. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 842, the “Protecting the Right to Organize Act of 2021”, under a structured rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in 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 that following debate, each further amendment printed in part C of the Rules Committee report not earlier considered as part of amendments en bloc pursuant to section 6 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 6 of the rule provides that at any time after debate the chair of the Committee on the Judiciary or his designee may offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in part C 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 the Judiciary or his designee, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 1446, the “Enhanced Background Checks Act of 2021”, under a structured rule. 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 that following debate, each further amendment printed in part D of the Rules Committee report not earlier considered as part of amendments en bloc pursuant to section 9 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 chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill.
chair of the Committee on the Judiciary or his designee may offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in part D 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 the Judiciary or their designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule waives all points of order against amendments printed in Parts B, C, and D of the Rules Committee report or amendments en bloc described in sections 3, 6, and 9 of the resolution. Section 11 of the rule provides that on any legislative day during the period from March 13, 2021, through April 22, 2021, the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day shall be considered as approved; and the Chair may at any time declare the House adjourned to meet at a date and time, within the limits of clause 4, section 5, article I of the Constitution, to be announced by the Chair in declaring the adjournment. The rule provides that the Speaker may appoint Members to perform the duties of the Chair for the duration of the period addressed by section 11 as though under clause 8(a) of rule I. The rule provides that each day during the period addressed by section 11 shall not constitute a calendar day for purposes of section 7 of the War Powers Resolution; a legislative day for purposes of clause 7 of rule XIII; or a calendar or legislative day for purposes of clause 7(c)(1) of rule XXII. The rule provides that it shall be in order at any time through the calendar day of April 22, 2021, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules as though under clause 1 of rule XV. The Speaker or her designee shall consult with the Minority Leader or his designee on the designation of any matter for consideration pursuant to this section. The rule provides that the requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII for a two-thirds vote to consider a report from the Committee on Rules on the same day it is presented to the House is waived with respect to any resolution reported through the legislative day of April 22, 2021. The rule amends Section 4(d) of House Resolution 8 by adding at the end the following: “(5) the Select Committee shall be composed of 16 Members, Delegates, or the Resident Commissioner appointed by the Speaker, of whom 7 shall be appointed on the recommendation of the Minority Leader.”. Testimony was heard from Chairman Scott of Virginia, Chairman Nadler, and Representatives Foxx, Jordan, Cawthorn, Good of Virginia, Grothman, Hinson, Miller-Meeks, Stefanik, Wilson of South Carolina, Owens, and Miller of Illinois.

Joint Meetings
No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021
(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine GameStop, Robinhood, and the state of retail investing, 10 a.m., WEBEX.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine the COVID–19 response, focusing on an update from the frontlines, 10 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Lisa O. Monaco, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Attorney General, and Vanita Gupta, of Virginia, to be Associate Attorney General, both of the Department of Justice, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SVC–217.

House
Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled “FDA’s Foreign Drug Inspections Program”, 10 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled “Challenges Facing Veterans in Accessing Fertility Services”, 10 a.m., Webex.


Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 144, the “Supporting Early-Career Researchers Act”, 10 a.m., Webex.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD
Week of March 9 through March 12, 2021

Senate Chamber
On Tuesday, Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Marcia Louise Fudge, of Ohio, to be Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

At 5:30 p.m., Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Marcia Louise Fudge, and on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Merrick Brian Garland, of Maryland, to be Attorney General.
During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: March 11, to hold hearings to examine farmers and foresters, focusing on opportunities to lead in tackling climate change, 10:15 a.m., SR–301.

Committee on Appropriations: March 10, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, to hold closed hearings to examine domestic and foreign threats and other challenges facing the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 9:30 a.m., SVC–217.

Committee on Armed Services: March 9, to hold hearings to examine United States Indo-Pacific Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2022 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

March 11, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the final recommendations and report of the National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: March 9, to hold hearings to examine GameStop, Robinhood, and the state of retail investing, 10 a.m., WEBEX.

March 10, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the subcommittee assignments for the 117th Congress, and the nominations of Gary Gensler, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and Rohit Chopra, of the District of Columbia, to be Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, 2 p.m., SH–216.

Committee on the Budget: March 10, business meeting to consider the nomination of Shalanda D. Young, of Louisiana, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Time to be announced, S–207, Capitol.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: March 10, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Donét Dominic Graves, Jr., of Ohio, to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: March 11, business meeting to consider the nomination of David Turk, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of Energy; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the reliability, resiliency, and affordability of electric service in the United States amid the changing energy mix and extreme weather events, 10 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: March 10, to hold hearings to examine climate change in the electricity sector and fostering economic growth, 10 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Foreign Relations: March 10, business meeting to consider pending nominations, 9:45 a.m., SD–106. March 10, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the state of democracy around the world, 10 a.m., SD–106/VTC.

March 11, Full Committee, business meeting to consider pending nominations, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

March 11, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on opportunities and challenges for the United States around the world, 10 a.m., SVC–217.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: March 9, to hold hearings to examine the COVID–19 response, focusing on an update from the frontlines, 10 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: March 10, business meeting to consider the nomination of Shalanda D. Young, of Louisiana, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget, 9:45 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: March 10, business meeting to consider S. 325, to amend the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children Act to extend the deadline for a report by the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children, S. 314, to repeal the Klamath Tribe Judgment Fund Act, S. 144, to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Indian Health Service, to acquire private land to facilitate access to the Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center in Hemet, California, S. 371, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to take certain land located in Pinal County, Arizona, into trust for the benefit of the Gila River Indian Community, S. 108, to authorize the Seminole Tribe of Florida to lease or transfer certain land, S. 548, to convey land in Anchorage, Alaska, to the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, S. 549, to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Tanana Tribal Council located in Tanana, Alaska, S. 550, to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium located in Sitka, Alaska, and S. 559, to amend the Grand Ronde Reservation Act; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine Native communities and the climate crisis, 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: March 9, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Lisa O. Monaco, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Attorney General, and Vanita Gupta, of Virginia, to be Associate Attorney General, both of the Department of Justice, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

March 10, Subcommittee on Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action, and Federal Rights, to hold hearings to examine the Supreme Court and the Judiciary, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.

March 11, Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights, to hold hearings to examine competition policy for the twenty-first century, focusing on the case for antitrust reform, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: March 10, to hold hearings to examine military toxic exposures, focusing on the human consequences of war, 3 p.m., SD–G50.

Select Committee on Intelligence: March 9, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SVC–217.

March 10, Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SVC–217.
House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, March 11, Full Committee, hearing entitled “A Look at Food Insecurity in America”, 1300 Longworth and Webex.

Committee on Appropriations, March 10, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, budget hearing on the Government Accountability Office and House of Representatives Officers, 10 a.m., Webex.


March 10, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled “Innovation and Investment in Water Resources Infrastructure”, 2 p.m., Webex.

March 11, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, budget hearing on the Architect of the Capitol and the Government Publishing Office, 10 a.m., Webex.

March 11, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled “COVID–19 and the Mental Health and Substance Use Crises”, 10 a.m., Webex.

March 11, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, oversight hearing on the U.S. Postal Service, 2 p.m., Webex.

March 12, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled “VA Specialty Healthcare: Oversight of Women’s Health, Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, Whole Health, and Homelessness”, 11:30 a.m., Webex.


March 10, Subcommittee on Readiness; and Subcommittee on Military Personnel, joint hearing entitled “Privatized Military Family Housing: Update on Implementation of Housing Reforms”, 4:45 p.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.


March 12, Subcommittee on Cyber, Innovative Technologies, and Information Systems; and Subcommittee on National Security of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, joint hearing entitled “Final Recommendations of the National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence”, 11 a.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Education and Labor, March 11, Full Committee, business meeting on new subcommittee assignments, 10:15 a.m., Zoom.

March 11, Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, hearing entitled “Clearing the Air: Science-Based Strategies to Protect Workers from COVID–19 Infections”, 10:45 a.m., Zoom.


Committee on Financial Services, March 10, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Justice for All: Achieving Racial Equity Through Fair Access to Housing and Financial Services”, 10 a.m., Webex.

March 11, Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Financial Institutions, hearing entitled “Slipping Through the Cracks: Policy Options to Help America’s Consumers During the Pandemic”, 10 a.m., Webex.


March 10, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Secretary Blinken: The Biden Administration’s Priorities for U.S. Foreign Policy”, 1:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.

March 11, Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa and Global Counterterrorism, hearing entitled “The Crisis in Yemen: Part 1”, 10 a.m., Webex.

March 11, Subcommittee on Europe, Energy, the Environment and Cyber, hearing entitled “Women Leading the Way: The Democratic Movement in Belarus”, 1:30 p.m., Webex.

March 12, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Policy Recommendations on Haiti for the Biden Administration”, 10 a.m., Webex.

Committee on House Administration, March 10, Full Committee, business meeting on Contestee Mariannette Miller-Meeks’s Motion to Dismiss Notice of Contest Regarding the Election for Representative in the 117th Congress from the Second Congressional District of Iowa, and for other purposes, 12 p.m., Webex.

March 12, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Committee Funding for the 117th Congress”, 12 p.m., Webex.


March 11, Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties, hearing entitled “The Constitutional Framework for Congress’s Ability to Uphold Standards of Member Conduct”, 2 p.m., Webex.

March 12, Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law, hearing entitled “Reviving Competition, Part 2: Saving the Free and Diverse Press”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn and Webex.


Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, March 12, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Science Behind Impacts of the Climate Crisis”, 11 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, March 10, Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials, hearing entitled “Full Steam Ahead for Rail: Why Rail is More Relevant Than Ever for Economic and Environmental Progress”, 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Webex.


March 11, Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, hearing entitled “Tax Tools to Help Local Governments”, 2 p.m., Webex.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
3 p.m., Tuesday, March 9

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Marcia Louise Fudge, of Ohio, to be Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

At 5:30 p.m., Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Marcia Louise Fudge, and on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Merrick Brian Garland, of Maryland, to be Attorney General.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10 a.m., Tuesday, March 9

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of H.R. 842—Protecting the Right to Organize Act of 2021 (Subject to a Rule).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Axne, Cynthia, Iowa, E211
Banks, Jim, Ind., E210
Bishop, Sanford D., Jr., Ga., E207
Castro, Joaquin, Tex., E209
Courtney, Joe, Conn., E208
Davis, Danny K., Ill., E211
Kim, Andy, N.J., E209, E211
Miller, Mary E., Ill., E209
Moore, Gwen, Wisc., E208
Napolitano, Grace F., Calif., E209
Norton, Eleanor Holmes, The District of Columbia, E208, E210

Pallone, Frank, Jr., N.J., E207
Pingree, Chellie, Me., E209
Sewell, Terri A., Ala., E211
Sherman, Brad, Calif., E210
Spartz, Victoria, Ind., E210

The Congressional Record (USPS 087-390). The Periodicals Postage is paid at Washington, D.C. The public proceedings of each House of Congress, as reported by the Official Reporters thereof, are printed pursuant to directions of the Joint Committee on Printing as authorized by appropriate provisions of Title 44, United States Code, and published for each day that one or both Houses are in session, excepting very infrequent instances when two or more unusually small consecutive issues are printed one time. Public access to the Congressional Record is available online through the U.S. Government Publishing Office, at www.govinfo.gov, free of charge to the user. The information is updated online each day the Congressional Record is published. For more information, contact the GPO Customer Contact Center, U.S. Government Publishing Office. Phone 202-512-1800, or 866-512-1800 (toll-free). E-Mail, contactcenter@gpo.gov. To place an order for any of these products, visit the U.S. Government Online Bookstore at: bookstore.gpo.gov. Mail orders to: Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 979050, St. Louis, MO 63197-9000, or phone orders to 866-512-1800 (toll-free), 202-512-1800 (D.C. area), or Fax to 202-512-2104. Remit check or money order, made payable to the Superintendent of Documents, or use VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, or GPO Deposit Account. Following each session of Congress, the daily Congressional Record is revised, printed, permanently bound and sold by the Superintendent of Documents in individual parts or by sets. With the exception of copyrighted articles, there are no restrictions on the republication of material from the Congressional Record.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Superintendent of Documents, Congressional Record, U.S. Government Publishing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, along with the entire mailing label from the last issue received.