United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 167 WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2021 No. 46

House of Representatives

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

PRAYER

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

Holy God, a year ago normal was turned on its head, national pastimes canceled their seasons, and Broadway went dark. Since then, our whole lives have been tragically upended, and our sense of health and welfare forever threatened.

But You in Your mercy have set before us many who have stood firm in the face of this year of incredible disruption and uncertainty.

God, we offer our deep-felt gratitude for the frontline workers—medical personnel and first responders—as well as those who have borne the responsibility for maintaining the Nation's infrastructure in all its forms—sanitation, communication, transportation.

We lift up to You in thanksgiving all teachers, counselors, caregivers, and parents who have upheld their commitment to the well-being and the future of our country.

I offer this prayer in these Chambers because each of us, and the American Government itself, is beholden to the scores of Capitol Police, staff members, and concession workers who, without fail or fanfare, have executed their duties in humility and faithfulness.

For their sacrificial dedication, the hours of watch-standing and lost family time, God, we owe them a debt of gratitude for helping to bring us through this tumultuous year.

When our words fail us and our appreciation for these noble public servants proves inadequate, we pray that You would speak Your special blessing on them and give them assurance of Your eternal reward.

We offer our prayers to You in the strength of Your 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 gentleman from New York (Mr. ZELDIN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. ZELDIN 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 five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

ARTS PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN OUR LIVES

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

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, these are challenging times for everyone, including for our Nation's young people, who are trying to cope with growing up and learning during the COVID–19 pandemic.

At this challenging time, arts education is more important than ever. The arts provide a way to help people connect and cope; and after this crisis, the arts will continue to play an important role in helping to heal.

In recognition of Music in Our Schools Month, I want to highlight the value of music education. My mom was a piano teacher, and I took lessons myself. I know music is an important part of a well-rounded education. It helps students become critical, creative thinkers across subjects and eventually in their careers.

Yesterday, I spoke with band and choir educators from Oregon, who are working to safely reengage students in in-person music classes. I thank them, and I am grateful that the American Rescue Plan will provide funding to help schools open safely, including those important band and choir classes.

Please join me in supporting music education.

PROUDLY STANDING WITH GUN OWNERS

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

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, H.R. 8 and H.R. 1446 are attempts by the Federal Government to exert more force over law-abiding citizens who want to protect themselves and their families.

Let me remind my Democrat colleagues that the Second Amendment explicitly states that the right to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. Maybe they would remember that if they carried a pocket copy of the Constitution with them like I do every single day. Apparently not.

I am proud to stand with the millions of gun owners in this great country who share an abiding gratitude for the Constitution and the Second Amendment itself.

Make no mistake, these bills are created in bad faith. They are partisan shams that rob us of our freedoms.

HELP IS ON THE WAY

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

Printed on recycled paper.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise to echo the words of our President: Americans, help is on the way.

The House of Representatives and Senate have passed the rescue bill, and there is money for vaccinations, money to open the schools, and money for small businesses. The opportunity to revise and rebuild our economy is at hand. The President will soon sign this legislation, and help is on the way.

COMMEMORATING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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

Mr. ZELDIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America.

Jewish War Veterans was founded on March 15, 1896, by 63 Jewish Civil War veterans after several anti-Semitic comments were made claiming there was a lack of Jewish participation during the Civil War.

Since then, the Jewish War Veterans have made it their mission to fight anti-Semitism and advocate for Jewish servicemembers and veterans from all walks of life.

Whether it was supporting Jewish servicemembers fighting Nazi Germany during World War II or establishing the National Museum of American Jewish History, the Jewish War Veterans have never stopped supporting its members, Jewish servicemembers, and our veterans.

As a fellow member of the Jewish War Veterans, thank you for your service to our Nation and our veterans, and congratulations again on 125 incredible years. May there be many more to come.

CRUSHING THE VIRUS AND PROTECTING OUR ECONOMY

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about possibly the most important bill this House has passed in recent years.

Yesterday, we passed the American Rescue Plan, a bill that spends $1.9 trillion to crush the virus and protect our economy. For the cities in my district, this means $615 million to Houston, $42 million for Pasadena, $2.3 million for Galena Park, $3.8 million fo11-15r South Houston, and $2.2 million for San Jacinto City.

That is money that keeps first responders on the job. That is money that keeps our water running and our trash picked up, and it is also money that keeps families together.

But beyond the numbers, this is the greatest antipoverty bill since Social Security. This bill cuts Hispanic poverty by 39 percent and African-American poverty by 42 percent.

Madam Speaker, we have to continue to build on these efforts. I want to thank all of my colleagues for coming together to fight poverty on a scale that we truly need.

KAIA HENDERSON IS A HUMBLE LEADER

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

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, the GOAT, the Greatest of All Time, that is how Coach Mike Callan, the winningest women's basketball coach in my hometown of New Hartford, New York, described junior sensation Kaia Henderson.

Not only is Kaia one of the top 50 women's high school basketball recruits in the Nation, she is also a straight-A student, a humble leader, and a viral sensation. Kaia scored her 2,000th point this week, even with a dramatically shortened season due to the COVID virus.

Coach Callan describes Kaia as a special player whose work ethic shows on the court and in the record books, where she holds at least 12 other school records for the Spartans. Kaia herself remains humble, noting she is focused on winning and helping her team get to sectionals next season.

Kaia is inspired by her beloved mom, Kristen, who passed away in 2014, who was devoted to Kaia's success. She also credits her dad, Aurelius, and four big brothers—Troy, Isaiah, and twins Jared and Jordan—who push her to new limits each day.

But there is more. She has now started a viral 10,000-hour challenge during the height of the pandemic to inspire others to perfect a craft. Check out the 10K hours challenge.

Congratulations to Kaia on her incredible success on and off the court.

WE WILL MISS YOU, JOE NOVOTNY

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, this month is the end of an era, as Joe Novotny concludes a 30-year career in the House, the last 10 as our Reading Clerk.

He assumed that role naturally with quiet competence. He was unflappable in the midst of often frantic activity. He is the face of a critically important and complex set of activities that keeps the House legislative process moving forward. Even when it seems like we are not doing much, it takes a lot of people to make it look that way.

He was born for this important role, having literally grown up in the House as a House page to see firsthand the legislative process. His rise through the ranks culminated with his decade as the House Reading Clerk. He has steadily and thoughtfully performed his duties in an exemplary fashion, being helpful, a perfect representation for the many men and women behind the scenes who hold this place together.

I, along with thousands of C–SPAN junkies will miss you, Joe, and we all wish you well, the very best in the next chapter of your career and life.

ELECTION ISSUES IN WISCONSIN

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

Mr. TIFFANY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight one of the many reasons for my objection on Wisconsin's election certification.

A recent story out of Green Bay has highlighted possible improprieties during this past November's election. The story alleges that campaign operatives acted as de facto members of the city clerk's office and disrupted a fair election process.

I call on State officials to investigate this serious matter, as election integrity is the priority for an overwhelming majority of my constituents.

If signed into law, the recently passed radical H.R. 1 will not only codify the types of issues we have seen across Wisconsin, it will disenfranchise many voters across our great State and our country.

PROCEDURAL MOTIONS TO RECOMMIT

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

Ms. DEAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to make clear that the motions to recommit that will be offered by our colleagues on the other side of the aisle are procedural. They are not motions that are sending back the legislation with instructions. It is a procedural move. I want to be clear and read literally what the motion to recommit says.

Motion to recommit H.R. 8, offered by Mr. JORDAN of Ohio, moves to recommit the bill, H.R. 8, to the Committee on the Judiciary. That is it.

Motion to recommit H.R. 1446, offered by Mr. HUDSON of North Carolina, moves to recommit H.R. 1446 to the Committee on the Judiciary.

These are fake attempts to recommit these bills and to stop them from moving forward. They are sensible pieces of legislation that will save lives.

□ 0915

BIPARTISAN BACKGROUND CHECKS ACT OF 2021

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. KELLY of Illinois). Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of the bill (H.R. 8) to require a background check for every firearm sale, will now resume.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the motion to recommit offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JORDAN) on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 207, nays 217, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 74]

YEAS—207

Aderholt
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Banks
Barr
Bentz
Bergman
Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brady
Brooks
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Calvert
Cammack
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cheney
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Comer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis
Davis, Rodney
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Estes
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jacobs (NY)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Katko
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kim (CA)
Kinzinger
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
LaTurner
Lesko
Long
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Mace
Malliotakis
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
Meijer
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunes
Obernolte
Owens
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Salazar
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Stivers
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Van Duyne
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Zeldin

NAYS—217

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Auchincloss
Axne
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Brown
Brownley
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Fletcher
Foster
Frankel, Lois
Gallego
Garamendi
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Golden
Gomez
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Haaland
Harder (CA)
Hastings
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Kahele
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Mfume
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newman
Norcross
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Perlmutter
Peters
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Ross
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sherman
Sherrill
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Soto
Spanberger
Speier
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—6

Balderson
Boyle, Brendan F.
Davidson
Sewell
Van Drew
Young

□ 1001

Messrs. BEYER and PETERS changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Messrs. WALBERG, CRAWFORD, BARR, and AMODEI changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "YEA" on rollcall No. 74.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Davids (KS))
Amodei (Kelly (PA))
Babin (Norman)
Baird (Walorski)
Barragán (Beyer)
Beatty (Lawrence)
Cárdenas (Gomez)
Cleaver (Davids (KS))
Cohen (Beyer)
DeFazio (Davids (KS))
Grijalva (García (IL))
Hastings (Wasserman Schultz)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Kahele (Case)
Kirkpatrick (Stanton)
Langevin (Lynch)
Lawson (FL) (Evans)
Lieu (Beyer)
Lofgren (Jeffries)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
McEachin (Wexton)
McHenry (Banks)
Meng (Clark (MA))
Moore (WI) (Beyer)
Morelle (Tonko)
Moulton (Rice (NY))
Napolitano (Correa)
Payne (Wasserman Schultz)
Pingree (Kuster)
Porter (Wexton)
Roybal-Allard (Leger Fernandez)
Ruiz (Aguilar)
Rush (Underwood)
Steube (Franklin, C. Scott)
Strickland (DelBene)
Thompson (MS) (Butterfield)
Watson Coleman (Pallone)
Wilson (FL) (Hayes)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

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

Mr. MASSIE. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 227, nays 203, not voting 1, as follows:

[Roll No. 75]

YEAS—227

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Auchincloss
Axne
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Fitzpatrick
Fletcher
Foster
Frankel, Lois
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gimenez
Gomez
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Haaland
Harder (CA)
Hastings
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Kahele
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Mfume
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newman
Norcross
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta

Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Ross
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Soto
Spanberger
Speier
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Upton
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NAYS—203

Aderholt
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Banks
Barr
Bentz
Bergman
Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brady
Brooks
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Calvert
Cammack
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cheney
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Comer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Estes
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fleischmann
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garcia (CA)
Gibbs
Gohmert
Golden
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jacobs (NY)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Katko
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kim (CA)
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
LaTurner
Lesko
Long
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Mace
Malliotakis
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
Meijer
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunes
Obernolte
Owens
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Stivers
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Young
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—1

Balderson

□ 1048

So the bill was passed.

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 (Davids (KS))
Amodei (Kelly (PA))
Babin (Norman)
Baird (Walorski)
Barragán (Beyer)
Beatty (Lawrence)
Cárdenas (Gomez)
Cleaver (Davids (KS))
Cohen (Beyer)
DeFazio (Davids (KS))
Grijalva (García (IL))
Hastings (Wasserman Schultz)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Kahele (Case)
Kirkpatrick (Stanton)
Langevin (Lynch)
Lawson (FL) (Evans)
Lieu (Beyer)
Lofgren (Jeffries)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
McEachin (Wexton)
McHenry (Banks)
Meng (Clark (MA))
Moore (WI) (Beyer)
Morelle (Tonko)
Moulton (Rice (NY))
Napolitano (Correa)
Payne (Wasserman Schultz)
Pingree (Kuster)
Porter (Wexton)
Roybal-Allard (Leger Fernandez)
Ruiz (Aguilar)
Rush (Underwood)
Steube (Franklin, C. Scott)
Strickland (DelBene)
Thompson (MS) (Butterfield)
Watson Coleman (Pallone)
Wilson (FL) (Hayes)

ENHANCED BACKGROUND CHECKS ACT OF 2021

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further 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, will now resume.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the motion to recommit offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HUDSON) on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 206, nays 212, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 76]

YEAS—206

Aderholt
Allen
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Banks
Barr
Bentz
Bergman
Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brady
Brooks
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Calvert
Cammack
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cheney
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Comer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Estes
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jacobs (NY)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Katko
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kim (CA)
Kinzinger
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
LaTurner
Lesko
Long
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Mace
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
Meijer
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunes
Obernolte
Owens
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Salazar
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Stivers
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Young
Zeldin

NAYS—212

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Auchincloss
Axne
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bourdeaux
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brown
Brownley
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Escobar
Espaillat
Evans
Foster
Frankel, Lois
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Golden
Gomez
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Haaland
Harder (CA)
Hastings
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Kahele
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newman
Norcross
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell

Payne
Perlmutter
Peters
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Ross
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schiff
Schneider
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Soto
Spanberger
Speier
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—12

Amodei
Balderson
Bowman
Eshoo
Fletcher
Kelly (PA)
Malliotakis
Mfume
Ryan
Schakowsky
Schrader
Smith (NJ)

□ 1135

Ms. KAPTUR and Mr. DOGGETT changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma, Messrs. BOST, ROUZER, STEWART, BURGESS, CLINE, and Mrs. SPARTZ changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 76.

Stated against:

Mrs. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, I was detained outside the Chamber, waiting on a member before me at the metal detector. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 76.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present during rollcall vote No. 76. On rollcall vote No. 76, I would have voted no.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Davids (KS))
Babin (Norman)
Baird (Walorski)
Barrágan (Beyer)
Beatty (Lawrence)
Cárdenas (Gomez)
Cleaver (Davids (KS))
Cohen (Beyer)
DeFazio (Davids (KS))
Grijalva (García (IL))
Hastings (Wasserman Schultz)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Kahele (Case)
Kirkpatrick (Stanton)
Langevin (Lynch)
Lawson (FL) (Evans)
Lieu (Beyer)
Lofgren (Jeffries)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
McEachin (Wexton)
McHenry (Banks)
Meng (Clark (MA))
Moore (WI) (Beyer)
Morelle (Tonko)
Moulton (Rice (NY))
Napolitano (Correa)
Payne (Wasserman Schultz)
Pingree (Kuster)
Porter (Wexton)
Roybal-Allard (Leger Fernandez)
Ruiz (Aguilar)
Rush (Underwood)
Steube (Franklin, C. Scott)
Strickland (DelBene)
Thompson (MS) (Butterfield)
Watson Coleman (Pallone)
Wilson (FL) (Hayes)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HIMES). The question is on the passage of the bill.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 219, nays 210, not voting 1, as follows:

[Roll No. 77]

YEAS—219

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Auchincloss
Axne
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brown
Brownley
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Fitzpatrick
Fletcher
Foster
Frankel, Lois
Gallego
Garamendi
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gomez
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Haaland
Harder (CA)
Hastings
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Kahele
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Mfume
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newman
Norcross
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Perlmutter
Peters
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Ross
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Soto
Spanberger
Speier
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NAYS—210

Aderholt
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Banks
Barr
Bentz
Bergman
Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brady
Brooks
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Calvert
Cammack
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cheney
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Comer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Estes
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fleischmann
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Golden
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jacobs (NY)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Katko
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kim (CA)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
LaTurner
Lesko
Long
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Mace
Malliotakis
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
Meijer
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunes
Obernolte
Owens
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Salazar
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Stivers
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Young
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—1

Balderson

□ 1229

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BALDERSON. Mr. Speaker, due to a family emergency, I was not present to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 74, "nay" on rollcall No. 75, "yea" on rollcall No. 76, and "nay" on rollcall No. 77.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Davids (KS))
Amodei (Kelly (PA))
Babin (Norman)
Baird (Walorski)
Barragán (Beyer)
Beatty (Lawrence)
Cárdenas (Gomez)
Cleaver (Davids (KS))
Cohen (Beyer)
DeFazio (Davids (KS))
Grijalva (García (IL))
Hastings (Wasserman Schultz)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Kahele (Case)
Kirkpatrick (Stanton)
Langevin (Lynch)
Lawson (FL) (Evans)
Lieu (Beyer)
Lofgren (Jeffries)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
McEachin (Wexton)
McHenry (Banks)
Meng (Clark (MA))
Moore (WI) (Beyer)
Morelle (Tonko)

Moulton (Rice (NY))
Napolitano (Correa)
Payne (Wasserman Schultz)
Pingree (Kuster)
Porter (Wexton)
Roybal-Allard (Leger Fernandez)
Ruiz (Aguilar)
Rush (Underwood)
Steube (Franklin, C. Scott)
Strickland (DelBene)
Thompson (MS) (Butterfield)
Watson Coleman (Pallone)
Wilson (FL) (Hayes)

MAKING TECHNICAL CORRECTION TO ALS DISABILITY INSURANCE ACCESS ACT OF 2019

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (S. 579) to make a technical correction to the ALS Disability Insurance Access Act of 2019, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 579

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

SECTION 1. RETROACTIVE ACCESS TO SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY BENEFITS INDIVIDUALS WITH AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS (ALS).

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2(b) of the ALS Disability Insurance Access Act of 2019 (Public Law 116–250) is amended by striking ''applications for disability insurance benefits filed after the date of enactment of this Act'' and inserting ''applications for disability insurance benefits approved after the date that is 5 months before the date of enactment of this Act''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect as if included in the enactment of the ALS Disability Insurance Access Act of 2019 (Public Law 116–250).

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the majority leader of the House, for the purpose of inquiring as to the schedule for next week.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding.

Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, the House will meet at noon for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business, with votes expected no earlier than 6:30 p.m.

On Wednesday, the House will meet at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate and noon for legislative business.

On Thursday, the House will meet at noon for legislative business.

On Friday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for legislative business, with the last votes no later than 3 p.m.

Madam Speaker, we will consider several bills under suspension of the rules. The complete list of suspension bills will be announced by the close of business Friday.

In addition, we will consider two bills to honor Women's History Month, including the Violence Against Women Act. This legislation is essential to help stamp out domestic abuse, violence against women and girls, and sexual harassment, and to provide victims and survivors with the resources to recover and seek justice. In addition to that, the House will consider a resolution to remove the deadline for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

The House will also consider two bills to address our broken immigration system. The first, H.R. 6, the American Dream and Promise Act, is to protect Dreamers and those with TPS and DED status. In addition, the Farm Workforce Modernization Act is to create a pathway for agricultural workers to earn legal status and to reform the H–2A program, a bill which enjoys broad bipartisan support.

Additionally, the House will consider a bill to ensure that we preclude cuts to Medicare, as well as farm supports and other programs implicated by sequestration.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman, and I appreciate the update on the schedule.

Madam Speaker, I would like to ask the gentleman, we have been getting a number of concerns expressed from Members on our side—and I would imagine on the gentleman's side as well—about the erratic floor schedule, the changes that have occurred. This week, we were supposed to be here Tuesday to Friday. It was changed to Monday to Thursday. Next week, initially, the calendar showed that it was a week for Members to be in their districts.

Madam Speaker, we all have challenges in our districts. There are small businesses that are struggling to stay afloat. Many Members are working with their local school boards to try to encourage schools to reopen. And all the other challenges that people have, whether it is trying to get water or spread distribution of the vaccine, as they set those meetings in their districts, when the floor schedule changes here, it disrupts their ability to properly represent their districts.

I know the schedule is laid out for the year for a reason, so that Members can manage both the schedule here—and we all represent 750,000 people, roughly, back home—and the ability to properly meet with and represent constituents who aren't even allowed to come to this Capitol to meet with us, so we want to go meet with them back home. It is hard to do that when the schedule continues to change.

If the gentleman would address the concerns that have been raised, rightfully so, about those erratic changes, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I agree with the Members, and I regret that we have had such a necessity on too many occasions to change the schedule. We did so, of course, to accommodate not only work done but also the very, very unusual start that we have had to this session, a tragic start that we have had to this session, dealing with issues that we would have preferred not to deal with, but we had to as a result of the insurrection that occurred on January 6, and other actions, including the security that the gentleman referred to. That concerns us all.

As somebody who represents the Washington metropolitan region, the openness of our Capitol is of particular concern to me because my constituents all live within driving distance, an hour or less. So, I share the view.

Madam Speaker, I want to assure Members that we are going to make every effort and that we are trying to now finalize. We already have April, May, June, and July as the schedule. I think that will not be changed in any dramatic fashion. But when we have the final, I hope to make sure that everybody, next week, before we leave here, knows what is going to happen in April, May, June, July, before the August break. Because I understand, when the schedule is changed, for whatever reasons, however justified they may be, it does disrupt.

Although I heard some criticism last Wednesday that we didn't come in Thursday, no Member came up to me complaining that we didn't come in Thursday. I did hear some political rap about it, but I didn't hear any Members say, ''Oh, jeez, I really wanted to come in Thursday.'' That usually is the case.

Madam Speaker, I want to remind the gentleman that we got all of our work done last week. All that was scheduled was done.

I will assure the gentleman that we are working very hard so that, the next 4 months, Members can rely on it when they see on the calendar that they have to be here or they don't have to be here, or that we are going to consider this, that, and the other.

We are going to try to hew very, very closely to that because I do appreciate that when you change the schedule, it is very disruptive for people's lives, for people's businesses, for our constituents.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland.

I appreciate the acknowledgment about the concerns and the disruptions of schedules as Members try to meet the needs of their constituents back home, as well as doing the work up here. Clearly, getting our work done is the first and most important priority to addressing those needs.

Hopefully, as we look toward our return after we come back in April, the appropriations process will begin. We would surely like to see us get back to a more regular order for doing appropriations bills, where we can have bills

go through committee, go through a markup process, with bipartisan input, which we haven't seen, but, ultimately, be able to bring those bills to the floor with a typical, traditional amendment process.

Madam Speaker, I know the gentleman is well aware of this. Historically, when appropriations bills come to the floor, there are many amendments. Sometimes, it is a completely wide-open amendment process, which we would surely encourage.

I know many of those years when we were in the majority and bills would come to the floor that were appropriations, a Member literally could write their amendment on a piece of paper and turn it in and that amendment would be debated and voted on, on the House floor. Sometimes, you would see over 100 amendments on a single appropriations bill, which are all important and should be debated, so we would go to 2-minute votes.

The question I would have is, now that we have seen—from reports I have seen, and maybe you have too—that roughly 75 percent of all Members in this House have had a vaccination for COVID–19, there is a strong desire to get back to a regular floor schedule here on the floor, where we are conducting our business and have the ability to interact with each other as colleagues.

It is a much different experience than when people have to trickle in, trickle out, limiting the number of people, the ability to debate things, 45-minute votes for every bill. If you have 100 amendments on a bill, this House can't function at 45 minutes per vote. To get back to a 15-minute, 5-minute, and 2-minute voting schedule—again, CDC guidance just came out this week, saying if someone is vaccinated, they don't even have to have a mask to be around other people.

The Senate doesn't require masks on their floor. There is no reason why we would have to have a mask to have this conversation. The President of the United States doesn't wear a mask when he is giving speeches, or his Press Secretary when she is meeting with the press.

Can we get back to a regular floor operating schedule where we can meet as colleagues in person? If somebody doesn't want to be around others, maybe a voting station can be set up. But for anybody else who wants to interact following CDC guidance, recognizing the vaccination rate, and getting back to the ability to have a voting schedule that allows us to conduct business the way we are going to need to when we start taking up those appropriations bills, I would ask the gentleman if he has a plan for that, if he could lay that out.

I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I would tell the gentleman that would certainly be the ideal. There is no doubt about that. We would like to get to that position.

We continue to consult the Capitol physician on his advice on what we ought to be doing. It would be a lot simpler if every Member had been vaccinated, I will tell my friend. Although, obviously, the information as to who gets a vaccination and who does not is privileged and private information, as it should be, I would ask my friend to urge his Members to get the vaccination so that both sides will know that all of our Members have been vaccinated. That will facilitate getting to where the gentleman wants to get and where, I share his view, I want to get and the Speaker wants to get. So, we will continue to talk about that.

Although we have a regular schedule, it is not the old schedule. It is not the 15-minute vote or 17- or 20-minute vote that we had, which was much more efficient, as you may have seen me quoted in the paper the other day about virtual, that we prefer to come together in this Chamber, in committee rooms, on this campus, to discuss with one another, to work with one another. We think that is the ideal, and we hope to get there as soon as possible.

We are making progress, obviously. We are getting a lot of Americans vaccinated. We are not anywhere close to the 75 percent yet, but, hopefully, we will be there soon.

I would think and hope we could get to 100 percent of Members and make sure that our staff is vaccinated as well. The sooner we do that, the sooner we can accomplish what the gentleman wants to accomplish.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I hope the gentleman is not suggesting that it would take a 100 percent vaccination rate. I know with the rest of the country, when States make decisions to reopen, when CDC issues guidance, I have never seen any guidance that said 100 percent vaccination is the standard for bringing something back.

Mr. HOYER. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I would yield because I would suggest that if we are at 75 percent now, you also have Members who have antibodies, who may have had COVID months ago and who have even taken the test that shows they have antibodies. Whether they have taken the vaccine or not, the antibodies can fight off COVID.

□ 1245

But at 75 percent, is there a number higher than that that the gentleman is setting as a standard?

I would hope it wouldn't be 100, but I would also hope we could have a conversation together to work through what that standard should be so we can get to a place where we have a normal operating process both in the House and in committees.

The committee work being done virtually is a true disservice to the ability for us to collegially work on issues. Many of our committees deal with not the high-profile issues that are the battleground issues where we are on our own sides, but in many cases it is where one sees the kind of collegiality where Congress can come together and work, and that isn't happening either.

I would hope we could come up with a standard that is not 100 percent. If we are at 75, then it has got to be somewhere at a different place to get back to a House floor functioning schedule, as well as a committee structure.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments.

Let me make a few comments. First of all, the gentleman mentioned about the White House and the President. I am going down with the President, who is going to sign the American Rescue Plan tomorrow, an extraordinary piece of legislation that we are very excited about and that is going to help literally millions and millions of Americans and our entire economy, our families, and our children. So we are very excited about that.

I was required to have a test. Now, I have had two shots, but I was required to have a test this morning by the Capitol physician before I went down to the White House. The gentleman says that you don't wear a mask, but one has to have a test before one gets into the room.

Now, with respect to the 100 percent, I think we ought to have 100 percent. I think everybody in this body and every one of our staff ought to have the vaccine to make sure that we are safe and that others who deal with us are safe. The CDC guidelines, by the way, recommend that people be vaccinated but that they avoid medium and large crowds.

Now, depending upon what the gentleman says, Madam Speaker, if you have 300 people on this floor, that is a reasonably good-sized crowd, and we are in great proximity to one another because of the size of this Chamber.

The CDC also says—the Senate has not listened to the CDC. The CDC says wear masks. So in terms of the gentleman's suggestion about the CDC changing its rules, that is true, but they haven't changed their rule on masks. They say wear a mask and try not to congregate in large crowds.

However, having said that, we want to get to the same objective that the gentleman references, and we are working towards that with the consideration of the safety of our staff, the safety of our Members, and the safety of security folks. We hope to get there sooner rather than later, and we are working on it.

Mr. SCALISE. I appreciate the gentleman's offer to work. Obviously, when one looks at the way the Senate operates, they have said that to speak, especially, you don't need to wear a mask.

I don't see the science that would say that the gentleman and I have to wear masks to have this conversation.

Again, I would direct my friend to when the President is giving a speech, he is not wearing a mask. If there are other people around, then they might be wearing a mask; but when they speak, they take off their mask. Just look at those protocols as well and just try to inject some of those commonsense measures to try to get back to doing our job.

One final point, I hope, again, we would all want everyone who has the interest in getting the vaccine to have access to the vaccine. But if one Member out of 435 felt they didn't want to have the vaccine, then I would hope that wouldn't be enough to prohibit the rest of us from carrying out more normal functions on the House floor and in committee.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. My point on the White House was that a Member may decide that. And if they don't want to get a test, then they can't go to the White House, for the safety of everybody there.

Mr. SCALISE. If maybe a requirement of a test once a week when we come in or something like that would help get us to a better place where we can have in-person, on the floor, and in-committee processes and meetings—the testing capability is now there in the Attending Physician's office. If it needs to be widened more, I know there are other rooms that are doing some of the testing—then that would be a suggestion, I think, worth us discussing if it helps us get back to a more functioning Congress, especially a more functioning House on the floor and in committee.

Madam Speaker, I yield to my friend.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, everybody in America wants to get back to normal. Everybody in America. We agree with them, and we are hopeful that we will get there sooner rather than later, and we are making good progress.

We just, yesterday, invested a large number, billions of dollars, to facilitate getting to where we want to be. And Americans want to be in testing, vaccination, and tracing. So I don't want to have anybody think we are in disagreement. We want to get there. We want to get there safely. We want to get there consistent with good health practices and the advice of the scientists and the physicians who treat us. But we are talking about it as we were here this week, and we are going to be talking about it next week because we all want to get to the same place.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I appreciate that.

Again, hopefully, this is a discussion that we can all have, not just the majority making this decision, but the majority working with the minority.

We have an active group of Members who are medical doctors, the Doctors Caucus, who have a lot of good suggestions. I think they are going to try to meet with the House Attending Physician. Hopefully, that can spur some additional ideas about how we can do this, and then have us work together to achieve that.

Finally, on the House committee schedule especially, we have taken up 14 different rules bills this Congress so far, bills that have actually come to the floor under a rule. Unfortunately, only one of those bills actually went to committee. Meaning, 13 of the 14 bills never even went to committee to have the debate in the openness and the transparency that this Congress deserves.

I think that millions of people across the country would expect that we would be having—as we are shaping policy, that it is not just a one-sided approach. That if a socialist agenda is being pushed by one side, then can't the other side at least have that discussion in a committee process and offer amendments?

The amendment process is critically important, and that has been lost too often—even the $1.9 trillion spending bill that over 90 percent of which had nothing to do with health needs and not a dime of which was dedicated to safely reopening schools, which is a huge cry amongst millions of parents across the country.

Madam Speaker, not only on one side, but, frankly, nobody on the majority side was even allowed to offer an amendment. A $1.9 trillion spending bill, probably the largest bill that has come through Congress in the history of our country, and not a single amendment, Democrat or Republican, was allowed in the House on that bill to be brought forward.

We were able to bring some amendments in committee. Every one of them was voted down or removed. Not one Democrat that I saw was even allowed to bring an amendment up in committee on a $1.9 trillion bill.

That is a major concern. It is a concern that denies the people's House from being able to express the will of the people when we have ideas and suggestions maybe, for example, as we wanted to in the House to say: Should a felon who is in a prison be able to get a $1,400 check?

We weren't even able to bring that amendment up for debate.

Can we at least require that schools reopen?

If hundreds of billions of new dollars are going to go to schools, shouldn't the requirement be that they use that following the CDC guidance and following the science that is widespread that says the schools should be open and that long-term damage is being done to kids by not being in the classroom?

Millions and millions of kids—maybe over 60 percent of the children in America—are not getting daily in-the-classroom learning. Unions are more concerned, saying: You can go to spring break if you are a union member, but just don't post pictures because we don't want anybody to see it—when they should be in the classroom teaching our kids.

That debate never got to happen here on the House floor and, frankly, in most of the committees. Because these bills aren't going through committee. And that one bill went through committee with the order clearly given not to allow a single amendment. Not a single amendment in the House was added to a $1.9 trillion spending bill.

I am sure some people might think that was the perfect bill, that there was not a single change. But sometimes the smallest bill has a change made that makes it a better bill, but not that bill. That kind of closed process is not who we should be as a House.

Madam Speaker, 13 out of 14 bills didn't even go through committee, and the one that did—the $1.9 trillion bill—not a single amendment by a Republican or Democrat in the House was allowed to be added. I hope that is not the standard. It is surely not reflective of what this House should be doing.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. The gentleman was here in 2017, of course. There was a bill that approximated the size of this bill. It was about $1.5 trillion, $1.6 trillion. This is a little more—substantially a little more, $300 billion, $400 billion, but in the same ballpark. There were no hearings on that bill. There were no amendments on that bill. It came to the floor, and there were no amendments to that bill. None. Zero.

Now, of course, 83 percent of that bill went to the top 1 percent of Americans. This bill was just about the opposite; 85 to 90 percent go to probably the bottom two-fifths in terms of income level and wealth. Hundreds of amendments were offered, as the committees marked up their instructions from the Budget Committee. Hundreds.

Amendments were, of course, offered in the Senate, as well. As my friend knows, they had their vote-a-rama; they met for over 24 hours. To indicate that this bill did not have a robust committee process in which Republicans and Democrats could offer amendments and have them adopted, I think, is not accurate, with all due respect, Madam Speaker.

Furthermore, this bill enjoyed the overwhelming support of the American people. Madam Speaker, 77 percent of Americans—59 percent of Republicans in the Morning Consult poll, 67 percent of Americans supporting the minimum wage, which was rejected, of course, by the parliamentarian in the Senate; 83 percent of Americans supporting H.R. 1, one of the bills that passed; 89 percent supporting comprehensive background checks, which passed today; 72 percent of Americans supporting equal protections for LGBTQ Americans.

The point I am making is, A, the bill to which my friend refers, the American Rescue Plan, had very substantial consideration over days.

The Ways and Means markup took 2 days and many amendments offered. So

from the standpoint of the public's knowing what was going on, I would suggest to my friend that that was very much greater than when the tax bill—about the same—in the same range of, in that case, $1.5 trillion with interest approaching the $1.9 trillion. So we think, very frankly, that there has been a lot of discussion on that bill.

One of the things, Madam Speaker, that concerned me the most was we worked in a bipartisan fashion on six prior bills. One passed on voice vote, the CARES Act, on the floor. Others passed with well over 150 Republicans and well over 150 Democrats—more than that, but well over 300 votes. They were all bipartisan. They were negotiated with the administration—the Trump administration. The CARES Act, Madam Speaker, was about exactly the same amount of dollars, and it passed on a voice vote here.

What was the difference?

Trump was President. That was the difference in all five. And it had been negotiated with him—or the Secretary of the Treasury, to be more accurate.

But substantively there was very little difference in terms of the broad nature of their impact, the dollar value of the bills, and the diversity of their objectives. To that extent, they were very much like this bill.

But, Madam Speaker, what was the difference?

The same thing that was the difference when we did the Recovery Act in '09. The gentleman was here. He was elected in '08. He came here and he voted ''no'' on the Recovery Act. Every Republican voted ''no'' on the Recovery Act—$787 billion. In my view, it kept us out of a depression. But that was not my view alone. It was Bernanke's view and it was the Secretary of the Treasury's view. So we see the same thing happen again. We went from bipartisan to partisan votes.

I, frankly, Madam Speaker, find it hard to believe that there wasn't a single Republican who thought the investments in opening up schools—some people say, well, you open up schools, that is the big cry now.

Yes, and we are doing something about it. They weren't open when we took over, but they are coming to be open.

I think it is unfortunate, Madam Speaker, that some demean our teachers. I will tell you, Madam Speaker, I have four great-grandchildren. All but one, who is too young, were taught virtually for these many, many months.

And my granddaughter, their mother, raves about their commitment of the teachers to those three children, and the work that they put in, day after day after day.

□ 1300

So are they concerned about their own safety? Are they concerned about the safety of the children? Are they concerned about other children and children taking it home to their moms and dads or their grandparents? They are. So we need to be safe.

But this bill, which all our Republican friends voted against, has substantial billions in there to make the schools safe so that people can go back with the confidence that they will be safe.

So I would simply say to my friend and others that they have talked about openness. In the 115th Congress—that is the last Congress in which there was a Republican majority—there was not a single open rule, not one. In the 115th Congress, you had 103 closed rules. In the last Congress, which we were in charge, we had that number to less than 52, 51.

JIM MCGOVERN, the chairman of the Rules Committee, is very committed to trying to make amendments, including amendments on the Republican side, in order; and I have urged him to do that.

So, hopefully, we will move forward in a way that continues to allow this House to operate effectively, and also give opportunity to your side and our side to raise issues.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, when you look at the bill that passed yesterday, the only bipartisan vote was against the bill. Every Republican—in fact, a Democrat voted against it as well. You had two Democrats who voted against it originally when it came through the House the first time.

But the bottom line is, it was the majority party and President Biden who chose to go it alone, who chose to have a closed process where Republicans were shut out.

There were many efforts, including a number of Senators going to the White House to meet with the President, who offered ideas, and every one of those ideas was thrown in the trash can. That is not a unity message. That is not trying to work with people from all parties and all walks of life to come up with the best ideas.

It was a go-it-alone socialist agenda, very little focused on COVID; $1.9 trillion, over 90 percent of which wasn't dedicated to healthcare.

You want to talk about schools. There was not a single dime in that bill that requires schools to reopen. You look at the money for schools, and hundreds of billions of dollars, by the way, are already out there that aren't spent, hundreds of billions that we all worked on together.

When President Trump said he wanted to work with Republicans and Democrats, he actually followed through on that promise, as the gentleman noted, and every CARES Act bill was a very bipartisan bill. That was an effort made on both sides to work together and they were targeted. It was targeted on helping families who were struggling or helping small businesses who were struggling; on getting money into the search for a vaccine.

Operation Warp Speed should be something we all celebrate, where President Trump said he wants to put all the focus at FDA on not only finding a vaccine, but prefunding the manufacturing of the vaccinations even before FDA approves them so we don't have to wait an extra few months that we don't have. That is why we are at a point where we can have 100 million vaccinations. We tried to double that number in this bill. That amendment was voted down.

But on schools, my colleague, ASHLEY HINSON, had a bill to say, let's say if the schools are going to get new money—which they already have enough money to fortify their schools to reopen safely. Many took us up on that and are open in the classroom today. Some have chosen not to, but not for a lack of money. Let's be very clear about that.

In fact, 95 percent of the money for schools in the bill that was passed yesterday can't even be spent this year; 95 percent of it. Then you have hundreds of billions of dollars still unspent that can be used to reopen schools who want to get back in the classroom, that money is already there. That money did not require—that need did not get met yesterday. That need was already met by Congress.

Some chose to do it. Some have chosen not to reopen, even though not only is the money there to reopen, but the science is there. The science lays out not only how to safely reopen, but it points out the devastating damage being done to children in this country by not reopening.

So when the gentleman talks about polls and, well, the polling says this bill is really popular. Hey, do you want a check for $3,500? I am sure a lot of people would say yes, until they realize that $350 billion of this money goes to bail out failed States. And a State like California, who has a $10-plus-billion surplus, is going to get over $40 billion.

So I am sure if we asked a poll question to people across this country: Do you think it is right to borrow $1.9 trillion from our children? Because somebody is going to have to pay for this. This money didn't fall out of the sky. Is it right to borrow $1.9 trillion from our children to give California $41 billion when they currently have a $10 billion surplus? I think we would get a different answer than the 70 percent saying yes.

If you said, in this bill, which we tried to correct, every felon in prison today in America will get a $1,400 check from the taxpayers. That is in the bill.

They tried to take it out in the Senate when they allowed them on the floor to bring an amendment. Not a single amendment was allowed on this House floor to fix those kinds of disparities.

Every Democrat in the Senate voted ''no.'' They said continue to give $1,400 checks to prisoners, felons in prison, when we are already paying for their food, for their lodging, for their healthcare. Now they are going to get a $1,400 check from the taxpayers of this country, borrowed from our children.

Do most Americans know that? I hope they do because when we then ask them the question later: Now that you know what is really in the bill, what do you think about it? When you recognize some of the other ideas that were brought forward, not only to reopen schools, but to target the money, to focus on helping small businesses, those were the things that we wanted to do, trying to put some guardrails and limitations in place, like the previous CARES Act bills did, which is why they were all bipartisan.

But when you look at these expenditures, and then you recognize that there is no money requiring schools to reopen. But our border is wide open right now and if someone comes over legally, they will get a check. That is a concern to a lot of people.

So, yes, look at the bill. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, it did go through committee. It did have markups and hearings. And, in fact, it yielded a great benefit to every American. Every income group benefited from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. And, as the gentleman knows, the income group level that benefited the most by us cutting taxes were the lowest income, because we rebuilt our middle class because of that bill. We made America competitive because of that bill.

And in this bill that passed yesterday, with a bipartisan vote against it, there was tucked away language that prohibits States from cutting taxes. Explain what that has to do with COVID.

If you are a State, every State will get money from that bill. Again, California gets over $40 billion, even though they have a $10 billion surplus. But if a State tries to cut taxes, they actually get penalized in the bill. People are aghast when they hear that. It just came out yesterday.

What does that have to do with COVID?

Why wasn't this a targeted relief bill? It was because one side wanted to close the process out and just go it alone and push a socialist agenda that has nothing to do, or little to do, with COVID relief.

I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I don't think there is a socialist agenda on this floor, any more than I think there is a fascist agenda on this floor. And we hear socialist. When Gingrich was here it was liberals. Now it is socialists; trying to distract from substance, trying to inflame.

It wasn't socialists that stormed the Capitol, and they weren't carrying Biden signs, they were carrying Trump signs.

I am tired, Madam Speaker, of this socialist drivel. First of all, I think a lot of them don't have the faintest idea what socialism is versus dictatorship or authoritarian regimes.

And the schools weren't reopened when we took over. Trump was President for 10 months.

The gentleman apparently wants to say in this bill, open the schools no matter what. We don't care what your locals say. We don't care what your PTAs say. We don't care what your superintendents of schools say. Open the schools because we mandate it.

I don't think that is what the gentleman, Madam Speaker, in the past has stood for, mandating what States do. Now maybe he thinks that we ought to take over the local education systems and tell them to open. We didn't do that.

What we did was, however, gave them $130 billion, over time—he is right, not immediately—over time to spend to make those schools safe; make their ventilation systems safe for kids; make the accommodations in the schools safe for kids and teachers and parents who go there.

So, Madam Speaker, we get distracted by these assertions of some sort of ideological patina that resonates with the right wing in America. And we can do that, or we can talk about substance.

Yes, I mentioned Americans overwhelmingly said that the substance that we had in this bill was what they liked. So, I would hope the Republican whip would talk about the substance of these bills.

We can have differences. But over and over, in the newspapers and on this floor, the socialist agenda resonates in your polls. It resonates in some of the districts; we saw that. It was not true.

Social Security was called socialist when it was adopted; Medicare, as well; Medicaid certainly, socialist, efforts to try to lift people up.

And when the gentleman tries to make an analogy to a bill that sent 83 percent of $1.5 trillion to the top 1 percent in America as being a bill to help the middle class, and working Americans, boy, that is a stretch, Madam Speaker.

Now, I want to go back to the substance of what the gentleman has raised. We want to see us working together. I see my friend from Texas on the floor. He and I have had these discussions.

It is a shame that we accuse one another of this epithet or that epithet and try to put one another in a corner. I lived through the Gingrich era, and that was almost the entire rhetoric that I heard from the floor all the time.

But if we are going to do that, it is going to be because people really do want to work in a bipartisan fashion.

There was discussion—I know for a fact, I was here, and I saw President Obama try to work in a bipartisan fashion on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Yes, he put his bill on the floor—excuse me—not on the floor, he put it on the table.

And I heard the meetings at the White House. I heard the meetings here when the Republicans said: Well, he didn't try to talk to us; he put this bill on the floor before he even talked to us. Not on the floor, on the table. I know because I was sitting there in the room when President Obama was trying to reach bipartisan agreement.

Zero Republicans, three in the Senate, helped on the American Recovery Act, which kept us out of depression. And I wasn't surprised that we had zero on this reconciliation bill, and I wasn't surprised that it changed from the six votes previously, where Donald Trump said this bill is okay; I am going to sign it; because nothing could have become law without him signing it. And Republicans voted overwhelmingly, in most cases, for it.

But now that we have a Democratic President, they have decided to return to the ''no'' votes that they cast on the Recovery Act, on the Affordable Care Act, which has helped millions and millions of people, and so many other pieces of legislation.

I would urge, my friend, Madam Speaker, to, when we say we want to work in a bipartisan way, let's try to do it. It is worth doing.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, it is worth doing. Again, that is why you had a number of Republican Senators go to the White House to offer that olive branch. They were turned down, and that is unfortunate.

On this bill, clearly it wasn't just Republicans who voted against it. It was a bipartisan vote in opposition. I hope that is not the model. And that was the point.

Thirteen of 14 bills have come to the floor under a rule so far; didn't even go through committee. Let's get back to that collegiality. Let's get back to bringing bills to committee, having the committees actually work in person so Members can have the ability to have those conversations and come and find common ground, which has happened in the past, and it surely can happen again now. I hope we can get to that point soon.

I yield to the gentleman to add anything else.

Mr. HOYER. I have nothing to further to say, Madam Speaker.

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

□ 1315

NEVER STOP SAYING HER NAME

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, 1 year ago this Saturday, a young couple in my hometown of Louisville were in bed when their door was broken down. The terrified couple leaped for cover, and the man, a licensed gun owner, fired a single shot toward the men busting into his home, hitting one in the leg.

The intruders responded with a barrage of gunfire so wild that it not only killed the woman but narrowly missed a 5-year-old in another apartment.

There is no mystery about the killers' identities, yet they remain free.

That this is unjust, tragic, and an abomination should be beyond debate. Instead, it is hardly unique in America for two reasons, because the killers wore badges and their victims were Black.

One year later, we are still demanding justice for Breonna Taylor, for her grieving friends and family and aching community and country.

Until this horrific story stops repeating, until we can say that, in America's policing and justice system, Black lives truly matter, we will not stop fighting; we will never stop demanding justice for Breonna; and we will never stop saying her name.

POPE FRANCIS' TRIP TO IRAQ

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

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share the most important news of the past few days, which was not Oprah's interview with the Duke and Duchess. In fact, it was Pope Francis' historic trip to Iraq and his extraordinary meeting with Grand Ayatollah al-Sistani.

Greeted by a release of white doves, Pope Francis, age 84, and the Grand Ayatollah, age 90, met for nearly an hour at the Grand Ayatollah's simple home in the city of Najaf. Together, they reinforced the Pope's and Islamic leaders' renewed formal and joint commitment to human fraternity.

The Grand Ayatollah reinforced his belief that ''Christian citizens should live, like all Iraqis, in peace and security and with their full constitutional rights.''

In the aftermath of the undisputed victory by the Iraqi, United States, and allied forces over the murderous caliphate of ISIS, the Pope's visit gives validation to the future of Iraq and its historic cultural and geographic roots of the three Abrahamic religions.

To the people of Iraq, we American citizens pray for safety, prosperity, and peace for you and your families.

YOUNG AMERICANS CHANGED CONVERSATION ON GUN VIOLENCE

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

Ms. JACOBS of California. Madam Speaker, today, the House passed H.R. 8 and H.R. 1446, two bills to enhance background checks and promote gun violence prevention.

As a millennial, I am a member of what is known as the Columbine generation, a generation that grew up in the shadow of gun violence and school shootings.

When violence came to our Capitol on January 6, congressional staffers barricaded themselves into a conference room and hid under furniture because it is what they learned to do in years of active-shooter drills.

It is time for that to change, and this is the start. Today, I rise to honor the young people who called us here to act.

From Steele Canyon to Bonita Vista, students in San Diego have organized, protested, and marched for their lives. I have been so inspired by them and young Americans across the country who have fundamentally changed the conversation on gun violence.

Because of their activism, we finally passed commonsense legislation that will save so many lives.

I was proud to support these bills.

CONGRATULATING WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

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

Mr. ESTES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Wichita State University men's basketball team and their head coach, Isaac Brown, for winning the America Athletic Conference regular-season championship. This is the Shockers' first AAC championship after joining the conference in the 2017–2018 season.

The Shockers ended their regular season with an overall 15–4 record after ranking seventh in the AAC preseason poll. WSU now enters postseason play as the No. 1 seed.

I am so proud of these men who have displayed perseverance on the court during this challenging year, and I know they will continue to make Wichita and Kansas proud.

I wish them the best of luck as they compete this weekend in Texas during the AAC men's basketball tournament. Go Shox.

GREEN-LIGHTING A BORDER CRISIS

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, after good results and success in recent years of defending and controlling our border, the Biden administration has turned on the green light that is seen all the way to Central America for immigrating here illegally, giving us the Biden border crisis.

It is not a matter of asylum, as asylum can be sought in Mexico. Continuing the trek to the U.S. border shows it is really about employment and economics.

Meanwhile, as our citizens struggle with unemployment and the shutdowns from COVID, the Biden border crisis has subjected border States, like my State of California, to COVID outbreak risks from those bypassing our laws.

This begs the question: Whose side is the Biden administration on, America's unemployed and COVID high-risk vulnerable or foreign interests for politics?

Indeed, it doesn't seem like they are on the side of Americans, and we are given, after less than 2 months, the Biden border crisis.

BORDER CRISIS IS A DANGER TO AMERICANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to follow up on the remarks of my friend from California, who just noted the crisis we have at the border and the danger that that puts the American people in, and not just the American people, but the immigrants who seek to come here.

I rise today, in particular, to bring the public's attention to that border crisis, which my friend rightfully recognized is being driven by that guy who runs that outfit over there.

Now, I do not mean, in saying that, the Secretary of Defense, Lloyd Austin. I know who he is. I mean that other guy who runs that outfit over there, down Pennsylvania Avenue, and that is the President of the United States.

I say this because the President cannot possibly have any idea what is going on because no American President entrusted with the safety and well-being of the United States and her citizens would purposely empower cartels or would purposely empower illegal organizations to harm American citizens for profit, to flood our streets with dangerous fentanyl and narcotics, to cause high-speed chases like the ones that have occurred in the district I represent, where Americans are in danger, or the murder of Americans through wide-open borders. No American President would purposely do that, would they?

No American President would purposely lie to immigrants and cause them to get raped and abused on long, dangerous journeys across the desert, upon the promise of amnesty, for crass political purposes. No American President would possibly do that, would he or she?

No American President could be so callous, so indifferent to the lives of Americans and immigrants who seek to come here, that he would allow his staff and the Secretary of Homeland Security to lie, repeatedly, to the American people that there is no crisis at our border.

No American President would do that, so no American President could know that this is happening and take that position, could understand what is happening and then ignore it, could understand what is happening at the border and then deny it and encourage it through reckless policies.

No, that guy who runs that outfit over there cannot possibly know what is happening at our border because no American President would do that.

But I assure you, we Texans know; our neighbors in other border States

know; and the American people across the country affected by this crisis know. We see it every day, the brutal conditions along the border ravaged by the deceit and the lies of politicians governing by sound bite and pretending they are compassionate. We do see it every day.

Who is this that I am showing here on the floor of the United States House of Representatives? This is the Vargas family. I have come to know Lori, and I have come to know other members of this family because Jared, depicted in this picture, was murdered by a colleague at a restaurant who was in this country illegally, who had been caught, let go, caught, let go, caught again, let go, and then murdered Jared. He was from San Antonio, Texas, which I represent.

This is real. This happens every day. We, in Texas, are on the front lines while the people in this body fiddle, and endanger the lives of American citizens, to prostrate themselves to a crass political left that could care less about the American citizens getting killed or raped. And they do it for political purposes.

The arrogance of leftist Democrats destroying our own Nation with trillions of dollars of spending; the reckless disregard of our energy independence and strength; the reckless disregard of the small businesses getting destroyed by shutdowns and the livelihoods destroyed while peddling fear and panic; the reckless disregard of our children, as their futures are destroyed by teachers' unions and the devastating masking of their innocent faces; the reckless disregard of our fundamental inalienable rights to worship, to speak freely, to defend ourselves with firearms, to pursue happiness by working to provide for our families; the reckless disregard for our safety while defunding police and attacking our rights to defend ourselves under the Second Amendment at the same time, done on this floor today; the reckless disregard for our national security, while empowering China to undermine our way of life; the reckless disregard for public health, as we rejoin the very World Health Organization that lied to us to protect China.

But perhaps the most reckless, by my leftist Democratic colleagues, is the arrogance of using crass political selfishness to encourage parents to send their children to be raped, to be abused, to ride on train cars, and even to die along dangerous journeys, while simultaneously facilitating or encouraging the destruction of our neighbors to the south, in Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras. It is happening in real time and in extraordinary arrogance, for purposes of crass political gain or perceived gain.

Our neighbors to the south lament the mass exodus of their people under the lies and false compassion being sold from American Democrats.

□ 1330

This is the truth of what we are dealing with.

Let's talk about some of the real issues going on on our border. Uvalde, Texas, the mayor, Don McLaughlin said, ''The 2019 border crisis will look like a cakewalk to what is coming with Biden's border crisis.''

He said they are seeing 10 to 12 high-speed chases each week, with speeds up to 105 miles an hour. The local government has to take it on the chin because this administration refuses to secure the border. That is the mayor in Uvalde, Texas, just outside of the district I represent. My friend, Mr. GONZALES, represents that district.

Don calls me all the time saying, ''Where's the help?''

Where is the Federal Government, whose job it is to secure the border of the United States? You know where it is?

Nowhere to be found. In fact, actually found at a border making it worse for the citizens of this country, making it more dangerous, purposely or incompetently, either one unacceptably endangering the lives of Americans and the immigrants who seek to come here.

Del Rio mayor Bruno Lozano said, ''I am pleading and requesting you to please put a halt to any measures regarding the release of immigrants awaiting court dates into the city of Del Rio and surrounding areas.''

Madam Speaker, the American people are pleading with their leadership. They are begging for the people in this body, the people's House, to recognize what is happening to them.

It is real. People bury their head in the sand up here protected by fences with razor wire, walking through magnetometers, tweeting out how they somehow compare or have compassion for immigrants, ''Look at us.'' And in this photo is what is happening to immigrants in south Texas.

There are mass graves where cartels kill people along the Rio Grande. There are people dying in the desert, seeking to come here like any normal person would do around the world, seeking to come to the United States of America, but being fed irrational hope from an administration for political purposes, endangering lives of immigrants and American citizens.

Yuma, Arizona, mayor Douglas Nichols said, ''I am urging the Federal level for additional resources for United States Customs and Border, the need for more space at migrant holding facilities that will allow for adherence to CDC guidelines, more COVID testing. There is no capacity in our current nonprofit system in Yuma.''

Our colleague, my friend from Texas, Mr. CUELLAR, has said thousands of migrants have not been tested. Over 10,000 people have come in through the lower Rio Grande Valley. He said, ''Those folks aren't being tested.''

There are folks—my friends on the other side of the aisle who recognize what is happening.

My colleague, Mr. GONZALES, sent a letter to Biden, requesting a meeting, stating, ''It is imperative we get this situation under control or we are looking at another crisis on our hands.''

Well, that crisis is here, citing the large number of unaccompanied children and increased hospital admissions. This is happening right now.

Where is the President? Where is the Homeland Security Secretary? Where is anyone in this administration recognizing the crisis at our border, the death toll, the impact on citizens and immigrants who seek to come here?

Texas State senator, Chuy Hinojosa, Democrat, said, ''I don't think, quite frankly, the Biden administration was aware of what is happening on the ground here, which you can understand because they are just coming in and trying to get people up to speed with what is happening. But I don't think they were aware there were that many coming across. The Border Patrol is overwhelmed. They are throwing their hands up because they don't know what to do.''

That is all from my Democrat friend from Texas.

The CBP has already encountered nearly 400,000 illegal immigrants since October, and the numbers are rising. For contacts in the first 5 months of fiscal 2020, the CBP encountered 200,000. That is twice as many this year, twice as many.

What changed?

The administration's absurd, embarrassing, incompetent or, worse yet, purposefully malicious policies.

Just last month, February, the CBP encountered over 100,000 aliens at the border. One month. That is who they encountered. That is not got-aways. This is real.

Come do like I have done and go spend the night on the border. Go sit down at the river at the Rio Grande. Talk to the immigrants, in my case in broken Spanish. If you are fluent, talk to them or have somebody who can and talk to them about why they are coming. Talk to them about what the cartels are doing to them.

Have a conversation with a young man, like I did last year, about the pack of girls behind him, about whether they were abused on the journey. He said, ''Yes,'' ''Si.''

Or just continue to bury one's head in the sand and pretend it is compassionate to have open borders, because that is what is happening today in the people's House. These are human beings, y'all.

As of last month, the number of families encountered is the highest since January 2019. In January, 7,200—almost 7,300 family units were encountered. In February, that number skyrocketed to 19,246. That is not an accident. These are families.

Encounters with what we call UACs—unaccompanied alien children—increased 74 percent year to date. Just last month, some 6,000 migrants aged 16 and 17 were caught. The Department

of Homeland Security currently projects there will be 117,000 unaccompanied child migrants crossing the border this year.

The number of migrant children is on pace to exceed the all-time record by 45 percent, and the administration does not have enough beds. The Biden administration needs another 20,000 beds to shelter the minors.

Now, I have a couple friends here, a couple colleagues, who I think are waiting to join.

Is the gentleman from California looking to add a few remarks?

I will yield to the gentleman from California in just one minute, and then my friend from Virginia after him.

But what I would say, when we are talking about these numbers, people get lost in the numbers, 20,000 beds, talking about 45 percent increase. Let's just be very clear. For those of us who spend time on the border—I am going back on Monday—these are human beings. These are people. They are not political pawns. And that goes for American citizens and for the immigrants who seek to come here.

And this is the dirty little secret. My Democratic colleagues know full well that what is happening at the border is going to be a catch-and-release organization. The Department of Homeland Security is turning the CBP into a catch-and-release organization. So you will see some of these numbers going down.

But don't kid yourself, the American people watching this. When the numbers go down in these facilities, it is because the Biden administration is purposefully catching and releasing folks, whether they have been tested or not, regardless of what kind of security threat they might pose, regardless of fully checking whether a child goes with a family member or not, whether they can be abused, put into the sex trafficking trade, because it is rote incompetence. When you see those numbers go down, just know what is happening.

11,000 people were caught and released in January and February, immediately caught and released from the CBP rather than being put in facilities.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague from Texas, Mr. ROY.

Indeed, as another representative of a border state, we feel the effect as well of the Biden border crisis. President Trump saw the importance, as did many law-and-order Americans, of having a secure border. The Biden administration stopped construction of the security fence hours after being inaugurated. This has given us now the Biden border crisis.

Really bad enforcement of immigration, that seems to be their priority. Risking health of Americans with virus superspreaders is a result. As my colleague mentioned, the catch-and-release program is in full force.

Do we really expect people to be released in this country to come back to have a hearing within 2 years?

Past pattern shows not.

The Biden administration has just canceled an agreement with Mexico to keep the asylum seekers on that side of the border, which worked pretty well to keep the numbers down from those coming through Mexico from Central America. Now the incentivization of that is another big green light.

Look at the numbers we are talking about here. Just in January, the numbers increased to 78,000 and change. In February, 100,000 so-called encounters at the border for people who our personnel have to deal with or might be sneaking through without dealing with our personnel.

To add final insult to this policy, to Americans, to taxpayers, in the so-called COVID relief bill, checks can go to illegal immigrants who are coming here via this manner.

I mean, whose side is this administration on? The hardworking Americans coming through a COVID crisis, high unemployment? Who are they working for?

I don't think it is us. I don't think it is the American people.

As a Californian, I also want to harken back to two tragedies amongst many. In northern California, just a few short years ago, we lost a beautiful young lady named Kate Steinle in San Francisco, who was killed by an illegal immigrant who shouldn't have been here, who should have been deported at least five times over.

Jamiel Shaw from the Los Angeles area, whose father I have met. His dad lost his son to a killing by an illegal immigrant.

Whose side is this administration on when they carry out this policy just to either show they are different from Trump or that it is a political gain for them in their twisted view?

Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his remarks. He rightfully points out the impact on Miss Steinle and her family and American citizens in California being negatively impacted by illegal immigration.

I talked before about Jared Vargas from San Antonio, the city I represent, who was murdered a couple years ago. His twin brother just graduated from college. He is going on. His family is a beautiful family. They have a strong faith, and they are persevering, but their family was turned upside down by a brutal murder. He was beaten to death and burned. Beaten to death and burned by a guy who came here illegally, was caught and let go, caught and let go, caught and let go again. He beat and burned to death Jared Vargas.

These are real people. We can do hundreds of these. We can talk to the angel families who have lost loved ones. We can talk to the parents of law enforcement officers and others in Border Patrol who have lost loved ones along our border. We could do a whole hour, we could do a whole day just going through that impact and, as I pointed out before in the other slide, the impact on the immigrants who seek to come here.

This is the story, all in the false name of compassion by this administration.

I will be happy to yield in just 1 minute to the gentleman from Virginia.

My friend from California was raising the important points of the impact of illegal immigration. Now we are seeing it in real time, particularly in Texas, among all four States along the border and throughout this country, empowering cartels, endangering the lives of the immigrants who seek to come here, endangering American citizens for one reason and one reason only, and that is the crass political interests of the American Democratic Party and this administration.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia.

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I thank the esteemed congressman from Texas, who has been quite a champion on this issue.

Madam Speaker, no nation in the history of the world has been more welcoming to immigrants than the United States. And no nation in the history of the world is more diverse or has provided more opportunity for people of all races and ethnic backgrounds than the United States.

That is why millions of immigrants of all races and ethnicities are seeking to come to America. In fact, billions of the world's 7 billion non-U.S. population would come here, undoubtedly, if they could.

I sincerely believe that most Americans, if not most elected officials, understand that the lack of an effective immigration policy is one of the most important threats to our country. However, President Biden's decision to reverse the Trump policies that successfully secured our border is dangerous to the future of our Nation and driven solely by a need to pander to the left.

□ 1345

Make no mistake, President Biden's policies created this very crisis today, his promise of amnesty made it worse, and his administration is now ignoring it.

You would think in the absence of leadership, Congress would try to step in and address the Biden border surge crisis.

Instead, we are expecting to take up two liberal amnesty bills in the House this upcoming week, including H.R. 6, the American Dream and Promise Act.

H.R. 6 would provide amnesty to roughly three million people, which would be a slap in the face to everyone who ever has or currently is navigating our legal immigration system.

Even worse, it would incentivize more illegal immigration at a time

when we have no operational control of our southern border.

Even more bizarre, this bill allows for criminal aliens, people who have committed crimes in American communities, to be eligible for amnesty.

The bill specifically allows for an individual who has committed up to two misdemeanors or one crime of moral turpitude to gain a pathway to legal status.

Some may say, well, misdemeanors aren't that serious. Well, here are a few examples of crimes that are only misdemeanors in States such as California: Domestic violence, prostitution, drunk driving.

Worst of all, this legislation provides a waiver for people who would technically not otherwise qualify for this amnesty. This waiver specifically covers: Human smuggling offenses, voter fraud offenses, and communicable diseases.

I urge this Congress not to worsen this crisis, and to instead debate legislation that makes America safer and honors our legal immigrants.

Instead of providing amnesty to criminals, we should debate my legislation, H.R. 398, the No Asylum for Criminals Act, which would prohibit dangerous criminals from qualifying for asylum in the U.S.

When it comes to legal immigration, people of good faith can debate on what overall immigration levels are prudent for our country, how to best balance the needs of American citizens with the desire of immigrants who are simply seeking a better life for themselves and their family, how to cultivate patriotic assimilation, how to protect jobs for American workers while providing labor for our businesses, and the merits, or the lack thereof, of issues such as chain migration, birthright citizenship, diversity visas, and other unique features of America's immigration system.

But there should be no debate on the rule of law. We should be united and bipartisan on the critical importance of enforcing our laws and eliminating illegal immigration.

There is simply no honest debate regarding the fact that barriers, whether walls or fences, work. Just look around D.C. to see confirmation that our House Democratic leadership believes this.

There should be no debate regarding the fact that illegal immigration is a significant threat to our national security, our economic security, and our health security.

Illegal immigration further burdens our economy, our social services, our healthcare system, and our education system.

Illegal immigration also enriches Mexico's organized crime and the cartels that control everyone and everything that comes across the southern border.

The individuals illegally coming across our southern border suffer dangerous and sometimes deadly hardships and are often victimized by the Mexican cartels.

Individuals who cannot afford to pay the smugglers are often extorted into carrying drugs and other illicit material into the U.S. Others are abused as indentured servants to the cartels if they make it across. Many must live the rest of their lives with existential threats to themselves and their families.

Moreover, illegal immigration places our law enforcement and our citizens living near the border in immediate danger when drugs and other preventable materials are smuggled across the border with impunity. We are risking turning every community into a border town and making our Nation a sanctuary Nation.

We must commit to completing the wall, enforcing our existing laws, ending catch and release, requiring mandatory E-Verify, fixing our biometric entry/exit systems, and taking amnesty, unlawful employment, and citizenship off the table.

The future of our country is clearly at stake with how we manage or don't manage immigration.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, in a moment I will yield to the gentlewoman from Georgia, and I thank the gentleman from Virginia for those remarks that are directly on point.

What we are seeing right now—you used the phrase that we are creating a ''sanctuary Nation,'' is a sanctuary country. Well, that is what is happening. That is what this administration is doing. You talk about sanctuary cities; this administration is just going right past sanctuary cities, and they want to make the United States of America a sanctuary Nation.

They are turning the Department of Homeland Security and the CBP into the welcoming center for a sanctuary Nation. And not a welcoming center in the sense that we would all agree we want to do as Americans, to make sure that those who are truly seeking refuge following our laws, seeking asylum, the things that our laws provide for people truly under persecution. No. They are using that as an excuse and cover for wide-open borders and, essentially, people seeking economic opportunity, which no one I know begrudges those who seek economic opportunity. But we do take issue with those who seek to violate our laws to come here, overwhelm our border, and an administration whose job it is to enforce the laws of the United States to refuse to do so.

It begs the question whether the President of the United States, as I said before, either has no idea what is happening at the border or whether it is purposeful. And if it is purposeful, is it the President of the United States choosing to refuse to defend the Constitution and the laws and to refuse to take care to see that the laws of the United States are faithfully executed as is required under the Constitution of the United States? I think it is a question this body ought to be asking.

The people's House ought to be asking: Is the President of the United States refusing to take care to ensure that the laws of the United States with respect to our borders are being faithfully executed?

I would posit that that is precisely what is happening, or the President of the United States has no idea what is happening at our border. Because, again, no American President can be so callous as to use raw, crass politics to allow what is happening at our border to happen to human beings, American citizens and immigrants alike. ''That guy who runs that outfit over there.''

I yield to the gentlewoman from Georgia.

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I thank the good gentleman from Texas for yielding.

I have to tell you, that Jared, who you spoke about, I met his aunt and uncle a few years ago. And he suffered a death that is too much to think about. And him being an American citizen, born here free and being murdered like he was by illegal aliens, criminals, animals, is just too much to bear.

This is the people's House. This is the House of Representatives that I have started to call the house of hypocrites. This entire campus right now is surrounded by a border wall with razor wire. It is a fence unlike anything at our southern border. This place is surrounded by the military. It is completely guarded. But we don't extend the same thing to the American people.

The Joe Biden administration, my Democratic colleagues here in Congress, Democrats in the Senate, they want the border ripped wide open, and that is what it is right now.

I just watched a video that was shared this morning from southeast Texas where there are hundreds, perhaps thousands of people lined up to cross the Rio Grande, and they are being smuggled into our country by human traffickers.

It is big business to come into our country illegally, and Joe Biden is rewarding the smugglers, the coyotes, the cartels in Mexico and these other countries by opening our borders up and welcoming them all in.

While they are forcing our kids to stay home and paying off these teachers' union bosses, they have wide-open, 100 percent capacity, in-person teaching for illegal children. What kind of country is this that rewards people that break into our country illegally, but yet abuses its citizens and taxpayers?

There needs to be a change, and this is Joe Biden's crisis that he will never recover from. People are not stupid, no matter if they vote one party or the other. But the American people are going to be sick and tired of being run over and treated this way.

Everybody wants to cry about COVID–19, the most politicized virus, a political tool that shut down America. Well, let me tell you something, all these people that I just watched on this

video, they are not wearing masks like we are required to do. They are bringing all kinds of diseases into our country, but yet, they are being welcomed in. Here, come to school. Here, here is a bus ride to another city. Come on in. Yet America is still not fully open because of COVID–19.

There are so many reasons why we can call this the house of hypocrites that we could be here all day long, but I appreciate the time.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the gentlewoman from Georgia coming down and joining us in this conversation.

I did not realize that the gentlewoman had the pleasure of meeting with and getting to know the Vargas family or at least maybe the aunt and uncle, I think is what you said. And what I would tell you is that it is a truly wonderful family. They embody all that is right and good about the American Dream, about opportunity.

These are American citizens, American citizens who happen to have, you know, Hispanic family members, which is so ironic because—you know, those of us who really try to take and honor the idea of judging people by the content of their character and not their skin color or race or creed, I find it ironic that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle seem to only view the purpose of the legislative body to view human beings by the color of their skin and to make all of our policies based on segmenting us out.

To quote the Supreme Court Justice John Roberts in a seminal Supreme Court case, Divvying us up by race is a sordid business.

And my colleagues on the other side of the aisle often use words like ''voter suppression'' when we talk about believing we should have voter identification. Believing we should have rules in place about how we run our election systems, heaven forbid.

And would the gentlewoman agree that too often those words like ''voter suppression'' are code words, buzz words for the allegation that those of us who believe a secure border is better for immigrants and American citizens believe that voter ID and systems that make sure American citizens are the ones voting that we are labeled bigots, and that words like ''voter suppression'' are code words and buzz words, dog whistles that we are bigots and that the agenda of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle is often directed to label us as such. Would the gentlewoman agree with that?

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. ROY. I yield to the gentlewoman from Georgia.

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. I definitely agree with the good gentleman from Texas. You see, it is unfortunate that our colleagues on the other side of the aisle use race as a tool to push their agenda, where here in this country every single one of us are equal. God created us equal and thank God we have a Constitution that affirms it.

And if we are to do anything we should look at Americans as one, because we are the citizens of this Nation, and all of our policies and laws should serve our American people, not divide it up by identity or politics or any other category.

And it is shameful that we have come to this place after we have come so far and achieved so much. And so, yes, I do agree with you, and it needs to be done away with.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, a brief moment, a side-step away from the issue of border security—and I know the gentleman is here and is waiting patiently—and I would just ask one more question.

The gentlewoman was here on Monday when we let it be known our desire to not allow 13 bills—10 Democratic bills, 3 Republican bills—to move off of the House floor by voice vote, that is without a roll call vote. And you would have thought that we, you know, lit a match on the floor of the House of Representatives or had done something extraordinary to just break this hallowed institution from its smooth operations of today.

You would think that we were, you know, up-ending our Constitution as we know it because, believe it or not, we demanded the yeas and nays, a roll call vote, on 13 bills. The gentlewoman has also often taken to using motions to adjourn—and I believe I have heard she has done so and the gentlewoman stipulates she has done so—to force another hour of consideration when we have a bill like the $1.9 trillion monstrosity that reshapes the American economy, reshapes the American healthcare system, funds money for people in prison, up-ends our entire fiscal stability, I could go on and on.

Is the gentlewoman in agreement with me that what we are trying to do is to simply put our colleagues on notice that perhaps the people's House should debate, vote, amend, be present, not vote by proxy from your home districts, actually be here, not have fences with razor wire, actually do our job, actually represent the people that elect us to come here, would the gentlewoman agree with that? I yield to the gentlewoman.

□ 1400

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. I absolutely agree with the good gentleman. This is a place where we are sent to do a job for the people of our district. We should be able to vote on record and not have to hide behind a voice vote. We should be able to call for a motion to adjourn to give everyone pause and thought before they vote for such crucial, critical, radical, transforming legislation.

I absolutely fully agree with the good gentleman from Texas. Congress is a place where people should be working just as our regular American citizens are working 12-hour shifts, working in factories, working on job sites, paving roads, working in restaurants, serving us when we go to eat. This is absolutely a place where we should work, where we should be able to use tools to represent our districts and not have rules changed here in the people's House to stop us from being able to use good measures for everyone in Congress to vote, be on record, and do their jobs that they have been elected to do.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Georgia. I know I have my friend who has been waiting patiently, and so I will yield to that gentleman.

Madam Speaker, I would just note that the gentlewoman from Georgia mentioned video taken from southeast Texas this morning. I am looking at that on social media at the moment, a huge line of people waiting for smugglers to ferry them across the Rio Grande into the United States, video courtesy of Tripwires and Triggers, which is run by a fellow named Jaeson Jones, who is a good friend of mine, formerly with the Department of Public Safety in Texas.

Jaeson is on the job, on the spot, much like my friend Brandon Darby and others who work for Breitbart Texas who are on the spot, always trying to look out for the interests of Texans and American citizens, but also the immigrants who seek to come here.

These immigrants are being abused by cartels while my Democrat colleagues use them as political props. It is unconscionable that we are allowing that to continue in the greatest Nation in the history of the world, again, all for crass political purposes.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Montana (Mr. ROSENDALE).

Mr. ROSENDALE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I would like to add to that. What is lost on this body many, many times over is the inhumane treatment that these many, many travelers are experiencing not only before they get to the United States but then after.

This is not the land of milk and honey for everyone, folks. There are people who are pressed into indentured servitude once they actually arrive here.

Madam Speaker, I had the privilege of going down to the Arizona-Mexico border about a month ago with the gentleman from Texas and was able to see firsthand and meet with Customs agents, Border Patrol, local law enforcement, and the farmers and ranchers. What falls on deaf ears is the terrible, terrible treatment.

Our friends from across the aisle think that they are being compassionate by opening up the border and declaring amnesty for everyone. What they don't understand is that those folks are so poorly treated by the cartels as they travel north.

You can break it into three sections.

As they travel north, these women are raped. These children are violently assaulted. They are forced and coerced

into carrying drugs across the line. And then they are forced to pay $5,000 to $7,000 to try to pay for that passage.

Once they get to the border, they are then forced to carry drugs across the border.

Once they get north and are actually in our country, what happens is, many times over, they are forced to pay 25, 30 percent of their weekly income back to a cartel, which then continues to fuel other illicit crimes.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, reclaiming my time.

Would the gentleman be surprised if I recounted to him the story of when I was at the border last year at Laredo, and we were having a conversation with Border Patrol and went into one of the facilities, and we were talking to one of the fellows there. While we were there, through conversations with one of the young men who had come across—frankly, encouraged to do so and come in and meet with Border Patrol in order to get across. He then gave up the location of a stash house in Houston, Texas, where we then went and found, that day, 50 immigrants in a basement, in a stash house in Houston, Texas, being held essentially for ransom.

These were human beings, the product of a broken system that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle hail as somehow pro-immigrant when it is decidedly the opposite of pro-immigrant.

Would the gentleman agree with that?

Mr. ROSENDALE. Madam Speaker, I would absolutely agree with that. And my good friend from Texas, I think with your fabulous legal mind, you can tell me. As we have these 180 cities across the Nation and 11 States that have declared themselves sanctuary places that these folks can go to, could we say that they are complicit in these crimes when they are incentivizing these people to travel north and get trapped in these situations?

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, it certainly goes without saying.

I started my remarks earlier about the knowledge and the engagement of this President and the President's administration, that the policies of this administration, the policies of Democrat cities, the policies of Democrat States, with sanctuary cities and sanctuary States, and now, effectively, a sanctuary Nation, are directly causing the movement and the migration of human beings to come here, being exploited by cartels for profit, endangering their lives, endangering American citizens.

Yes, for any understanding of law, you are complicit in what is happening to the people in question.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

Then the last point that I would make—as my good friend from Virginia, who was here earlier, made—and that is, it impacts every community across our Nation.

We all are border cities now. The State of Montana is very proud to host to seven sovereign nations, the reservations. What happens is they become target areas for wide distribution of methamphetamine and other illicit drugs and sex trafficking. Then, those problems begin to spill out into the other communities around there, so the entire State ends up becoming a big, big problem.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, and I would say to my friend that the scourge of human trafficking, in all of its elements—and human trafficking in the sense of the sex trafficking trade, modern-day slavery right here in the United States, people being under the thumb of dangerous organizations, cartels, and illegal organizations embedded in this country. It all has its roots and connections, in many ways, to the trafficking of human beings across our border for profit.

The power being put over these people, in which they are working in subpar conditions or put into the sex trade, that is happening in the greatest country in the history of the world, and it is all a direct consequence of accepting and embracing that lawlessness.

That lawlessness starts at our border and is also tied to our lack of enforcement and interior enforcement, through ICE, and the other cutbacks by my colleagues on the other side of the aisle.

Mr. ROSENDALE. It has. The gentleman from Texas, I think, would agree that we are in a sad state when the humans across this Nation have devolved into where they now have become collateral.

The family, friends, and relatives of the people who have crossed the border illegally, their family and their friends have devolved into a place that they are collateral to make sure that the payments are made for the people who have actually crossed the border to the north.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 15 minutes remaining.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, what I would like to expand upon is an extension of what my friend from Montana was just talking about, what is happening to human beings here in the United States.

But now let's talk a little about the impact with respect to COVID and the pandemic that we are dealing with. The Biden administration, in its infinite wisdom directly causing what we are seeing at the border, relaxed title 42 to allow illegal alien minors to enter the country, leading to a massive surge of illegal immigrants at the border in total.

In February, CBP encountered nearly 9,500 unaccompanied alien children at the southern border. That is a 28 percent increase over January, more than 2,000 over last year, and, incredibly, almost 30,000 UACs have been encountered in just the first 5 months of the fiscal year, 30,000 children. That is nearly a thousand more UACs than the first 5 months of last year, but it is a 74 percent increase over fiscal year 2020 numbers.

Here is the thing: It is harming these kids, but it is also distracting Border Patrol from their job. They are turning Border Patrol into an entity that has to manage people, kids in facilities, but they are no longer doing their job between the ports of entry.

Do you know what that means? Fentanyl, narcotics. Why do we have a mass opioid crisis in this country? Now we are feeding into that as a literal, direct, and obvious result of the policies of this administration.

It has to be, as I said as I opened, either complete incompetence or purposeful. Either one of those is unacceptable.

Madam Speaker, Mexico is closing their Migrant Protection Protocol shelters where migrants are supposed to be tested and confirmed negative for COVID before being let into the United States. Reports have indicated at least 108 COVID-positive illegal aliens were released by CBP in one fell swoop. According to reports, at least 185 immigrants released in the past month in Brownsville tested positive.

Madam Speaker, 25 Border Patrol agents have died of COVID, but the administration is taking no major steps to prioritize those frontline workers for the vaccine in the last 2 months. Most of them are having to go into the communities to go get the vaccine, even though they are on the front lines, dealing with COVID-positive individuals coming across our border.

Madam Speaker, it is for this reason that my colleague from New Mexico, YVETTE HERRELL, introduced H.R. 471, the Protecting Americans from Unnecessary Spread upon Entry from COVID Act of 2021, or the PAUSE Act.

Title 42 must remain in effect under her act until all State and Federal lockdowns, stay-at-home orders, curfews, and other COVID mandates end; all public and Federal public health emergencies for COVID–19 end; and the CDC's COVID–19 travel health risk level for Canada and Mexico is reduced to level 1.

Madam Speaker, that is a good bill. We should continue to enforce title 42. There are 44 cosponsors to this bill, only Republicans.

Yesterday, I filed H. Res. 216, which is a rule to discharge this bill. When it ripens, which is another 8 or so legislative days, we are going to be pushing to discharge that bill from committee and vote on it on the floor of the House of Representatives.

I hope my Democrat colleagues will agree that we should enforce title 42 to protect American citizens and make sure that we don't have an epidemic at our southern border.

Madam Speaker, this is what we are facing, and it is a direct consequence of

an administration peddling amnesty and the false hope to immigrants to come here through dangerous channels, being abused by cartels in the process.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT), my friend.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Texas for yielding.

I am so thrilled you are hammering this point. These are people's lives, as you were saying earlier. We just were having a hearing in a crime subcommittee, and an article was introduced that said there are more drugs that come in through public ports than illegally across our border.

Well, my friend has been involved in enforcing the law as a State prosecutor. There is no one who can tell you how much in the way of drugs were missing, but these kids are now—there is incentive from the Biden administration to keep reusing these kids.

Border patrolmen are saying—my friend may have touched on this earlier—that, actually, they are recognizing some of the kids who come in and help people to stay there, and then they will go back across the border and come with another group.

□ 1415

It is bad enough that this administration is luring people up, especially children, to their detriment, but it is even worse when they become just products to be used and thrown away. I had been standing there all hours of the night seeing the long line of people being processed and the border patrolmen were asking their questions.

At the opposite end where I would go, there are people passing kids around and asking: Who is going to be the mother? Who is going to be the father? Do you want this kid?

I will take the kid.

Madam Speaker, you can see them.

Who is going to take the kid?

Clearly, the child didn't belong to any of the people there. Many multiple times I have seen them looking at the address that the drug cartel gave them, and they are supposed to turn that over to Border Patrol, and then ICE or HHS would ship them to where the drug cartels want them to go, and they are switching addresses: I would rather go to that one.

Then they tell the Border Patrol: This is where I have a relative. This is where I want to go.

That is why the drug cartels call the Border Patrol and us here in the U.S. their logistics. They get them illegally across the border, and then taxpayers ship them to wherever the cartels want them.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Texas for his remarks.

Madam Speaker, I think the gentleman who has spent time at the border, as I have, would appreciate the story that I can recount. When I was last there, there was a conversation involving a young man who had come across, and he was being questioned, as the gentleman just described. He was questioned about where he came from and all the things to go through, his age and so forth, and then at one point the young man said he needed to use the bathroom.

The Border Patrol agent said: Oh, sure, it is no problem. Let me get up and show you where it is.

He said: Oh, I know.

He knew. He knew where the bathroom was. This wasn't his first rodeo. This is happening every day at our border, literally every day.

But the media just goes about its business, ignoring the crisis now that it is not politically expedient to do so. My colleagues on the other side of the aisle spent the last 3 years saying that it is all a manufactured crisis and that there is no crisis at the border. Then with Trump, there was a crisis suddenly. There wasn't a crisis, and then there was a crisis.

Then there were people drinking out of toilets—a lie. Then it was kids in cages—a lie. Fences and barriers were put up in facilities to protect these kids and separate them from the dangerous elements to make sure someone claiming that they are this kid's uncle is actually the kid's uncle.

Those chain-link barriers that were put up in these facilities were put up by whom?

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT).

Mr. GOHMERT. That would be the Obama administration, Madam Speaker, although now we have some being put up by the Biden administration.

Mr. ROY. That is exactly correct.

Yet for 4 years under the Trump administration, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle went around ranting about the treatment of migrants, whom we are dealing with because of very broken policies, trying to protect the kids, keep them from being abused, put them in air-conditioned facilities with airflow, the chain-link barriers so you can see them—oh, no. Kids in cages. Oh, drinking out of a toilet. It was a lie. It was a straight-up lie.

I sent my chief of staff down the next day. He went to where they were talking about it, and it was one of those devices that is a toilet with a water fountain off the back of it, which we have in all of our facilities and in a lot of our prison facilities and ICE facilities in this country.

By the way, in every bathroom in America, the water supply behind the drywall is supplying the water to your faucet and the water to your toilet, Madam Speaker. Oh, but this is kids drinking out of toilets.

''Never let a crisis go to waste,'' say my colleagues on the other side of the aisle. We are seeing that right now with $1.9 trillion. We are seeing that right now. And we are seeing the result of that right now with a Biden border crisis directly of the making of this administration.

It is the direct consequence of undoing and refusing to enforce their laws; undoing the migrant protection protocol working with Mexico; refusing to fully enforce title 42; refusing to go through what you are supposed to do on asylum determinations; refusing to limit catch and release and instead turning the Department of Homeland Security into a catch-and-release organization, trumpeting an amnesty bill; and then attracting families to come through dangerous channels, risking their own children and lives at the hands of cartels, all to profit and enrich cartels; and then have the audacity to say that is compassion and the audacity to say that that is pro-immigrant.

Meanwhile, the people I represent, the Texans we represent, are having to foot the bill. We are having to deal with it. We are having to deal with schools. We are having to deal with high-speed chases. We are having to deal with crime, drug trafficking, and the reach of cartels in south Texas. And no one in this people's House gives a whit because of political expediency.

Madam Speaker, how much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 2 minutes remaining.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, I ask my friend from Texas if he has anything else he would like to add.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I would just like to reinforce that when these people get into the United States, their nightmare is not over. They get shipped to towns all over America. Those who wear colored arm bands now tell the drug cartel what their situation is. When they get where they are going, they are still under the thumb of the drug cartels to either sell drugs or sex trafficking. If they don't pay up what they owe, then a family member gets killed or some part gets cut off.

We know how bad the drug cartels are. So it doesn't just end there when they get to America. That nightmare will continue, and this administration is all part of it.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, I will close my last minute to just say that it is currently easier for the cartels to exploit our Southern border and to allow gang members and dangerous narcotics to come into this country than it is for the American people to get access to the people's House. Fences with razor wire surround this building. We are apparently so afraid of what might happen to us in this body that we need fences and razor wire, but, meanwhile, our Southern border is wide open for exploitation.

I am only just reminded of when I started that the guy who runs that outfit over there in the White House, that the guy either is blatantly ignoring his duty to defend the border of the United States purposely or he has no idea what is going on, because no American President—no American President—

should or would allow this kind of activity to be happening at our Southern border, endangering American citizens and endangering immigrants in the name of the United States.

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

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

AND STILL I RISE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, and still I rise, a very proud and liberated Democrat, unbought and unbossed.

I rise today with a question, Madam Speaker.

The question is: Should the taxpayers of this country, the good people of the United States of America, should their tax dollars be utilized to pay for the upkeep, the maintenance, and the utilities on a building that is named in honor of a bigot and a racist?

Should our tax dollars be used for such a purpose?

Madam Speaker, let me share something with you. This is the Senate Russell Office Building.

This is how the Russell Senate Office Building looks. It has a certain degree of majesty associated with it. This is where Senators do their work. The press is found in this building, in an area just off of a rotunda. This is the Russell Senate Office Building. This is what it looks like to the naked eye. This is what people see when they drive by. Unfortunately, there is much to be seen that the eye cannot reveal to the brain.

The building named after this man, Senator Richard Russell, is a symbol of national shame. And I think that because it is a symbol of national shame—and I shall say more to you about it, Madam Speaker, as I do what I am about to do, which is to label it for what it is: a symbol of national shame—we ought not pretend that this building is a place that ought to honor a person with such a name.

It is a symbol of national shame paid for with tax dollars. These lights and the utilities are paid for with tax dollars.

Who was Senator Richard Russell?

This is the Senator, Madam Speaker, who, in 1935, participated in the very first filibuster of a civil rights bill—Richard Russell—when he and his colleagues stopped an anti-lynching bill with 6 days of nonstop talking.

Senator Richard Russell, in so doing, allowed the lynching to continue without legislation that was antithetical to it. In this country, up until 1968, some 3,446 persons—more than 3,000 Black people—were lynched in the United States of America.

There are people who don't want to hear this. There are people who would say: Wait. At some point we will get around to doing the right thing. We will bend the arc of the moral universe toward justice, and we will change the name of this building.

There are some people who would say: Wait, Al, don't bring this up now.

Madam Speaker, I refuse to allow those who are not suffering to determine the timeline for the suffering to end for those who do suffer. I am one of those who happens to be suffering, and it is painful for me to see this symbol of national shame in the United States of America, the country I love.

I believe that it is time now for us to make that change. We have had some 40-plus years—about 49 years—to change this, and we haven't done it. It is time to change it. I am not going to wait for someone else to say that it is okay to come to the floor and say that you can make this change.

I am a liberated, unbought, unbossed Democrat. It is time for this to change. It has got to change.

How soon should we change this?

Immediately, if not sooner. If it doesn't change today and doesn't change tomorrow, I will still stand my ground. It has to change, and I will await that change. It must change.

A little bit more about Senator Russell. It was in 1972, shortly after his demise, that the Senate voted overwhelmingly, 99–1, that the old Senate Office Building be named the Russell Senate Office Building. Madam Speaker, the vote was 99–1. They knew when they did it that he was a bigot and a racist.

Madam Speaker, when I say it ought to happen immediately, I assure you there are some names that I could give this evening of people who have similar histories who are still alive, and if we named a building after one of these people, then this Congress would assemble and would change that name immediately.

□ 1430

I know what we can do when we want to do something, so there is no question about whether there is a way to get this done. The question is: Do we have the will to do it? Do we have the will to take a racist and a bigot's name off of a building that is housing the Senate, Members of it?

I decline to go into the building. I will never say that I will never go in, simply because there are times when, of necessity, I may have to. But when I do, I do it with a degree of shame. I am not proud when I have to go into that building.

The last time I was there it was to show some other person the rotunda where his statue happens to be. He occupies a space all to himself. It is not like going through other areas where you see multiple personalities represented. He has a space all to himself, a bigot and a racist; and we, who have the power to make the change, tolerate it.

A bit more about Senator Russell. Here is a statement from the Senator; perhaps not a direct, exact quote, but here is a statement from the Senator: ''As one who was born and reared in the atmosphere of the Old South, with six generations of my forebears now resting beneath southern soil, I am willing to go as far and make as great a sacrifice to preserve and insure white supremacy''—some things bear repeating. He said: ''To preserve and insure white supremacy in the social, economic, and political life of our State as any man who lives within her borders.''

He is taking a pledge to maintain white supremacy, Senator Richard Russell; a Senate office building in his honor, in his name.

Let's just continue with a bit more about Senator Richard Russell. Senator Richard Russell blocked the passage of a 1942 bill to eliminate poll taxes.

Senator Richard Russell co-authored the ''Southern Manifesto'' in 1956 with Senator Strom Thurmond, in opposition to the integration of public schools. Fought integration. It was segregation. He was a segregationist.

It was segregation that caused me to get on a bus that was in disrepair, that would break down, to ride within blocks of other schools predominated with persons who are Anglo, or were Anglo at the time, ride past those schools for some 20 to 30 minutes to get to another school in another city. That is what segregation did.

It was segregation that caused me to get books that were hand-me-downs when the other schools where Anglos were had the books. When they were finished with the books, when they got new books, then I could get a better book that was not the latest edition of the book I needed.

It was segregation that caused me to have to go to colored water fountains.

It was segregation that put me in the back of the bus.

It was segregation that forced me to the balcony of the movie.

It was segregation that locked us up in the bottom of the jails.

I know segregation. I know what it looks like. I have seen its ugly face. The Klan burned a cross in my yard.

I know what it smells like. I have had to drink from those filthy water fountains.

I know what it sounds like. I have had people call me ugly names.

So I just hope my friends will not get too discombobulated when they hear that AL GREEN came to the floor and said what he is saying now. Don't expect me to tolerate this. You can get some others to do it, but you won't get me to do it.

I will not tolerate this. I demand that this change take place. I am not asking.

Why would I engage in the protocols of polite society when this level of bigotry exists in my face?

Let's talk a little bit more about Senator Richard Russell. He led the 60-

day filibuster against the Civil Rights Act of 1964; led the southern boycott of the Democratic National Convention in 1964, after LBJ—one of the greatest Presidents ever, in my opinion—signed the Civil Rights Act.

He called the Civil Rights Act shortsighted and dangerous. Those civil rights acts, the act of 1965, when President Johnson signed it, he signed it in ink, but it was written with the blood of those who crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge, the Honorable John Lewis having been one of them.

I remember talking to him. He said he thought he was going to die.

Signed in ink but written in blood.

John Lewis was a great and noble American.

That Civil Rights Act is probably the reason that I am here. I probably wouldn't be in Congress if not but for what happened on the Edmund Pettus Bridge; people who had the desire to see liberty and justice for all, but who also had the ability to take the blows to their bodies without resorting to retaliation.

If they had retaliated on the Edmund Pettus Bridge, it would have been just another melee. It would have been just another skirmish. But they didn't. And because they suffered, I am able to stand here and make these comments.

So you can well understand, I hope and I pray, that—because I know how I got here—I am not going to tolerate this. I know how I got here.

I didn't get here because I am so smart. I got here because somebody found out what a 90-pound German Shepherd bites like.

I am here because somebody understands what it is like to go to jail for a cause.

I am here because somebody understands what it is like to lose a loved one—Myrlie Evers—for a cause.

So let's not play games. I am not here to satisfy and satiate those who would say wait, give us a chance to do this on our own terms.

You have had 49 years; 49 years too many, in my opinion. So I am not going to wait. And I will be back again to talk more about this after I finish what I am about to say now.

Senator Richard Russell twice, 1949 and 1964, introduced legislation—this is a painful thing to read. This is a painful thing to have to utter—twice introduced legislation to move African Americans out of Southern States. That is Senator Richard Russell.

So dear friends, I beg your pardon if anyone takes offense at what I have said. But I must tell you, I would say it again, and probably will, given the opportunity because, at some point in life, you just have to take a stand.

The people who sent me here, they didn't send me here to go along as a result of toleration of things like this. They didn't send me here to go along so that I could move along. They sent me here to take a stand. And there are times in life when it is better to stand alone than not stand at all.

I am a liberated Democrat. I stand alone, but I stand on truth. I stand on the words of Carlyle, ''No lie can live forever.''

This is the ultimate manifestation of insidious prevarication to imply that this should be honored with the name of Russell.

Now, there are those who are going to say, well, AL GREEN, what would you name the building? A tactic quite often used, because when I say, well, let's name it—you complete the sentence—they will say, well, I think it ought to be named—you complete the sentence.

But that is not what I am saying, dear brothers and sisters—and I say brothers and sisters, because, in my heart, I believe there is just one race, as Dr. King put it, the human race. And I believe that all persons are created equal, from a bass black to a treble white on God's keyboard, as he put it.

So, my dear brothers and sisters, that is not what I am saying. I am saying, take this name off, Russell. I am saying, let it revert back to the name it had before Russell was placed on it. That name was the Old Senate Office Building. I am saying, let it revert back to the Old Senate Office Building, and you decide the name. The name I will leave to you until and unless there is a need to prevent this from happening again, something similar.

But there are many people worthy of having this building bear their names. This man is not worthy. This man does not deserve this honor.

So let it revert back to the Old Senate Office Building, and then do what we do; get a committee; get a commission; find a way to name it appropriately. And then I believe that those that I speak for, who do not live in the suites of life, who live in the streets of life, those that I speak for, who are among the least, the last, and the lost, those that I speak for, who are not among the well-off, the well-heeled, and the well-to-do, those that I speak for, many of whom have gone to glory, but I believe that they will find reason to know that change, long though it may be in coming, that change can take place, and that this country will be a better place for it. The country I love, by the way.

I am not the guy that you are going to tag with this mantra, this label, this caption, this style: He doesn't love his country. I love my country.

I am not the guy that you are going to tag with, he is a flag burner. I wear the flag.

You can't tag me with being a guy who refuses to stand for the national anthem. I stand and I sing the national anthem.

You can't tag me with being the guy who refuses to say the Pledge of Allegiance. I say the Pledge of Allegiance.

But now, tag me, label me as the guy who loves his country and who refuses to accept this level of bigotry, who refuses to accept allowing the tax dollars from people who are eking out a place in the world, for their tax dollars to be used for this. I am that guy. I am the guy who is going to stand up for this—against this, if you will.

□ 1445

Finally, this: I never came to Congress to say what I am saying. I came to Congress to help people who were in need of housing. That was what I thought I would do. I came to Congress to help people get a decent day's pay for a hard day's work.

This is not something that I planned, but it is something that I cannot stand, and I have to stand against it. There is just something that won't allow me to tolerate this.

I know that this will engender some additional detractors. I get the calls; I know. But there just comes a time in your life when you have to decide that there are some things worth making a sacrifice for. I choose to do what I do because I know how I got here.

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

DEAL WITH CRISIS AT SOUTHERN BORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, it is an honor to follow my fellow former judge from Texas. We both know Jesus, and one of Jesus' comments was that if we were just lukewarm, we would be spit out of the mouth. I know my friend's heart, and he is passionate about things that he sees as unjust, so I know he is in no danger of ever being spit out because he does have that passion and cares so deeply.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GOHMERT. I yield to the gentleman from Texas, my friend.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend for his kind words. He and I spoke earlier today, and I believe that there are people who assume things about us that are just not true.

There are probably people who assume that he and I don't get along, but they don't understand that there are things that can bring people together that supersede the physicalities that we place all of our emphasis on.

I would have the world know that he and I talk and that we don't have hard conversations about the things that are important to both of us. I appreciate his kind words.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I know that we are brothers, and we are going to be together for a long time. I am not talking about here in this Chamber. Anyway, I appreciate my friend very much.

I didn't know anything about Senator Russell, but I have gotten an education. I thank him.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I thank my dear brother. God bless him.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, my friend was a former judge in Houston. In fact, he was the kind of judge that is the only judge in Texas that is allowed to order an exhumation of a body. We ran into that in one of my criminal trials, and we had to find a justice who would do that. Texas entrusts a great deal with our judges.

I did want to touch on some things that I feel rather passionate about because I know people are being hurt.

My friend CHIP ROY and I were talking earlier. MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE, MATT ROSENDALE, a number of people spoke on this, but we can't speak enough on what is happening at the border. It is absolutely a crisis, and it really does need to be dealt with.

Regardless of what anybody thinks about President Trump, put that aside and look at the border. Look at what it does to people who have been standing in line for years to come into this country legally.

We know, and it has been established numerous times, people are not allowed to cross the southern border unless they pay something to the drug cartels. It may be paid through the gang member, through the coyote that is bringing them into the country, but it is still the drug cartels. They are still in the drug business; they are still in the prostitution and sex-trafficking business.

It disturbs me that not enough Americans are upset about how much sex trafficking has gone on. They get absolutely worked up when they find out an American has been pulled into sex trafficking and not allowed to get out of it. But it happens all the time, especially with Hispanics from south of our border. The rapes that occur along the way have been established by different groups and means.

It is just an abomination that more people are not upset, deeply upset, about what is going on, enough so that a majority in both Chambers, House and Senate, would do something about it, not leave incentives out there dangling to lure more people into dealing with the drug cartels. It used to be they made most of their money from the drug trafficking, and that is still probably true.

As I started to mention earlier, my friend CHIP ROY and I had an article dangled in our hearing that says, oh, gee, more drugs came in through public ports of entry than came through illegally across other parts of the border.

But what I have seen with my own eyes and heard with my own ears, spending a lot of time down on the border, the Border Patrol, when they see a big group, especially with a bunch of children, most of the ones I talk to say we know when we get a group like that, the drug cartels are coordinating when they come across the border, especially there at the river south of McAllen.

They know, when they send a group like that, especially in the middle of the night, it is going to take a lot of border patrolmen to go through, ask the questions, document, and in-process each one. They will tell you that is when we know they are sending drugs. Sometimes, it may be a high-value person who they are trying to get across into the U.S.

But I know, one night, on the Texas Department of Public Safety boats—they have a couple of them there on that part of the river. They have the thermal technology and night vision. They were identifying people along the river waiting to come across. The Border Patrol identified the groups, and eventually, the Border Patrol said: Why don't you guys go back to the dock, and then we will catch them trying to enter?

Well, I thought that meant they would be turned away. But this was during the Obama administration, and their instructions were: No, don't turn anybody away. Just in-process them.

There were numerous groups of more than 10 or 20 in size, and we got the report from the Border Patrol that they caught all the groups that were going to cross. But those groups of two or three that appeared to be bringing drugs, they somehow knew where to come across and come into some bushes, and we never found them.

It is impossible for anyone to report how much in the way of drugs comes across our border outside of a public port of entry, an official port of entry, because they don't catch them.

In fact, it seems like, from my experience of being there, I have seen—actually, it surprised me. It sure surprised them. There were some guys that were up on a pump cage, and they were on the move. They had people with them. They were on the move.

It was because they knew a big group had just come across the Rio Grande River, and the Border Patrol had seen the truck. I knew the direction they came from. I had seen the truck. They knew that the Border Patrol would have to zoom to where all of those people were, have to get some kind of a bus like they have there, and process all of those people at the site and get them on the bus and bring them into McAllen.

These guys knew all of the Border Patrol was tied up with the people. They had a bunch of kids in that group, so that meant they really had to concentrate on that group. These were clearly people who were doing something illicit and illegal.

I didn't see their drugs, but they clearly were doing something very illicit, and they also knew that the Border Patrol was going to be tied up.

I visited with the Border Patrol and had seen what they were doing, watched some of the in-processing, but they knew how long it took to in-process a group like that. They knew they had time to do what they wanted. It was only a mile or two up the road from where they knew the Border Patrol was occupied.

There were a couple of guys up as lookouts and some others who were carrying something down below, but they all took off into the trees. I didn't know if they were armed, and I wasn't armed at the time, so I didn't pursue them.

You have to know, there are a lot of things that cross the border that nobody has accounted for. Look at the business model. If you don't have any conscience, it is a great business model. Fortunately, most people I know do have a conscience and would never do this. But without a conscience, they are thinking: Okay, we need drug salespeople in every town in America. All we have to do is get them across the border, give them the address where we want them to sell drugs.

They give that to the Border Patrol, and either HHS or ICE gets them where they want them. That is why Border Patrol says the drug cartels call us their logistics. They get their future employees across the border.

They think that they are just coming and going to have a free life in America, but they are going to be working for the drug cartels. It is not slavery, as that abomination is known, but it is a form of indentured servitude. They owe being in the United States to the drug cartels, and they are going to have to pay them. They made that deal to get into the U.S.

The reason they were willing to make that deal to get in the U.S. now is because they keep hearing the Biden administration is going to let everybody in and give them all amnesty. That lures more and more people into these terrible circumstances. It needs to stop.

I will repeat again what I have been saying for years. The most caring, compassionate thing we could do for our neighbor Mexico and its citizens to the south of us, when we know they have great raw materials, great minerals, wonderful hardworking people, the majority of whom believe in a God, as most of the Founders did—they love their families.

□ 1500

I love watching Hispanic family reunions. It reminds me so much of reunions I used to see in the town where I grew up. They love their families. That is a wonderful thing. These attributes that folks south of the border have, those are things that help make America the greatest Nation in the world, and we need more of what they have, but it needs to be done legally.

And to not care at the way that they are manipulated by the cartels?

Their business model, send them across. The U.S. taxpayers will pay to ship them to whatever town we want them to sell drugs in or be involved in prostitution or human trafficking themselves. The U.S. taxpayers will pay to ship them there. And then once there, they all know, we know where their families are in Mexico or Central America, and they will keep paying as long as we tell them or they know we

don't mind cutting off heads, cutting off appendages, and sending the message.

So the best thing we could do, though, secure the border. Dry up that tens of billions of dollars, maybe over a hundred billion dollars a year that they get from the drug business, from the human trafficking, from the sex trafficking. Dry that money up. We will never dry it completely up because there are always people who will look for ways.

But you cut that $80 billion or $100 billion or so down to even $10 billion, it dries up their ability to control so much of the national and local government. It would surely put an end to so many policemen, police chiefs, and mayors that have stood up to the cartels only to have their heads cut off and, in some cases, put on a pike.

We are providing the money in this country to the drug cartels to create corruption run amok in the Mexican Government. So caring, compassionate people would say, let's dry up the drug cartels' money, and that will do more for the American people.

They won't have to put their lives at risk or risk sexual abuse, all kinds of abuse, death, being left by coyote out in the desert somewhere. They won't have to risk that because the country they love—many will say, ''I would rather stay there if there were opportunity.''

They get the opportunity if we help end the corruption. But there is corruption enough. Talking to a DEA agent earlier this afternoon, there is so much corruption you don't know who even in the national government is on the payroll of the drug cartels.

So let's help the Mexican people, Central American people, even some from South America, let's help them by giving them the freedom in their own country without a corrupt government so they can have the kind of freedom we have here.

In this article from March 10th, Alex Nitzberg says: ''More than 92,000 Clark County, NV mail ballots returned undeliverable in general election.''

It talks about corruption in the last election. Just tragic, tragic stuff. If we keep heading this direction, we are surely going to end up like some of these corrupt countries.

But there is another article I just saw today that indicates that Venezuelans are coming from Venezuela into the United States illegally, and why they are doing that is because of the corruption and oppression in Venezuela.

Under their progressive, Socialist country government down there, they have taken what many say was the most prosperous, vibrant country in South America, Venezuela, all the oil they had there. They took that country and, as socialism will ultimately do wherever it is tried, turned it into a fiasco. So the Venezuelans were fleeing and coming to the United States.

And the question continues to come as to what will Americans do? Where will they go? When the path we are on to become the devastated Venezuela are perpetrated on America, where will Americans go?

They can't go to Venezuela. It has already been economically and socially destroyed by the Socialists.

And as friends from Australia told me a few years ago, you know, if anything happens to the freedom in the United States, you are not going to be coming to Australia. They felt like China would take them over before anybody in the U.S. had time to go there. There will be no place to go.

You know, Venezuela, they have got America to try to get into since their wonderful, vibrant country has been destroyed by socialism. We won't have anyplace.

As I think Reagan said, this is the last best chance on Earth. We have been so blessed. And the old saying about give a man a fish and he can eat for a day; teach him how to fish, and he can eat for a lifetime. Instead of just saying, yeah, come on to America, we will let everybody in and we will all pay you welfare, we will give you free healthcare, ultimately the whole system will be bankrupt and nobody will have anyplace to go, why not help them get rid of the corruption and stay in the country they love?

Then we have neighbors like Mexico and Venezuela, if we can help them stop the corruption, with whom we can trade, we can visit, we can vacation.

My wife and I had our honeymoon at a place in Mexico. We haven't been back in recent years, though we thought about it, as we keep celebrating anniversaries. It would be nice to go back where we had our honeymoon, but there is just too much corruption in Mexico and it is not worth the chance, in our opinion.

So wouldn't it be wonderful if we took a stand, we dried up the drug culture, the drug cartels' money by securing our Southern border?

And then the Mexican people have a vibrant country that Americans fall in love with all over again. We visit, vacation there. They visit, vacation here. And we mutually help each other. But continuing to fund tens of billions of dollars to go to the drug cartels in Mexico keeps the Mexican people under the thumb of the drug cartel corruption.

Now, going back to the point about the DEA, the U.S. Government, they cannot know how much in the way of drugs that they don't know about. And I know I have got friends on the other side of the aisle who think, oh, well, there is a report, there is more drugs going through our public ports of entry than there are going across our border, where we don't know they are crossing.

The truth is, we don't know what we don't know about how much and what kind of drugs are coming across our border.

I know. I voted against putting Sudafed behind the counter, but I understood drugstores, grocery stores had a problem with people stealing it because that was an ingredient in making methamphetamine. But according to what pharmacies and others tell me, law enforcement, in Texas, okay, once you put Sudafed behind the counter, making it harder to get, certainly harder to steal, homegrown meth ceased being the problem it used to be, and now we are getting much stronger drugs coming from Mexico, and they are much more addictive than even the methamphetamine.

And I had enough people come in, meth cases that I totally understand. It is extremely addictive. But now we have got more and worse drugs coming from Mexico than what we had when they were homemade. It did get more difficult for a while when a new way of cooking methamphetamine, what they called a cold cook, didn't smell as bad. For so long it was easy to find meth plants because they smelled so bad.

But, anyway, how much meth being cooked, not to the extent it used to be in Texas. They are bringing up stronger, more addictive, more individual-destroying drugs from Mexico.

President Trump did what he could to get the border secure. We were on the way to a much more secure border.

In fact, people are not aware in the second term of George W. Bush, a number of Texas Members of Congress were upset that more had not been done by a Republican administration headed by a Texan to secure our border. And, actually, President Bush had Karl Rove meet with us. And we began to meet every 2 weeks, as I recall, and Rove would have the latest report every 2 weeks about how much progress was being made toward securing our border.

One thing he didn't have—that President Bush didn't have was more fence or walls on the Southern border, which makes it easier. Sure, people can build a bigger ladder, as some used to say, but it at least slows them down where it is easier to keep them out of the country with their illicit, illegal drugs and sex trafficking.

So President Trump knew the value of a wall, and his knowledge of how important a wall or a fence was has been totally and for all time confirmed by the Democratic administration and the Speaker and the Senate majority leader, as evidenced by the wall or fence, whatever you want to call it, with all the razor wire around the top. Some places you have got two layers of that.

So all this time people were saying, you know, it doesn't help, you can't stop people. It doesn't do any good. But we knew it did good because former President Obama got him a new house up somewhere around here and built a 10-foot wall around it. So we knew, regardless of what people were saying, they knew that a wall or a fence could make a difference.

But we are hoping that since there is no threat and since the concerns that the Speaker and majority leader here in the House had that there was going to be another inauguration last Thursday—we knew that wasn't going to

happen. I am just surprised that they were believing QAnon. I didn't know anybody on our side who believed QAnon, but apparently the Speaker and the majority leader were concerned that QAnon knew what he or she or they, whatever it is, were talking about. So we called off Congress—they called off Congress last Thursday.

So we are hoping that as they see that their beliefs and their concerns are being assuaged, the acting chief of the Capitol Police has confirmed there is no Member of Congress who is a threat to another Member of Congress, no intel from any source that indicates that. I have had friends across the aisle say, well, LAUREN BOEBERT talked about wanting to bring a gun on the floor, and that is scary.

□ 1515

Well, that is also a testimony that firearms can be the great equalizer. Lauren tells me she is five foot exactly, so that should reaffirm if she has got people in this body that are concerned about her, it is not because of her five foot status, it is because sometimes she has a firearm with her, and it truly is the great equalizer.

And I don't hear a lot of people talking about the number of lives that are saved by law-abiding citizens that have firearms and prevent crimes.

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

THE CURRENT ISSUE AT THE BORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak one more time about the current issue at the border.

We have gone from a situation in which 1 year ago at this time there were 36,000 confrontations at the border to last February 100,000 encounters at the border.

In addition to a three-fold increase, there has been a corresponding increase in unaccompanied children at the border.

How did this happen? There are several policies that should be reinstituted immediately.

First of all, prior to President Trump being sworn in, we had a policy in which the Mexican Government was keeping people on their side of the border pending an asylum hearing. We have now undone that policy, which does three things:

First of all, new people arriving at the border are escorted into the United States and sent somewhere inland.

Secondly, people who have been waiting on the Mexican side of the border are coming across.

And thirdly, you are sending the message around the world that the United States is not enforcing their immigration laws the way they are intended to be enforced. The word gets out, be it in Central America, be it in Mexico, be it in Asia, be it in Brazil, the United States is inviting people in. And with that situation comes the three-fold increase.

Jeh Johnson, the Secretary of Homeland Security under President Obama said at one time that 1,000 encounters a day at the southern border was a bad number. We now have three times what was considered a bad number under Barack Obama.

The next thing we are doing is, we are getting rid of the agreements we had in Central America. President Trump maybe tweeted too much, but he engaged in negotiations with Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras so that people stayed down there, rather than coming through Mexico to the United States. He did it, to a certain extent, with the carrot and stick of foreign aid which the United States had sent to those countries. That policy has also changed. And with the change in that policy people are streaming up through Central America.

Again, from year to year there has been a 61 percent increase in unaccompanied children. People purport to say that they care about children being separated from their parents. Well, when you have more and more unaccompanied children showing up at the border, what do you think that means? These children inevitably are going to wind up separated from their parents, keeping families apart.

I should point out, by the way, another thing that I am told bothers Central American countries. In this country in an effort to sometimes keep a child with both parents, if the parents don't get along that well, courts make an effort to keep both parents in the same region.

I am told that the Central American countries do not like the fact that the United States sometimes will take children with even one parent, leaving the other parent behind. I think it would be better if we improved our relationship with those countries by trying to keep children with both parents.

Other things that have been done is, sadly, we stopped the border wall construction. When I was down at the border we learned, with regard to the border wall, it takes four or five agents to man 2 miles of the old wall, which was sometimes little more than minor fencing. Now, with the new wall we need one Border Patrol agent for 2 miles, so there is a substantial savings there, as well.

The catch and release policies are back, and with it a crisis is coming. America has to apply more pressure or tell the Biden administration, please, there is a reason why we have tripled the number of people, the number of encounters our Border Patrol is having today compared to this time last year. It is the policies that have been implemented in the first month and a half of the Biden administration.

Please, President Biden, go back to the old policies in which people are held on the southern border and people can get a good hearing on their asylum claims, rather than creating a system in which, as a practical matter, people come here illegally and wind up just blending into the background.

It is unfair to the people who are trying to access our country legally that people are coming here illegally and skipping ahead of them. Inevitably, as we take people without vetting them, we are getting a given number of people taking advantage of our benefits, and we are getting a number of people who are sneaking illegal drugs across the southern border.

So, again, we have sent letters to President Biden, and I please ask him to respond to these letters and let the American public know: What is your plan to stop 100,000 people a month coming across the border before that 100,000 becomes 200,000 or 300,000?

And it will become 200,000 or 300,000 because people around the world are watching the President, and if the President continues to make it clear he does not intend to enforce the border, people from all around the world will be coming here.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 5(a)(1)(B) of House Resolution 8, the House stands adjourned until 10:30 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon (at 3 o'clock and 22 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, March 12, 2021, at 10:30 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-565. A letter from the OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Covered Defense Telecommunications Equipment or Services (DFARS Case 2018-D022) [Docket: DARS-2019-0063] (RIN: 0750-AJ84) received February 25, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-566. A letter from the OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Repeal of DFARS Clause ''Tariff Information'' (DFARS Case 2018-D044) [Docket: DARS-2019-0031] (RIN: 0750-AK07) received February 25, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-567. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient

Records [SAMHSA-4162-20] (RIN: 0930-AA30) received February 25, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-568. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's NRC staff evaluation of industry proposal — Safety Evaluation of the Topical Report submitted by the Pressurized Water Reactor Owners Group (PWROG), PWROG-17033, Revision 1: ''Update for Subsequent License Renewal: WCAP-13045, Compliance to ASME (American Society of Mechanical Engineers) Code Case N-481 of the Primary Loop Pump Casing of Westinghouse Type Nuclear Supply Systems'' received February 25, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-569. A letter from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — North Korea Sanctions Regulations received February 25, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-570. A letter from the Assistant Director for Regulatory Affairs, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Zimbabwe Sanctions Regulations received February 25, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-571. A letter from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Weapons of Mass Destruction Proliferators Sanctions Regulations and Iranian Transactions and Sanctions Regulations received February 25, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-572. A letter from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — International Criminal Court-Related Sanction Regulations received February 25, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-573. A letter from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Cuban Assets Control Regulations received February 25, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-574. A letter from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — Inflation Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties Related to Reporting and Recordkeeping received February 25, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-575. A letter from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Cuban Assets Control Regulations received February 25, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-576. A letter from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Yemen Sanctions Regulations received February 25, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-577. A letter from the Assistant Director for Regulatory Affairs, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Syria-related Sanctions Regulations received February 25, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-578. A letter from the Assistant Director for Regulatory Affairs, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Nicaragua Sanctions Regulations received February 25, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-579. A letter from the Assistant Director for Regulatory Affairs, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Inflation Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties received February 25, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-580. A letter from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Inflation Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties received February 25, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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. CLYBURN (for himself, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. DELGADO, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. KAHELE, Mr. KIND, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. MENG, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. POCAN, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. TRONE, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. VEASEY, and Mr. WELCH):

H.R. 1783. A bill to make high-speed broadband internet service accessible and affordable to all Americans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, and 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 Mr. DOGGETT (for himself, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. COOPER, Mr. CRIST, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. COHEN, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, and Mr. VELA):

H.R. 1784. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to enhance reporting requirements for nonexpansion States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DOGGETT (for himself, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. BUSTOS, Ms. CHU, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. COOPER, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CRIST, Mr. CROW, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. DEUTCH, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LAMB, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MRVAN, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Mr. JONES, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. MFUME, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POCAN, Ms. PORTER, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RYAN, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. SIRES, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. TONKO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WATERS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. WELCH, Ms. WILD, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. BASS, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. CASE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Ms. ESCOBAR):

H.R. 1785. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for current year inclusion of net CFC tested income, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DOGGETT (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. MFUME, Mr. NADLER, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. TONKO, Ms. WATERS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mr. CARTWRIGHT):

H.R. 1786. A bill to end offshore corporate tax avoidance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. CLYDE (for himself, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. PERRY, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. ALLEN, and Ms. TENNEY):

H.R. 1787. A bill to prevent unnecessary delay in firearms transfers from licensed firearms dealers to unlicensed persons; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PENCE (for himself and Mr. CARSON):

H.R. 1788. A bill to amend title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 relating to the eligibility for loan guarantees for projects relating to hydrogen production, delivery, infrastructure, storage, fuel cells, and end uses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. AMODEI (for himself, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. STIVERS, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. BALDERSON):

H.R. 1789. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to save Federal funds by authorizing changes to the composition of circulating coins, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committees on the Budget, and Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. AXNE (for herself, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. HORSFORD):

H.R. 1790. A bill to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to set forth a method of determining maximum out-of-pocket limits and annual updates to premium tax credit eligibility; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. BARRAGÁN (for herself, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. RUSH, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. COHEN):

H.R. 1791. A bill to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to permanently extend the Children's Health Insurance Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. BARRAGÁN (for herself, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. RUSH, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. COHEN):

H.R. 1792. A bill to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to prohibit lifetime or annual limits on dental coverage under the Children's Health Insurance Program, and to require wraparound coverage of dental services for certain children under such program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. BASS (for herself, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H.R. 1793. A bill to amend the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act to provide for immediate eligibility for former foster youth under Medicaid; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. BASS (for herself, Mr. BACON, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mrs. LAWRENCE, and Mr. HASTINGS):

H.R. 1794. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to strengthen coverage under the Medicaid program for certain foster youth individuals; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. BASS:

H.R. 1795. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to ensure health insurance coverage continuity for former foster youth; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BERA:

H.R. 1796. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to eligible State agencies to promote State innovations to expand health insurance coverage; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER (for himself and Mrs. WAGNER):

H.R. 1797. 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 Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BOST (for himself, Mrs. LURIA, and Mr. HAGEDORN):

H.R. 1798. A bill to provide for emergency grants for essential community facilities and temporary installations needed in response to COVID-19 pandemic in rural areas; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. BOURDEAUX (for herself, Mrs. KIM of California, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Mr. LUETKEMEYER):

H.R. 1799. A bill to amend the Small Business Act and the CARES Act to extend the covered period for the paycheck protection program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. BONAMICI, and Mrs. DINGELL):

H.R. 1800. A bill to require a review of women and lung cancer, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. BROWNLEY (for herself, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. TONKO, Mr. RYAN, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. HAYES, and Mr. HASTINGS):

H.R. 1801. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the maximum age for children eligible for medical care under the CHAMPVA program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H.R. 1802. A bill to amend the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 to reduce the rates of pay of Members of Congress during a fiscal year if Congress has not agreed to a concurrent resolution on the budget for such fiscal year, to repeal the automatic appropriation of funds for the salaries of Members of Congress, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CÁRDENAS (for himself and Mrs. TRAHAN):

H.R. 1803. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a grant program to promote comprehensive mental health and suicide prevention efforts in high schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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. CARTER of Georgia (for himself and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER):

H.R. 1804. A bill to amend the public participation requirements of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CASTEN (for himself and Mr. MALINOWSKI):

H.R. 1805. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to establish a tradeable performance standard covering emissions from the electricity generation and industrial sectors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida:

H.R. 1806. A bill to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to provide for additional requirements with respect to the navigator program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CAWTHORN:

H.R. 1807. A bill to provide a payroll tax credit for best practices training expenses associated with protecting employees from COVID-19; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CICILLINE (for himself, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mrs. AXNE, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BASS, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BERA, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BROWN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CASE, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. CHU, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. COOPER, Mr. CORREA, Mr. COSTA, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. CRIST, Mr. CROW, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DEAN, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DELGADO, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. DEUTCH, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. HIMES, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. HOYER, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JACOBS of California, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. JONES, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KEATING, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KILMER, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. LEE of California, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. LIEU, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. MANNING, Ms. MATSUI, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. MRVAN, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. NEAL, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. NEWMAN, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. PETERS, Mr. PHILLIPS, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POCAN, Ms. PORTER, Ms.

PRESSLEY, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. RASKIN, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. ROSS, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. RUSH, Mr. RYAN, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. SIRES, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SOTO, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. STANTON, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. TRONE, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. WATERS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. WELCH, Ms. WEXTON, Ms. WILD, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. YARMUTH):

H.R. 1808. A bill to regulate assault weapons, to ensure that the right to keep and bear arms is not unlimited, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. NORTON, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. CARL, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. COOPER, Mr. PASCRELL, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. DEAN, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. MEEKS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. EVANS, Mr. VARGAS, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. KILMER, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. BASS, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. JACOBS of California, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mr. VELA):

H.R. 1809. A bill to designate a portion of United States Route 80 in Alabama as the ''John R. Lewis Voting Rights Highway'', and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. COURTNEY (for himself, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. NEAL):

H.R. 1810. A bill to reauthorize The Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor and the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. CRAIG:

H.R. 1811. A bill to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to authorize additional funding for planning, design, construction, modernization, and renovation of hospitals and outpatient health care facilities; to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois (for himself, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. BABIN, and Mr. PERRY):

H.R. 1812. A bill to amend titles 23 and 49, United States Code, to streamline the environmental review process for major projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. DEFAZIO (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. KATKO, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. KILMER, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. COHEN, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. LAMB, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. TITUS, Mr. SIRES, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. ALLRED, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. PALLONE, and Mr. SOTO):

H.R. 1813. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to ensure that revenues collected from passengers as aviation security fees are used to help finance the costs of aviation security screening by repealing a requirement that a portion of such fees be credited as offsetting receipts and deposited in the general fund of the Treasury; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Mr. COLE, and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H.R. 1814. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to make grants to support educational programs in civics and history, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. COOPER, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. RUSH, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. TLAIB, and Mr. CLEAVER):

H.R. 1815. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to suspend increases in line speeds at meat and poultry establishments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Labor, and 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. DELBENE:

H.R. 1816. A bill to require the Federal Trade Commission to promulgate regulations related to sensitive personal information, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DESAULNIER:

H.R. 1817. A bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to establish a renewable energy transition grant program and to establish a National Employment Corps, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mrs. FLETCHER:

H.R. 1818. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to States and political subdivisions of States to support the improvement, renovation, or modernization of infrastructure at clinical laboratories that will help to improve SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19 testing and response activities, including the expansion and enhancement of testing capacity at such laboratories; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself, Mr. WITTMAN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. PAPPAS, and Mrs. LURIA):

H.R. 1819. A bill to require a certain percentage of natural gas and crude oil exports be transported on United States-built and United States-flag vessels, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GIBBS:

H.R. 1820. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify when the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency has the authority to prohibit the specification of a defined area, or deny or restrict the use of a defined area for specification, as a disposal site under section 404 of such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. GIBBS (for himself, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. MAST, and Mr. FEENSTRA):

H.R. 1821. A bill to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify Congressional intent regarding the regulation of the use of pesticides in or near navigable waters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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 Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN:

H.R. 1822. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to ensure that certain TRICARE beneficiaries who reside in Puerto Rico may enroll in TRICARE Prime, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN (for herself and Mr. SOTO):

H.R. 1823. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to remove the matching requirement for a territory to use specially allocated Federal funds for Medicare covered part D drugs for low-income individuals; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN:

H.R. 1824. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, with respect to air cargo in Puerto Rico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN (for herself and Mr. SOTO):

H.R. 1825. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to make premium and cost-sharing subsidies available to low-income Medicare part D beneficiaries who reside in Puerto Rico or another territory of the United States; 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 Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN (for herself and Mr. SOTO):

H.R. 1826. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to eliminate late enrollment penalties under part B of the Medicare program for individuals residing in Puerto Rico if such individuals enroll within 5 years of becoming entitled to benefits under part A of such program; 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. GOSAR (for himself, Mr. BUDD, Mr. GUEST, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. PERRY, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. PALMER, Mr.

GROTHMAN, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. BUCK, Mr. CAWTHORN, Mr. KELLER, Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. REED, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. MANN, Mr. NORMAN, Ms. HERRELL, Mr. JORDAN, Mrs. GREENE of Georgia, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. BABIN, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mrs. WAGNER, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. CARL, and Mr. STEWART):

H.R. 1827. A bill to prohibit Federal funding of State firearm ownership databases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself and Mr. SAN NICOLAS):

H.R. 1828. A bill to provide grants to States to ensure that all students in the middle grades are taught an academically rigorous curriculum with effective supports so that students complete the middle grades prepared for success in secondary school and postsecondary endeavors, to improve State and local educational agency policies and programs relating to the academic achievement of students in the middle grades, to develop and implement effective middle grades models for struggling students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mrs. HARSHBARGER (for herself and Mr. CARTER of Georgia):

H.R. 1829. A bill to require the Government Accountability Office to study the role pharmaceutical benefit managers play in the pharmaceutical supply chain and provide Congress with appropriate policy recommendations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. HINSON:

H.R. 1830. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to establish a 5-year post-employment ban on lobbying by former senior executive branch personnel and to prohibit such personnel from lobbying at any time on behalf of foreign clients, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HORSFORD (for himself and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin):

H.R. 1831. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude certain dependent income when calculating modified adjusted gross income for the purposes of eligibility for premium tax credits; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HUIZENGA (for himself, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. HERRELL, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MEIJER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. CAWTHORN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mrs. WALORSKI, and Mr. STEUBE):

H.R. 1832. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to pay a per diem to certain members of the National Guard who performed certain duty in the National Capital Region during the period beginning on January 26, 2021, and ending on March 15, 2021; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. KATKO (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. GARBARINO, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. BACON, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. RUTHERFORD):

H.R. 1833. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for the responsibility of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to maintain capabilities to identify threats to industrial control systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI (for himself, Ms. MENG, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. VAN DREW, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CARSON, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. CICILLINE, and Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York):

H.R. 1834. A bill to establish a United States Commission on Hate Crimes to study and make recommendations on the prevention of the comission of hate crimes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. CHU, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. SIRES, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. PORTER, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. CARSON, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. LIEU, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Ms. BUSH, Mr. KAHELE, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. JONES, Mr. RASKIN, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi):

H.R. 1835. A bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LEVIN of California (for himself, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. PALAZZO, Ms. MACE, Mr. RYAN, Mr. PAPPAS, and Mr. SABLAN):

H.R. 1836. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the time during which members of the Armed Forces serve on active duty for training qualifies for educational assistance under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. LUCAS (for himself, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. VALADAO, and Mr. POSEY):

H.R. 1837. A bill to establish and support the Quantum User Expansion for Science and Technology Program at the Department of Energy and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER (for himself, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. GUEST, and Mr. LONG):

H.R. 1838. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve rural health clinic payments, 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 Ms. MALLIOTAKIS:

H.R. 1839. A bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to grant a Federal charter to the National Lighthouse Museum; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS (for herself and Ms. STEFANIK):

H.R. 1840. A bill to amend the Small Business Act and the CARES Act to extend the covered period for the paycheck protection program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. MCNERNEY (for himself, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Mr. TORRES of New York):

H.R. 1841. A bill to require the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to establish a State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MEEKS (for himself, Mr. KATKO, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. TRONE, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. LIEU, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mr. CRIST, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. STEWART, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. KINZINGER, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. COLE, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. PASCRELL, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. STANTON, Mr. COSTA, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York):

H.R. 1842. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of the Bicentennial of Harriet Tubman's birth; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. MENG (for herself, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. JACOBS of California, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. RUSH, Ms. CHU, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. CARSON, Mr. TRONE, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. BUSH, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. LIEU, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. KIND, Mr. JONES, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. ROSS, Ms. BASS, Mr. SIRES, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. BOURDEAUX, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. KILMER, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. ESHOO, and Mr. LEVIN of California):

H.R. 1843. A bill to facilitate the expedited review of COVID-19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MOULTON (for himself and Mrs. TRAHAN):

H.R. 1844. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to ensure that publicly owned treatment works monitor for and report sewer overflows, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. MOULTON (for himself, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, and Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 1845. A bill to amend chapter 261 of title 49, United States Code, to provide for high-speed rail corridor development, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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. O'HALLERAN:

H.R. 1846. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to hospital infrastructure; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. OMAR (for herself, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. POCAN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. JONES, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. NORTON, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. CARSON, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. NADLER, and Ms. BUSH):

H.R. 1847. A bill to suspend obligations of residential renters and mortgagors to make payments during the COVID-19 emergency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. PALLONE (for himself, Mr. RUSH, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. WELCH, Mr. TONKO, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. MCEACHIN, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. SOTO, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. SCHRIER, Mrs. TRAHAN, and Mrs. FLETCHER):

H.R. 1848. A bill to rebuild and modernize the Nation's infrastructure to expand access to broadband and Next Generation 9-1-1, rehabilitate drinking water infrastructure, modernize the electric grid and energy supply infrastructure, redevelop brownfields, strengthen health care infrastructure, create jobs, and protect public health and the environment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Natural Resources, Science, Space, and Technology, Ways and Means, Education and Labor, Agriculture, and Oversight and Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Miss RICE of New York:

H.R. 1849. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to establish a core public health infrastructure program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Miss RICE of New York (for herself and Mr. GARBARINO):

H.R. 1850. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 relating to the National Urban Security Technology Laboratory, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. ROSENDALE:

H.R. 1851. A bill to establish a Federal cost share percentage for the Milk River Project in the State of Montana; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. ROY (for himself and Mr. CRENSHAW):

H.R. 1852. A bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study to evaluate the activities of sister city partnerships operating within the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. ROY (for himself, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. PFLUGER, and Mr. BABIN):

H.R. 1853. A bill to modify a provision relating to adjustments of certain State apportionments for Federal highway programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. RYAN (for himself, Mr. PALAZZO, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. KILMER, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. CROW, and Ms. STEFANIK):

H.R. 1854. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow for a credit against tax for employers of reservists; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SCALISE:

H.R. 1855. A bill to promote new manufacturing in the United States by providing for greater transparency and timeliness in obtaining necessary permits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SCALISE (for himself and Ms. ESHOO):

H.R. 1856. A bill to repeal certain provisions of the Communications Act of 1934, title 17 of the United States Code, and certain regulations, to allow for interim carriage of television broadcast signals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SCHRADER (for himself and Mr. GUTHRIE):

H.R. 1857. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to clarify the meaning of a new chemical entity; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SMITH of Missouri (for himself, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. BUDD, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. KELLER, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mrs. LESKO, and Mr. BABIN):

H.R. 1858. A bill to encourage States to permit members of the Armed Forces who are outside of the State under orders to renew a permit to carry a concealed firearm through the mail, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SMITH of Washington (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CARSON, and Ms. GARCIA of Texas):

H.R. 1859. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, to award grants to States, territories, political subdivisions of States and territories, Tribal governments, and consortia of Tribal governments to establish an unarmed 911 response program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. STIVERS (for himself, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. COHEN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. EMMER, and Ms. MENG):

H.R. 1860. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide the opportunity for responsible health savings to all American families; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. DELGADO):

H.R. 1861. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to allow schools that participate in the school lunch program under such Act to serve whole milk; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mrs. TRAHAN:

H.R. 1862. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a pilot program to improve community-based care infrastructure; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. JONES, Ms. BARRAGÁN, and Ms. JACKSON LEE):

H.R. 1863. A bill to establish a grant program to fund the installation of green roof systems on public school buildings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. STEWART, Mr. KILMER, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. NEAL, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. HUFFMAN):

H.R. 1864. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, with respect to funding the recreational trails program, to require a study to determine the best available estimate of the total amount of nonhighway recreational fuel taxes received by the Secretary of the Treasury, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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 Ms. WILD (for herself, Mr. MCCAUL, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SCANLON, and Mr. LAMB):

H.R. 1865. A bill to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to provide for grants in support of training and education to teachers and other school employees, students, and the community about how to prevent, recognize, respond to, and report child sexual abuse among primary and secondary school students; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. ZELDIN (for himself, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. VALADAO, and Mr. POSEY):

H.R. 1866. A bill to establish and support a quantum network infrastructure research and development program at the Department of Energy and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. BANKS:

H. Res. 218. A resolution expressing the Sense of the House of Representatives that primary and secondary schools in the United States should be opened for in-person instruction.; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H. Res. 219. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United Nations should forthwith take the procedural actions necessary to amend Article 23 of the Charter of the United Nations to remove the People's Republic of China as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H. Res. 220. A resolution amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to require the Clerk to read the Congressional Budget Office cost estimate of any bill immediately after the reading of the title of the bill; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. FOSTER (for himself, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. RUSH, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. HIMES, Mr. KILMER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. TONKO, Ms. KAPTUR, and Ms. HOULAHAN):

H. Res. 221. A resolution expressing support for designation of March 14, 2021, as ''National Pi Day''; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself and Mr. SAN NICOLAS):

H. Res. 222. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Middle Level Education Month; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. JOHNSON of Texas (for herself and Mr. LUCAS):

H. Res. 223. A resolution providing amounts for the expenses of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology in the One Hundred Seventeenth Congress; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. MAST (for himself, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. POSEY, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. GOSAR, Mrs. GREENE of Georgia, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, and Mr. GIMENEZ):

H. Res. 224. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the People's Republic of China should be held accountable for its handling of COVID-19; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. MENG (for herself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. SIRES, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. KILMER, Ms. CHU, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. WELCH, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. TITUS, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. RUSH):

H. Res. 225. A resolution affirming the role of the United States in improving access to quality, inclusive public education and improved learning outcomes for children and adolescents, particularly for girls, in the poorest countries through the Global Partnership for Education; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. PRESSLEY (for herself, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mr. EVANS, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. RUSH, Ms. OMAR, Mr. JONES, Ms. BUSH, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H. Res. 226. A resolution recognizing that the United States has a moral obligation to meet its foundational promise of guaranteed justice for all; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (for himself and Ms. FOXX):

H. Res. 227. A resolution providing amounts for the expenses of the Committee on Education and Labor in the One Hundred Seventeenth Congress; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself and Ms. STEFANIK):

H. Res. 228. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Women's History Month; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. WATERS:

H. Res. 229. A resolution providing amounts for the expenses of the Committee on Financial Services in the One Hundred Seventeenth Congress; to the Committee on House Administration.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Ms. JAYAPAL introduced a bill (H.R. 1867) for the relief of Jaime Rubio Sulficio; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

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

By Mr. CLYBURN:

H.R. 1783.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. DOGGETT:

H.R. 1784.

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

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

By Mr. DOGGETT:

H.R. 1785.

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

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

By Mr. DOGGETT:

H.R. 1786.

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

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

By Mr. CLYDE:

H.R. 1787.

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

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. PENCE:

H.R. 1788.

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

Article 1 Section 8 Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. AMODEI:

H.R. 1789.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 5—To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of Weights and Measures;

By Mrs. AXNE:

H.R. 1790.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. BARRAGÁN:

H.R. 1791.

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

Article 1 Section 8 United States Constitution

By Ms. BARRAGÁN:

H.R. 1792.

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

Article 1 Section 8 United States Constitution

By Ms. BASS:

H.R. 1793.

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

Article 1, Section 1 of the United States Constitution, providing—''All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.''

By Ms. BASS:

H.R. 1794.

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

Article 1, Section 1 of the United States Constitution, providing—''All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.''

By Ms. BASS:

H.R. 1795.

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

Article 1, Section 1 of the United States Constitution, providing—''All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.''

By Mr. BERA:

H.R. 1796.

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

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

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 1797.

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

Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

By Mr. BOST:

H.R. 1798.

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

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

By Ms. BOURDEAUX:

H.R. 1799.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

''The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .''

By Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 1800.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution under the General Welfare Clause.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 1801.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H.R. 1802.

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

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

By Mr. CÁRDENAS:

H.R. 1803.

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

Article 1 Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia:

H.R. 1804.

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

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces, as enumerated in Article I; Section 8, Clause 14 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CASTEN:

H.R. 1805.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3
By Ms. CASTOR of Florida:
H.R. 1806.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. CAWTHORN:
H.R. 1807.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mr. CICILLINE:
H.R. 1808.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. COHEN:
H.R. 1809.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. COURTNEY:
H.R. 1810.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8.
By Ms. CRAIG:
H.R. 1811.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 for the Commerce Clause
By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois:
H.R. 1812.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution
By Mr. DEFAZIO:
H.R. 1813.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress)
By Ms. DELAURO:
H.R. 1814.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution and Article I, Section 8, Clause I of the United States Constitution.
By Ms. DELAURO:
H.R. 1815.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
ARTICLE 1, SECTION 8; UNITED STATE CONSTITUTION
By Ms. DELBENE:
H.R. 1816.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8
By Mr. DESAULNIER:
H.R. 1817.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8.
By Mrs. FLETCHER:
H.R. 1818.
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. GARAMENDI:
H.R. 1819.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution
By Mr. GIBBS:
H.R. 1820.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18, that grants Congress the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested by Congress in the Constitution of the United States or in any department or officer thereof
By Mr. GIBBS:
H.R. 1821.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18, that grants Congress the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested by Congress in the Constitution of the United States or in any department or officer thereof
By Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN:
H.R. 1822.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the U.S. Constitution, which provide as follows:
The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States; [. . .]—And
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.
Moreover, the Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article IV, Section 3, which provides, in relevant part, as follows:
The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.
By Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN:
H.R. 1823.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the U.S. Constitution, which provide as follows:
The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States; [. . .]—And
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.
Moreover, the Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article IV, Section 3, which provides, in relevant part, as follows:
The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.
By Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN:
H.R. 1824.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the U.S. Constitution, which provide as follows:
The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States; [. . .]—And
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.
Moreover, the Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article IV, Section 3, which provides, in relevant part, as follows:
The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.
By Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN:
H.R. 1825.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the U.S. Constitution, which provide as follows:
The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States; [. . .]—And
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.
Moreover, the Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article IV, Section 3, which provides, in relevant part, as follows:
The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.
By Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN:
H.R. 1826.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the U.S. Constitution, which provide as follows:
The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States; [. . .]—And
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.
Moreover, the Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article IV, Section 3, which provides, in relevant part, as follows:
The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

By Mr. GOSAR:
H.R. 1827.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Section I of article 8 of the Constitution; Amendment 2 to the Constitution
By Mr. GRIJALVA:
H.R. 1828.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
U.S. Const. art. I, §§1 and 8.
By Mrs. HARSHBARGER:
H.R. 1829.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Mrs. HINSON:
H.R. 1830.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18
By Mr. HORSFORD:
H.R. 1831.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution of the United States.
By Mr. HUIZENGA:
H.R. 1832.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
U.S. Constitution—Article 1, Section 8
By Mr. KATKO:
H.R. 1833.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section VIII of the Constitution
By Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI:
H.R. 1834.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1
The Congress shall have power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .
By Ms. LEE of California:
H.R. 1835.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution
By Mr. LEVIN of California:
H.R. 1836.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution
By Mr. LUCAS:
H.R. 1837.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
U.S. Constitution, 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. LUETKEMEYER:
H.R. 1838.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The Constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises to pay the debts and provide for the common Defense and general welfare of the United States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 1. Thus, Congress has the authority not only to increase taxes, but also, to reduce taxes to promote the general welfare of the United States of America and her citizens. Additionally, Congress has the Constitutional authority to regulate commerce among the States and with Indian Tribes, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 3.
By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS:
H.R. 1839.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18
By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS:
H.R. 1840.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8,
By Mr. McNERNEY:
H.R. 1841.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the authority to enact this bill.
By Mr. MEEKS:
H.R. 1842.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1.
By Ms. MENG:
H.R. 1843.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution
By Mr. MOULTON:
H.R. 1844.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. MOULTON:
H.R. 1845.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. O'HALLERAN:
H.R. 1846.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 18, section 8 of article 1 of the Constitution
By Ms. OMAR:
H.R. 1847.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section I
By Mr. PALLONE:
H.R. 1848.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: [The Congress shall have Power] To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes
By Miss RICE of New York:
H.R. 1849.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section VIII
By Miss RICE of New York:
H.R. 1850.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section 8
By Mr. ROSENDALE:
H.R. 1851.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to lay and collect taxes as enumerated in Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. ROY:
H.R. 1852.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. ROY:
H.R. 1853.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8 of the United States Constitution—to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof.
By Mr. RYAN:
H.R. 1854.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution: ''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. SCALISE:
H.R. 1855.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. SCALISE:
H.R. 1856.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. SCHRADER:
H.R. 1857.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. SMITH of Missouri:
H.R. 1858.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. SMITH of Washington:
H.R. 1859.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18
By Mr. STIVERS:
H.R. 1860.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.
By Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania:
H.R. 1861.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution in that the legislation exercises legislative powers granted to Congress by that clause ''to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States or any Department or Office thereof.''
By Mrs. TRAHAN:
H.R. 1862.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18
By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:
H.R. 1863.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1
The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .
By Mr. WELCH:
H.R. 1864.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, 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 Ms. WILD:

H.R. 1865.

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

Article I Section VIII

By Mr. ZELDIN:

H.R. 1866.

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

U.S. Constitution, 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 Ms. JAYAPAL:

H.R. 1867.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 6: Mr. FOSTER, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Ms. WEXTON, and Mr. MALINOWSKI.

H.R. 18: Mr. NEHLS.

H.R. 25: Mr. BILIRAKIS.

H.R. 51: Mr. LEVIN of California.

H.R. 140: Mr. NORMAN.

H.R. 194: Mr. BACON and Ms. TENNEY.

H.R. 287: Mr. STEUBE.

H.R. 304: Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 310: Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. GUTHRIE, and Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 315: Ms. DELBENE, Ms. CRAIG, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.

H.R. 333: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 350: Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. KIND, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. KHANNA.

H.R. 392: Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 393: Mr. JONES.

H.R. 430: Mr. KHANNA.

H.R. 482: Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. WEXTON, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. MEEKS, and Mr. CONNOLLY.

H.R. 492: Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 504: Mr. NORMAN.

H.R. 519: Mr. KELLER.

H.R. 520: Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. BUCSHON, and Mr. KELLER.

H.R. 521: Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 547: Mr. CRAWFORD.

H.R. 563: Mr. KELLER.

H.R. 568: Mr. DUNCAN.

H.R. 682: Ms. MACE.

H.R. 695: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.

H.R. 707: Mr. CASTEN.

H.R. 750: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 783: Mr. CICILLINE and Mr. CLEAVER.

H.R. 793: Mr. KIND.

H.R. 794: Ms. NEWMAN and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 834: Mr. MAST.

H.R. 840: Mr. REED and Mr. EVANS.

H.R. 869: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin and Mr. YARMUTH.

H.R. 881: Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. BROWNLEY, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 882: Mr. RASKIN and Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 954: Mr. GARBARINO.

H.R. 986: Mr. KHANNA and Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 988: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.

H.R. 1022: Mr. KHANNA and Ms. STRICKLAND.

H.R. 1065: Mr. NORCROSS.

H.R. 1080: Mr. NEHLS.

H.R. 1085: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H.R. 1109: Mr. BEYER.

H.R. 1113: Mr. LAHOOD.

H.R. 1117: Ms. ESHOO, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Mr. HUFFMAN.

H.R. 1132: Mr. CLOUD.

H.R. 1145: Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. HILL, and Mr. STANTON.

H.R. 1177: Mr. POCAN and Ms. KAPTUR.

H.R. 1179: Mr. PANETTA and Mrs. HINSON.

H.R. 1182: Mr. VELA.

H.R. 1202: Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 1210: Mr. RESCHENTHALER and Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina.

H.R. 1215: Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 1228: Ms. TITUS.

H.R. 1255: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Ms. MENG, Mr. COHEN, and Ms. MACE.

H.R. 1259: Mrs. LESKO.

H.R. 1281: Mr. WALBERG.

H.R. 1283: Mr. MOULTON.

H.R. 1291: Mr. LAMALFA and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.

H.R. 1302: Mr. CARTER of Texas and Mr. GUEST.

H.R. 1308: Ms. CHU and Mr. COOPER.

H.R. 1309: Mr. BACON, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PORTER, Ms. JACOBS of California, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. DEAN, and Mrs. HARTZLER.

H.R. 1333: Mr. SOTO, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Ms. MANNING, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, and Mr. PETERS.

H.R. 1361: Ms. PINGREE, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. LIEU, and Mrs. RODGERS of Washington.

H.R. 1362: Mr. WITTMAN, Ms. STEFANIK, Mrs. LURIA, and Mr. WALBERG.

H.R. 1378: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 1381: Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. BENTZ, and Mr. LATTA.

H.R. 1385: Mr. LEVIN of California.

H.R. 1388: Mr. HASTINGS.

H.R. 1411: Mr. NORMAN, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. STEUBE.

H.R. 1415: Mr. GRIJALVA and Mr. GALLEGO.

H.R. 1417: Mr. LAMALFA.

H.R. 1435: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.

H.R. 1440: Ms. MACE.

H.R. 1447: Mr. HUFFMAN and Mr. PETERS.

H.R. 1466: Ms. TENNEY, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. CRAWFORD, and Mr. TIMMONS.

H.R. 1467: Mr. SAN NICOLAS and Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.

H.R. 1475: Ms. BUSH.

H.R. 1505: Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 1506: Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 1518: Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mr. MEIJER, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. BACON, Mr. BARR, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Ms. TENNEY, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. HILL, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. GIMENEZ, and Mr. STAUBER.

H.R. 1520: Mrs. MCCLAIN.

H.R. 1527: Mr. GARBARINO.

H.R. 1542: Mr. LAHOOD and Mr. KIND.

H.R. 1554: Ms. OMAR.

H.R. 1579: Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 1587: Ms. CHU and Mr. TIMMONS.

H.R. 1593: Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. PALMER, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. BOST, Ms. LEE of California, Mrs. STEEL, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. CLOUD, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. OWENS, Ms. PINGREE, and Mr. UPTON.

H.R. 1594: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H.R. 1604: Mr. CRENSHAW and Mr. STAUBER.

H.R. 1611: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER and Mr. BERA.

H.R. 1652: Mr. CASE.

H.R. 1676: Mr. PAYNE and Ms. DEAN.

H.R. 1680: Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina.

H.R. 1703: Mr. RASKIN and Mr. SARBANES.

H.R. 1735: Mr. OWENS.

H.R. 1769: Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. BACON, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio.

H.R. 1772: Mrs. AXNE.

H.R. 1774: Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. NORMAN, and Mr. COSTA.

H.R. 1777: Mr. POSEY.

H.J. Res. 11: Mr. LATURNER and Mr. CARTER of Georgia.

H.J. Res. 28: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H. Res. 47: Ms. SPEIER and Mr. BUTTERFIELD.

H. Res. 114: Ms. SPEIER, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. STIVERS, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, and Mr. NEGUSE.

H. Res. 119: Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. CLEAVER, and Ms. TENNEY.

H. Res. 121: Mr. JONES.

H. Res. 151: Mr. CASTEN.

H. Res. 164: Mr. CASE.

H. Res. 197: Mr. CLINE.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 167 WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2021 No. 46

Senate

The Senate met at 10:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, You have always been our helper. Continue to teach our lawmakers to live for Your glory.

Lord, lead them along the paths that will keep our Nation strong. Give them confidence in Your guidance and a passion for Your truth. Strengthen them so that they will be courageous in defense of righteousness. Inspire them to wait patiently for the ultimate triumph of Your prevailing providence. May they find spiritual nourishment simply by being kind to each other.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

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

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

NOMINATIONS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, yesterday, the Senate completed an extremely productive day by confirming three members of President Biden's Cabinet. Today, we are going to keep up the pace by moving the ball forward on two more of the President's nominees.

First, the Senate will begin the process of bringing Xavier Becerra's nomination to the floor to serve as HHS Secretary. This is a critical position as we continue to battle the virus, and I am perplexed that none of my Republican colleagues would vote for him. He is a capable man, and he has worked hard to make sure that people get healthcare. Some have said: Well, he is not a doctor. Neither was the previous Trump nominee for HHS, who happened to be a pharmaceutical company executive. Whom would Americans prefer?

Second, the Senate will move forward with another very historic nominee who makes us so proud, Representative DEB HAALAND of New Mexico, to serve as the next Secretary of the Interior. She will be confirmed on Monday. Representative HAALAND was elected to the Congress in 2018. She was the first Native American woman, along with Representative SHARICE DAVIDS of Kansas, to ever serve in the people's House. If confirmed, Representative HAALAND will not only become the first Native American to lead the Department of the Interior, but she will be the first Native American to serve in any Cabinet position in American history. We have had a Vice President with Native American roots but never a Cabinet official.

Given the long and troubled relationship between the Federal Government and Tribal nations, the ascension of Representative HAALAND to the top of the Interior Department is a profoundly important moment for America as we advance on the long road—still not fully traveled at all—toward equality. For too long, Tribal nations have been denied a seat at the table where decisions were made that impacted their lives and their land. Not only will Secretary HAALAND ensure that they get a seat, she will bring her own lived experiences to the table alongside them.

Under President Trump, the Department of the Interior became one of the most scandal-ridden Agencies in the history of the Federal Government. It gave oil and mining companies carte blanche to drill in wildlife reserves. It rolled back environmental protections and greatly undermined trust in the Federal Government and Tribal lands.

Representative HAALAND will move the Department in a dramatically different direction. One of her most important responsibilities will be to restore and uphold the Federal Government's obligations to sovereign Tribal nations. I cannot think of a better candidate to take on this job than Representative HAALAND, and I greatly look forward to confirming her. It will be historic.

Now, in general, Madam President, the Senate is making great progress in installing President Biden's highly qualified nominees. So far, we have already confirmed 16 Cabinet-level appointments. We are set to increase that number to 18 after Secretaries HAALAND and Becerra are approved. Every single one of the President's nominees has been confirmed with a bipartisan vote here on the Senate floor. President Biden deserves to have his team in place, and the Senate is moving quickly to get the job done.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021

Mr. SCHUMER. Now, Madam President, on the American Rescue Plan,

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

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which finally cleared the hurdle in Congress yesterday by passing the House, it is now only a Presidential signature away from becoming law. Soon—very soon—the most sweeping recovery effort in recent history will get underway.

Direct checks will be delivered to American families from coast to coast—roughly, 85 percent of all households. The American people can expect those $1,400 checks for each person in the family to be delivered by the end of March, and we are making amazingly good progress on vaccines. Vaccines will be available far more quickly to far more people.

Just this morning, the Biden administration announced an expansion of the vaccine program, and I was able to announce that more than 100 community health centers in my home State of New York will be eligible to get their own, dedicated supply of vaccines. There is a brand new vaccine supercharge for New York and for some of the rest of the Nation as well—the crux: more vaccines and more sites to administer them. Over 100 sites will be set up across New York State to administer a massive influx of new shot supplies.

There is light at the end of this COVID tunnel, which has always been centered on access to a free vaccine for all New Yorkers. More access and more shots mean a quicker recovery, and that is what we want, and that is becoming available for my home State of New York and for the entire Nation.

The CHC sites, or community health center sites, will be federally funded and organized by the Department of Health and Human Services—a huge expansion. We have all heard numerous stories of people having to travel too far to get the vaccine, hampering our ability to recover and return to normal. With this announcement of more vaccines and more New York sites to administer them, New Yorkers have something to celebrate, and I thank the President for working with us to make this effort real and to bring it to every State in the Nation. Other things are happening, too.

Our schools will receive critical assistance to update their infrastructure, hire more teachers and tutors, and prepare to reopen as fast and as safely as possible.

There is going to be money for broadband. There are going to be dollars for rural hospitals. There are going to be dollars to help our Tribal nations—all who are suffering. The new RESTAURANTS Act, which is so important to so many of our States, is becoming law. More money for Save our Stages to help our arts institutions is coming.

Perhaps the thing that we are the most proud of—although there are so many in this bill—is helping people with their pensions and making sure those who are laid off still get healthcare by funding COBRA fully.

There are so many good things for average working families, but maybe the most important of all—who knows? There are so many good things in this bill—is the child tax credit, which will cut childhood poverty in half. When a child is born into poverty at no fault of his or her own, they don't get adequate nutrition. They don't get adequate healthcare. They don't get adequate housing. They don't get adequate education. Then, when they get to young adulthood, they have nowhere to go, and then they get blamed for their plight. The better, smarter, more effective thing to do is to help them get out of poverty early so they can lead good, productive lives as citizens and as taxpayers. We are doing that for the first time here, and I hope it is something that we can continue.

Simply put, the American Rescue Plan is one of the most significant pieces of legislation to pass the Congress in recent history.

Yesterday, I started describing in more detail some of the lesser known aspects of the plan. Everyone knows that vaccines are coming, that $1,400 checks are coming, that money for schools is coming, and now people know of the child tax credit, but there are lots of other things in this bill. Today, I want to continue by talking about another unheralded provision: assistance to Native communities. It is a topic very much on theme today given the nomination of Secretary HAALAND.

One of the most tragic features of the COVID–19 pandemic is how destructive it has been for America's Tribal nations. Native Americans have faced the highest risk of infections, hospitalizations, and deaths due to COVID–19—bar none, the highest. Early in the crisis, the Navajo Nation, to take one example, saw more cases per capita than any other State in the country. Decades of an unraveling social safety net, declining economic opportunity, an overburdened health system, and the failure of the Federal Government to honor its trust obligations to American Tribes left Native communities unequipped to handle the crisis. But in the American Rescue Plan, the Democrats will deliver the single largest investment in Native communities in our Nation's history. We are very proud of that. It is historic—the single largest investment in Native communities in our Nation's history. More than $31.2 billion in direct funding will go to Tribes and communities to defeat this pandemic and rebuild their communities; $20 billion directly to Tribal governments so they can stabilize essential services; $6 billion to the Indian Health Service, not just for vaccines and testing and tracing but to improve and restore these rural, long-neglected hospitals; hundreds of millions more for Native education; $10 million will go to just making sure communities can access clean water.

Listen to the items I just mentioned: clean water, keeping hospitals running, connecting kids to broadband. These are absolute necessities, and the American Rescue Plan is going to dedicate resources to all of them for Indian Country.

I want to thank a whole bunch of my colleagues. So many contributed, but the chair of the Indian Affairs Committee, Senator SCHATZ, and Senators TESTER and CANTWELL and SMITH and KELLY and BEN RAY LUJÁN and Heinrich are very, very important. Senator HEINRICH particularly pushed for broadband. So it was a team effort, and I am proud of my colleagues.

The American Rescue Plan takes us a giant step closer to fulfilling our trust responsibilities to all Native Americans, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians. This is just one example, an important one, as to how the rescue plan will dramatically improve the lives of millions of people in this great country of ours.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, a year ago, coronavirus cases were beginning to climb on U.S. soil. Shutdown measures were starting to take effect.

Americans have endured one of the strangest and most painful years in living memory. Nearly 2 million Americans have been hospitalized with serious cases of the virus. More than half a million have lost their lives. Millions of students and workers have had their lives completely thrown off course. But these dark times have also spotlighted some of the best of America: heroism, selflessness, ingenuity.

Last March, the night we passed the CARES Act without a single dissenting vote, I said we would see a new generation of American heroes, and so we have. Doctors and nurses and first responders have worked tirelessly to help their fellow Americans. Essential workers kept manning their posts and prevented economic collapse. Neighbors looked out for neighbors, and small businesses shifted gears almost overnight. Children and parents have fought to adapt to extraordinary disruptions, and incredible heroes in lab coats in America and worldwide worked at light speed to decode this new enemy and create lifesaving vaccines in record time.

Today, together, we are standing on the cusp of a new springtime for our

country not like anything we have experienced in our lifetimes. More than 95 million vaccine doses have reached American arms; another 2 million every single day. COVID-related deaths have plummeted, now less than half of their high, particularly for the elderly and the vulnerable. Science reaffirms kids can be safely in the classroom right now. States are starting to lift blanket restrictions, freeing citizens and small businesses to follow smart precautions themselves. For weeks, every indicator has suggested our economy is poised to come roaring back, with more job openings for Americans who need work.

None of these trends began on January 20. President Biden and his Democratic government inherited a tide that had already begun to turn toward decisive victory.

In 2020, Congress passed five historic bipartisan bills to save our health system, protect our economic foundations, and fund Operation Warp Speed to find vaccines. Senate Republicans led the bipartisan CARES Act that got our country through the last year.

The American people already built the parade that has been marching toward victory; Democrats just want to sprint in front of the parade and claim credit.

So when 10 Republican Senators went to the White House to suggest working together, the Democrats said: Uh, no. Both the Democratic leader and the White House Chief of Staff now indicate they think President Obama's problem was that he was too bipartisan.

This time, as one journalist put it, the situation was ''Democrats to GOP: Take it or leave it.'' The ''it'' that we are talking about here was a bill that only spent about 1 percent on vaccines and about 9 percent on the entire health fight. The rest of the tab went to things like this: a $350 billion bailout for State and local budgets unrelated to pandemic needs, with strings attached to stop States from cutting taxes on their own citizens down the road—take the money, you don't get to cut taxes; massive Federal school funding spread over several years, without requiring quickly reopening; sweeping new government benefits with no work requirements whatsoever—a time warp to the bad times before bipartisan welfare reform—which Democrats already say they want to make permanent; and agricultural assistance conditioned not on specific financial need but solely on the demographics of the farmer, which some liberal activists are celebrating as ''reparations.'' Only about 20 percent of the spending went to $1,400 direct checks, to try to keep all of the unrelated socialism out of the spotlight.

This wasn't a bill to finish off the pandemic; it was a multitrillion-dollar Trojan horse full of bad, old liberal ideas. President Biden's own staff keep calling this legislation ''the most progressive bill in American history''—hardly the commonsense bipartisanship that the President promised.

So we pause today at the 1-year mark to remember and to mourn, but we also look with great optimism toward the future. Twenty twenty-one is set to be a historic comeback year, not because of the far-left legislation that was passed after the tide had already turned but because of the resilience of the American people.

(Mr. PADILLA assumed the Chair.)

NOMINATION OF XAVIER BECERRA

Mr. MCCONNELL. Now, Mr. President, on a completely different matter, at noon today, the Senate will vote on whether to pluck the Becerra nomination out of committee after it failed to garner enough support to advance.

Every one of President Biden's nominations the Senate has considered so far has received bipartisan support for confirmation. There is a reason Mr. Becerra could not get one single Republican vote to move out of committee. It is because he is such a thoroughly partisan actor with so little subject-matter expertise and such a demonstrated history of hostility toward basic values like the freedom of conscience. There is nothing about Mr. Becerra's record in Congress or in California to suggest he is the best possible person to run the Department of Health and Human Services in the middle of a once-in-a-generation viral pandemic—not even close.

This is too important a job at too important a time for this administration to put raw partisanship ahead of qualifications. So I would strongly urge all Senators to vote against rescuing this nomination from committee. Let's give the President the opportunity to make a better selection.

TRIBUTE TO MARY SUIT JONES

Mr. MCCONNELL. Now, Mr. President, on one final matter, as I have mentioned, it is customary for some top Senate staff positions to see new faces when party control changes hands.

Today, it is my honor to pay tribute to Mary Suit Jones, a huge asset to this institution who has become an institution herself.

Tomorrow, Mary will finish her second separate run as Assistant Secretary of the Senate and conclude a Senate career that has spanned more than a quarter of a century.

I first met Mary Jones in the mid-1990s when we brought her on board to help manage my office. Neither I nor Mary's colleagues back then could have predicted that nearly 30 years later, she would depart as one of the most senior officers in the entire place. But the truth is, if you had told us, nobody would have been even a little surprised either.

I have entrusted Mary with a lot of different responsibilities over the years. She served as our office manager just a few years out of college. She came with me to the Rules Committee, first as deputy staff director and then the top job. Senator Frist had the good judgment to ask her to be Assistant Secretary in the early 2000s. Then she returned to Rules and resumed serving as our staff director under Senators Bob Bennett, Lamar Alexander, and then Pat Roberts. Finally, she generously brought all of this expertise and institutional knowledge back to the Assistant Secretary role 6 years ago.

In her first job in my office, Mary organized one team of people and our infrastructure. In her current job, she has overseen 26 departments and scores of Senate staff, pushing resources and guidance down and pushing information up. In between, at Rules, she tackled things like helping run Presidential inaugurations.

Through it all, I cannot name one time when Mary Jones did not deliver. She is consistent, competent, and completely reliable. No wonder her name has become a kind of catchphrase around the Senate when anyone is trying to track down some key piece of wisdom or is puzzling over how to get something done: ''Well, let's ask Mary Jones.'' ''Have you checked with Mary Jones?'' ''I think Mary knows all about that.''

Everyone from junior staff to senior Senators, Republicans and Democrats, have been able to count on Mary for expertise and execution. On a million different subjects, she knows the answer to the question you are going to ask before you even finish asking it. A rock-solid administrator, a consummate professional—she is just that good.

So I am sorry to see Mary depart the Senate, but she has given generously to this place. She has certainly earned the opportunity to apply her many talents to some new challenges and perhaps knock a few miles off of her famously epic commute while she is at it.

The whole Senate thanks Mary for her excellent service. We wish her, her husband, and their kids all the best in the exciting new chapters that lie ahead.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

MOTION TO DISCHARGE—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to discharge the nomination of Xavier Becerra from the Committee on Finance.

The Senator from Oregon.

NOMINATION OF XAVIER BECERRA

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, the Senate is now debating the motion to discharge from the Finance Committee the nomination of California Attorney

General Xavier Becerra to head the Department of Health and Human Services.

As chairman of the Finance Committee, I am going to begin with a simple message: Holding up the nomination of Attorney General Becerra has been blocking urgent anti-virus work that needs to get done now. So it is time for the Senate to act quickly, without politics getting in the way, to confirm this nominee.

I also believe moving quickly on this nomination will help to achieve something I heard a lot of Senators talk about over the last few days.

A few days ago, I spent almost 24 hours here at this desk while the Senate was debating a number of different issues. Over the course of that debate and in the weeks before it, many Senators talked about how important it was to get past some of the longstanding disagreements and find unity.

I will say to my colleagues: There could not be a more unifying prospect for America than ending this public health nightmare as quickly as possible, preventing as many COVID–19 deaths as possible, and helping the American people get back to the activities that they enjoy, that they consider part of their normal daily routine.

Having a confirmed Secretary leading the Department of Health and Human Services is a linchpin for accomplishing that task. The Department is right at the effort, at the forefront, to end this contagion. It is leading the distribution of vaccines. It is working to get PPE into the hands of nurses and doctors who still—still—desperately need more of it. It is getting new resources to rural hospitals to keep them afloat and to keep their doors open to patients who literally had nowhere else to go during this crisis.

Health and Human Services is right in the center of the government-wide COVID response. They coordinate work at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, with the Centers for Disease Control, with the National Institutes of Health, with the National Guard, with all 50 States, with the District of Columbia, with private healthcare systems and doctors across the country and more individuals and organizations that are just too numerous to name. Now, that is what the job is all about and why it is so critical right now.

I want to turn to some of what I have heard discussed with respect to Attorney General Becerra. I have heard some say that, well, he doesn't have the right leadership experience. That is a comment being made about the head of America's second largest department of justice. This nominee is in charge of a billion-dollar budget. This nominee is in charge of more than 4,000 employees as the top law enforcement official in what would be the fifth largest economy in the world. This is the work of somebody who really knows how to run a mammoth government agency.

Then there have been suggestions about his healthcare background. This is one that, to me, is just bizarre, given the track record. He spent years and years on the House Ways and Means Committee, which is one of the key committees in the country with respect to jurisdiction over healthcare policy. He wrote and debated major pieces of healthcare legislation, including playing an important role in the development of the Affordable Care Act. As California's attorney general, he defended the Affordable Care Act in court. When the pandemic hit, he stepped up and fought to protect the health and well-being of millions of Californians, particularly nurses and doctors and other workers who found themselves in harm's way.

When one is in the Senate, you understand that Members of the opposing party are going to have disagreements on policy issues. That goes with the turf. Women's healthcare was obviously one of those issues that came up during the nomination hearing.

I will tell you that Attorney General Becerra's response is what we ought to expect of responsible public officials and of nominees. He made it clear to members of the Finance Committee. He said again and again and again that he will follow the law. He will be accessible to all Senators. He is going to work to find common ground on key healthcare issues.

I can tell you, having specialized in healthcare since my days with the Oregon Gray Panthers, that is heavy lifting. By the way, I think it is pretty refreshing after 4 years of just blather about repeal-and-replace and empty rhetoric and promises on pharmaceutical price-gouging and partisan policies that favor insurance companies over the typical American consumers.

In my view, Attorney General Becerra proved in his nomination hearing that he knows healthcare policy inside and out and that he is ready to lead the Department of Health and Human Services. I don't think anybody ought to be particularly surprised because he has a decades-long track record in healthcare leadership and policy experience that is going to help him succeed in the job.

We all understand the country's healthcare system is still under extraordinary pressure and strain. On Saturday, the Senate passed one of the largest public health packages in our country's history, designed to crush this pandemic. So we are starting to see some light. We are starting to see the end of the tunnel. The Biden administration is doing everything it can to acquire more vaccines, to get more shots into arms. I think we all understand it is not a task completed yet.

I will just close by way of saying that when our country faces a healthcare crisis, it needs a Secretary of Health and Human Services confirmed and on the job as soon as possible. It doesn't need more political games and delay that only sets back our effort to end the pandemic.

So we will be voting, I believe, in less than an hour, and I just want to say that I hope colleagues will support this nomination discharged from the Finance Committee. I have known the attorney general for a number of years. As I say, this is the area that I have specialized in over the years. And I know that Senators have differences of opinion with respect to healthcare. I get that. But those differences of opinion shouldn't stand in the way of a qualified public official who has managed thousands of people in his current job, for example, from having the opportunity to do what has to be done for this country, and that is to get a confirmed nominee for a critical position so that he can attack those challenges that are in front of us right now and help patients and speed up the efforts to end the pandemic.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The Republican whip.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I voted for a number of President Biden's nominees—his nominee for Treasury Secretary, for Defense Secretary, for Attorney General, for Director of National Intelligence, for Agriculture Secretary, and others. These candidates were not the ones I would have picked if I were President, but I believe it is important for our country that our President have a team in place.

As long as a President's nominees aren't raising serious concerns, I think a President of either party is entitled to have the people he or she chooses serving in his or her administration, but by the same token, if a President's nominee does raise serious concerns, I think we have a responsibility as Senators to oppose him or her. Today, I rise to oppose the President's nominee to head the Department of Health and Human Services.

A number of President Biden's nominees have been qualified, mainstream candidates. Xavier Becerra is not a mainstream candidate. He is an extremist who has used the offices he has held to advance an aggressively pro-abortion agenda and to target religious liberty and freedom of conscience. Mr. Becerra does not represent the views of the majority of Americans; he represents the views of the radical, pro-abortion wing of the Democratic Party.

The Planned Parenthood wing of the Democratic Party would like Americans to believe that unrestricted abortion on demand up to the moment of birth is a no-brainer, an unqualified good, but the truth is, despite decades of trying to convince Americans of this, Americans simply don't agree.

Just 29 percent of Americans believe that abortion should be legal in all circumstances. The vast majority of Americans believe that abortion should either be illegal or that there should be at least some restrictions, undoubtedly because on some level, every American is aware that when we talk about abortion, we are talking about killing a human being. Mr. Becerra, on the other hand, does not seem to support any restrictions on abortion. If he does, I would sure like to hear about them.

As a Congressman, he earned perfect ratings from Planned Parenthood and NARAL. He assembled an overwhelmingly pro-abortion voting record, even opposing a ban on partial-birth abortion—a procedure so heinous and repulsive, it is difficult to even describe.

As California attorney general, he aggressively crusaded in favor of abortion. He is known for defending California's law forcing crisis pregnancy centers to advertise abortion—a case he lost at the Supreme Court on First Amendment grounds. But his activities were hardly limited to California abortion law. This was not a case of an attorney general simply defending the laws of their own State. No. As California attorney general, Mr. Becerra repeatedly—repeatedly—inserted himself into abortion debates in other States. He joined other attorneys general to file amicus briefs challenging abortion laws in Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, and other States, and he frequently led these efforts himself—a fact he proudly highlighted in press releases.

Mr. Becerra's extremist views on abortion would be enough of a red flag, but to that we have to add Mr. Becerra's record on religious liberty and freedom of conscience—most famously his efforts to force religious people, including nuns, to offer health insurance benefits that violate their religious beliefs.

At a Finance Committee hearing, Mr. Becerra tried to downplay his actions in this case. ''I never sued [an order of] nuns,'' he claimed. ''I have [sued] the federal government.'' Well, that is an answer only a lawyer could love. Yes, he didn't sue nuns; he sued the Federal Government to force nuns and other religious people to offer health insurance benefits that violate their consciences. That was the aim of his lawsuit—to force nuns and other religious Americans to act contrary to their consciences.

When an order of nuns, the Little Sisters of the Poor, joined the case in an effort to ensure their right to live according to their faith was protected, Mr. Becerra apparently had no hesitation in continuing his suit.

Mr. Becerra's extremist views on abortion and his record on religious liberty would be troubling in any nominee, but they would matter a lot less if we were talking about a nominee for, say, Secretary of Transportation. But that is not what we are talking about. We are talking about putting Mr. Becerra in charge of a Cabinet Department entrusted with interpreting and applying laws protecting religious freedom and freedom of conscience.

Nothing I have seen suggests to me that Mr. Becerra can be relied on to provide robust protection for these cherished rights. In fact, I am profoundly concerned that Mr. Becerra would use his office to limit Americans' religious freedom. Under Mr. Becerra's HHS, are nuns going to be forced to offer health insurance benefits that violate their religious faith? Will healthcare professionals be protected from having to perform procedures, like abortions, that violate their consciences?

Given Mr. Becerra's record, I am concerned about the answers to these questions. In fact, there is a reason to be concerned. A prime reason for nominating Mr. Becerra was his radical abortion advocacy and his attacks on religious liberty.

It is difficult to find another reason for nominating Mr. Becerra during a global health emergency. Mr. Becerra is not a doctor. He has not worked in the healthcare field. He is not a virologist or a vaccine expert. He does not have a background in public health. It is not unreasonable to conclude that his appeal to the abortion left, one of the most powerful interest groups in the Democrat Party, was a prime reason for his nomination.

NARAL and Planned Parenthood certainly give credence to that idea with their enthusiastic statements in support of Mr. Becerra, which highlighted his aggressive abortion advocacy. I also have to say that it is pretty interesting to nominate someone to head HHS who, in his last job, proudly sued HHS repeatedly.

I know that President Biden is a man of faith, but he is doing a great disservice to people of faith and to the First Amendment with this nomination. He is also doing a disservice to the American people by nominating a candidate whose views on abortion are so radical and so out of step with the views of most Americans.

Days ago, three of my Democrat colleagues broke ranks with their party to stand up for the many, many Americans who don't want their tax dollars going to pay for abortions. I urge them and all of my colleagues to join me in opposing the nomination of Xavier Becerra.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

REOPENING SCHOOLS

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, we have got an issue in this country related to the pandemic but, more specifically, related to children not going back to school. And one thing that is of incredible concern is it appears that the Biden administration, which campaigned saying that they were going to follow science—alleging that the previous administration was not—seems not to be following science but to prejudice their recommendations to fit a political agenda.

With that, let me develop my case. The harms of prolonged closure to school children are remarkable. They are well known. It has been up to a year since the schools have been closed, and in the Presiding Officer's home State of California, there are some school systems that are still not reopened.

Now, think about this: Places where children go, not just to learn but to have social workers make sure they aren't being abused at home, a dietary staff to make sure they have adequate nutrition—but also to learn—have been closed for a year.

Now, we can say: Wait a second, don't worry about that because the children have been given remote learning. There is ample data which shows that particularly the children from lower income families are not logging on even when they are given a broadband computer—given an internet-equipped computer to take home or given WiFi access to use at home. We can imagine it. Mom has to work. There is no one to supervise the child, so the 7-year-old is home by herself while mom is working.

We can also imagine that a family does not have a culture of being online. We can imagine a big family of seven or eight kids where things just kind of get lost in the shuffle, and there is not enough room for someone to be by themselves. Whatever, it is established that there are kids being left behind by not being in the classroom, and those kids, disproportionately, are poor. And that is why the Biden administration's pledge to follow science resonated, and that is why early indications that they are not is not just disappointing, it is a betrayal—and not a betrayal of a campaign pledge, a betrayal of those children who are at home.

Now, by the way, data shows that children can safely go back to school. There was a CDC study from January of 2021 finding little evidence of virus spread in a school setting when the recommended precautions were taken, which kind of calls them—and, by the way, there is a recent study by the following doctors—Henderson, Gandhi, Hoeg, and Johnson from universities such as the University of Chicago, UC Davis, and UC San Francisco—showing how safe it is to go to school, not get infected, and social distancing as minimal as 3 feet distant one from the other—OK, just 3 feet distant.

Now, that is important because if you say you can't bring kids back to school because you don't have enough classroom space for smaller classes, it is one thing if you say there must be 6 feet between each child and another if there only needs to be 3 feet. So these doctors from these prestigious universities found you only need 3 feet.

That begs the question: Why did the Centers for Disease Control, in their February 26 document, say that 6 feet was needed? Now, you may say: 6 feet, 3 feet, why does it make a difference?

Because schools aren't reopening, and their excuse is they need 6 feet between students. They are finding a reason to keep kids at home not learning—a spurious reason.

The doctors who wrote this paper just put an editorial in USA Today in a nice quote here. I say ''nice.'' It kind of summarizes. It is disappointing that they have to say this. It is that—they open up with ''The only thing we have to fear is fear itself,'' which is a quote from Franklin Roosevelt. But they go on to say—they speak up for lost wages, for families, and the poverty and eviction that this is resulting in but that the research says there is greater risk to life expectancies with schools closed versus schools open, but they then ask that we overcome fear by following the science. And the science says we can safely reopen our schools now—full-time, nonhybrid—and keep them open. Unfortunately, that is not what the Centers for Disease Control is saying.

Now, by the way, there is a clear agenda here. Part of the agenda is that teachers unions in certain communities have not wanted to reopen. They are more concerned about the union than they are about the children. So whether it is a Democratic mayor of Chicago trying to force the teachers union in Chicago to reopen, whether it is Los Angeles or San Diego, which are still not reopened, with teachers unions objecting to reopening there, this is not based upon science, not based upon risk to the teachers or the children. They would just rather not be at work. Isn't that amazing?

Now, let me tell you who has been open. First, in Louisiana, over 75 percent of our schools have reopened. Hats off to my State. Private and parochial schools have been open. Hats off to them. They are kind of the business model: If you don't get paid, you show up for work. They show up for work. So let's give a hats off.

And that is why there should be school choice. If a parent can't get their child educated in Los Angeles, in San Diego, or in Chicago, then why are we keeping that child from going to a private school? ''Oh, they can go,'' you say. Not if they are poor. If they are poor, they don't have the revenue.

We should take the money that we are giving to those public schools that will not open because the teachers unions oppose it and give it to the parents so their children can go to a school where their children will actually be educated, and the fact that we don't do that is politics over what is best for that child. It is a betrayal of those children.

This administration's policy, 4 months into their 4 years, demonstrates betrayal after betrayal after betrayal. Let's safely reopen schools now. We know we can do so. We knew that a year ago. The science and the data show it. Congress had provided $68 billion before this latest bill in order to make sure we had everything we needed in order to do that. A lack of funding has not been an excuse to reopen. What is clear is a lack of will, and I will repeat where I started: This administration is betraying the most vulnerable children in our country. Reopen schools now.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

NOMINATION OF XAVIER BECERRA

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, I have to tell you, you can always tell how controversial a nominee is by how fast his supporters work to finish the confirmation process, and last night, at 6:12, we found out that the Democrats tried to pull a fast one on Xavier Becerra's nomination. They were trying to fast-track this, and I was able to object to that hotline request, but the fact that they tried it shows that they are worried about this nominee, and they should be. After two unimpressive hearings and seeing the split vote on the Finance Committee, I think my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have come to realize that his lack of experience in the healthcare sector is one of those big things.

You know, we have over 400 healthcare companies in Tennessee and tens of thousands of employees in that sector. They all—each and every one of them—have more healthcare experience than the Biden administration's nominee for Secretary of Health and Human Services.

His greatest hits from his job keep coming back to haunt him, and as much as his allies here in the Senate try to spin his record, they just can't seem to convince people that he is fit to lead. I was curious how wide the divide is between Tennesseeans and the Becerra nomination, so I asked my staff to look through our mailbag and see what people were calling and writing about.

This nomination was in the top five issues of concern. People in Tennessee are not happy. As I mentioned, healthcare, our religious organizations—what they are seeing is somebody who has crossed the line too many times. They do not see him as fit to lead.

His lack of experience in the healthcare industry explains why so many people would oppose him. He thinks it would be a good idea to take private health insurance away from 160 million Americans and throw them into a disastrous single-payer system. If that is what you want, then he would be a great Secretary of HHS for you.

If he has his way, he will use his new position to further undermine our immigration laws. He has admitted—his own admission—that given the chance, he would decriminalize illegal entry and extend Medicaid benefits to anyone who manages to make it across the border. It is like winning the lottery. If you get across that border, we are going to give you healthcare benefits, courtesy of the U.S. taxpayer.

We cannot afford to keep confirming nominees who have zero respect for the rule of law—zero—and even less respect for the value of human life. Throughout his career, Mr. Becerra has made his appallingly radical positions on abortion very well known. He is proud to support abortion up until the moment of birth. He even opposed the 2003 partial-birth abortion ban. He defended a truly evil California law that forced pro-life crisis pregnancy centers to advertise abortion services offered by State-run clinics.

Recently, a physician friend of mine made a comment about Mr. Becerra's nomination that has really stuck with me. She said:

> I'm horrified—
>
> Bear in mind, this is a physician.
>
> I'm horrified by his position on abortion because he would abort a baby that I would resuscitate. He would abort a baby that a family is willing to adopt.

Now, think about that. This is a guy, in his congressional career and in his job as the attorney general for California, he is a radical on abortion—a radical. You have physicians who stand there to resuscitate these babies that have difficulty during birth. He would allow those babies to be aborted when a physician would choose life, would choose to help that baby live.

According to Mr. Becerra, religious exemptions should be a thing of the past. He relentlessly harassed religious employers like Hobby Lobby and nonprofit organizations like the Little Sisters of the Poor as part of his crusade to uphold ObamaCare's contraception mandate. I think it is clear why the Finance Committee split their vote on this nomination. It has nothing to do with politics.

Xavier Becerra's obsession with dismantling American society and rebuilding it in his own image can't be boiled down to a simple policy position. Instead, it signals his desire to force Americans to live their lives according to his twisted world view.

He may have the approval of leftists, but the American people and thousands of Tennesseans have already written him off as radically unqualified, and, frankly, so have I.

I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing this motion to discharge and opposing the nomination. He is radically anti-life, anti-religion, anti-border security, anti-free speech. He is unqualified to lead.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

NOMINATION OF DEBRA ANNE HAALAND

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, Montana has a rich outdoor heritage. It is something we are known for not just across the country but even around the world and something, as Montanans, we are very proud of.

In fact, for generations, Montana families have enjoyed hunting, fishing, recreating on public lands. I myself am an avid outdoorsman. In fact, some of my fondest memories growing up in Montana are spending time with my

family, my dad, my mom, my grandpa hunting, fishing, backpacking in our State. And, thankfully, I have had a chance to pass it on to our own four children—something we still enjoy doing today, my wife and I, as we are now empty nesters.

Recreation on public lands is part of our Montana way of life. It is how we raise our families in Montana. And just as we cherish our access to our public lands, we also value the conservation of our lands, as well as the stewardship of our vast natural resources.

Energy development flourishes in Montana. It provides over 16,000 hard-working men and women with good-paying jobs to support their families, while funding conservation and protecting our landscapes and wildlife. Montana is still a State where hard-working moms and dads who work hard during the week are thankful for many jobs provided by the natural resources in our State. They work hard during the week, but on the weekends, they go down to Walmart, Bob Ward's Sports' warehouse, and Ace Sporting Goods store and buy an elk tag over the counter, a fishing license, and get into our public lands within 30 minutes of buying that license. That is uniquely part of our Montana experience. These jobs that we have in the natural resource industry, these energy jobs, are part of who we are as Montanans because we are a State full of diverse interests, competing priorities, sometimes opposing philosophies. But time and again, stakeholders have come together to find balance and achieve our most lasting conservation wins.

That is a word that is missing in Washington, DC, as we are seeing a new administration come to power; it is the word ''balance.'' You see, as Montanans, we are proud stewards of our beautiful landscapes, our rivers, our natural resources, and our wildlife. We take pride in following the science and listening to our local experts on the ground to do what is best for our environment and our public lands, as well as our rural communities.

And this legacy of balance is intertwined within the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior. The Secretary of the Interior oversees much of America's lands, our water, wildlife, energy resources, and in many ways oversees our Montana way of life. Over the past few years, we have seen Secretaries of the Interior with a range of views—some I agree with, some I haven't. But one thing was consistent, they were consensus builders. They were able to listen to the needs of diverse stakeholders, bring folks together, come up with a solution that worked for almost everybody. I would use the word ''balance'' again.

Unfortunately, Representative HAALAND has a very well-documented and hostile record toward made-in-America energy, toward natural resource development, toward wildlife management, and sportsmen. Throughout her tenure as a Congresswoman, Representative HAALAND championed the Green New Deal. She advocated for the most extreme positions, including banning all fossil fuels.

She cosponsored legislation to provide Federal protections for grizzly bears forever without considering the science that is very clear that supports delisting that species and returning it back to the States, just like we did with wolves back in 2011.

She has been enthusiastic in her calls to stop not just the Keystone Pipeline but all pipelines, calling for a ban for all pipelines. She even protested the Dakota Access Pipeline herself.

She has stated that trapping shouldn't be allowed on public lands. And as noted by several sportsmen groups, Representative HAALAND would not even commit to maintaining current access on our public lands during the hearing. I can tell you, these are not mainstream views held by most Montanans.

I am not opposed to Representative HAALAND's confirmation because she is a Democrat or because she was nominated by President Biden. In fact, I have supported many of the President's nominees. This is about her record, her very far-left, divisive positions that will fail to represent the West, to be in the mainstream of common sense and balance. And I fear she will harm the Montana way of life as we know it.

This is about protecting our Montana way of life, the ability to have a good-paying job during the week and enjoying our public lands on the weekends because if you kill the energy jobs, you kill all the pipelines, you kill our natural resources, Montana is left to be simply a playground for the rich and famous. We have to stand up for our hard-working Montanans and protect their way of life.

This is about maintaining a common-sense balance. We can develop our natural resources and protect our public lands at the same time. We can do both, and we must do both.

So I urge my colleagues, especially those from Western States that hold many of these same values, to really think about what Representative HAALAND would bring to the Department of the Interior as leader of that organization. I urge my colleagues to consider the impact this will have and to vote against Representative HAALAND's nomination for Secretary of the Interior.

I yield back my time.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I know we are having a vote in a moment. I ask unanimous consent that the vote not start until I finish my remarks.

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

NOMINATION OF XAVIER BECERRA

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I don't plan to speak long, but listening to my colleagues, I just wanted to make a few points.

Our former colleague, Representative Becerra, spent much time in the Congress—I think 12 terms—much of that in a position focusing on healthcare policy as a member of the Ways and Means Committee. I say that because I know so many of our colleagues, particularly House Members, have gone on to run Agencies, run Departments, be Secretaries of Defense, and, basically, they just had some congressional experience in that policy area.

So I am not sure why we are discarding that important policy background, consideration, balancing of those issues, weighing in on parts of our constituencies, as Mr. Becerra did.

And Mr. Becerra was the first Hispanic to be a member of the Ways and Means Committee. So I am pretty sure he brought forth a context to many of the healthcare policies. I know now that I bring a lot of focus on Native American issues to the Finance Committee because I represent so many Native Americans.

I think Mr. Becerra represents somebody who has a lot of healthcare experience and then, as attorney general, took on one of the biggest fights we need to have right now, which is the affordability of prescription drug pricing and the shortages that I believe are artificially created on things like insulin and other drugs that are spiking out of control the healthcare prices for Americans.

If you had to say, besides getting access to affordable healthcare insurance, what the second most important goal would be—or, actually, if you asked across the spectrum of millions of Americans—they would say it is the high cost of prescription drugs. And we have somebody who has taken on this battle and, basically, really understands what we need to do as a nation in lowering prescription drug prices.

So I just hope that people who are at home are listening. This is a unique individual who I think stands up truth to power many times in his career, and I think that we would be great if we have his vote and nomination out here on the Senate floor so the American people can hear more about the important policies.

If you want to vote against him because you don't want the Affordable Care Act, well, that is your prerogative. But if you want somebody who has just as much experience as any other Member of Congress who has gone on to run an Agency, I guarantee you he is as qualified, if not more qualified.

So I hope our colleagues will vote yes on this motion to bring Xavier Becerra before the United States Senate.

I thank the President.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON MOTION TO DISCHARGE

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). Under the previous order, the question is on agreeing to the motion to discharge the nomination of Xavier Becerra from the Committee on Finance.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR).

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 48, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 117 Ex.]

YEAS—51

Baldwin	Heinrich	Peters
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Reed
Blumenthal	Hirono	Rosen
Booker	Kaine	Sanders
Brown	Kelly	Schatz
Cantwell	King	Schumer
Cardin	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Carper	Leahy	Sinema
Casey	Luján	Smith
Collins	Manchin	Stabenow
Coons	Markey	Tester
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Feinstein	Murray	Warren
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Hassan	Padilla	Wyden

NAYS—48

Barrasso	Grassley	Portman
Blackburn	Hagerty	Risch
Blunt	Hawley	Romney
Boozman	Hoeven	Rounds
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Capito	Inhofe	Sasse
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Shelby
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Lummis	Thune
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Daines	McConnell	Toomey
Ernst	Moran	Tuberville
Fischer	Murkowski	Wicker
Graham	Paul	Young

NOT VOTING—1

Burr

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to the provisions in S. Res. 27 and the motion being agreed to, the nomination will be placed on the Executive Calendar.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Debra Anne Haaland, of New Mexico, to be Secretary of the Interior.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 26.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Isabella Casillas Guzman, of California, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 26, Isabella Casillas Guzman, of California, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

Charles E. Schumer, Benjamin L. Cardin, Richard Blumenthal, Christopher A. Coons, Patty Murray, Chris Van Hollen, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jeff Merkley, Brian Schatz, Cory A. Booker, Amy Klobuchar, Sherrod Brown, Angus S. King, Jr., Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Tim Kaine, Tammy Baldwin, Ron Wyden.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 29.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Katherine C. Tai, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 29, Katherine C. Tai, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.

Charles E. Schumer, Chris Van Hollen, Michael F. Bennet, Jack Reed, Tammy Duckworth, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jeff Merkley, Christopher A. Coons, Richard Blumenthal, Patrick J. Leahy, Amy Klobuchar, Tina Smith, Brian Schatz, Robert Menendez, Richard J. Durbin, Martin Heinrich, Maria Cantwell.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today be waived.

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

The Senator from Oregon.

NOMINATION OF DEBRA ANNE HAALAND

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, on Monday, the Senate will vote on the nomination of Congresswoman DEB HAALAND to serve as Secretary of the Interior. I have had a chance to vote on a number of nominations over the years. I want to tell the Senate that, on Monday, the Senate can make history.

The Congresswoman—and she faced some strong questioning in the committee—understands that protecting public lands and boosting rural communities and jobs are two sides of the same coin. Too often, in the debates in Washington, DC, they really involve something resembling false choices. You can either be for jobs or you can be for protecting your treasures. The Congresswoman understands that those two are not mutually exclusive and that, in the West, particularly when you look at our exciting recreation economic engine, this is a chance to really generate more jobs, protect treasures, and enhance our quality of life.

Now, I recognize that there have been powerful interest groups that try, for example, to protect the interests of big oil companies at taxpayer expense, at the expense of clean air and clean water, and, as I say, at the expense of everybody who wants to get outside. I know that part of the debate is propping up a dirty environmental policy and declining industry that, mostly, adds to the current climate crisis.

In the long run, what we need to do is find fresh ways to bring Americans together around areas, particularly for rural communities, that are going to bridge the urban-rural divide, reduce

inequality in America, and be a long-term solution for rural economies. The Congresswoman, our nominee on Monday, knows that there is a better way to protect and create rural jobs, and I will give you just one example.

Congressman NEGUSE and I have introduced a major piece of legislation to create the 21st Century Civilian Conservation Corps. Our legislation would create thousands of jobs in rural America, and these workers would help to preserve public lands and prevent the kind of massive wildfires America has seen in recent years.

What I can say to colleagues is that a major effort like this will create scores and scores of jobs for local businesses and local vendors. Certainly, we are talking about the local hardware store, chainsaw outlets, and those who sell logging equipment. There are going to be lots of opportunities for private sector employment stemming from the arrival of the 21st Century Civilian Conservation Corps. We will also have a lot more opportunity for outdoor recreation, boosting tourism revenues, and fewer communities reduced to ash by wildfire—a win all around.

Now, the Congresswoman also talked to us about another priority for rural America, and that is helping Native American Tribes across the country build and repair drinking water infrastructure and that she would make it a priority to help Tribes where there is a lack of drinking water, threatening the health of those Tribal members. This is especially a problem in Oregon, wherein the Warm Springs Tribe has burst pipes and regular ''boil water'' notices, but I will tell you that Warm Springs is not alone in this country, and the Congresswoman understands. She said: Water is a basic human right.

The next point that I want to touch on with respect to this exceptional Member of Congress is that she really has a track record of bringing parties together with differing views. Now, I know some Members of the Senate have gone to great lengths to say: Oh, she is some kind of far-out radical.

Colleagues, that just doesn't pass the smell test. She has been a leader in generating bipartisan support for efforts in the House. She has one of the most conservative Members of the House singing her praises in coming before the committee, and I went several times just because I wanted to hear the Congresswoman address this crucial issue of how important rural jobs are, how rural jobs and protecting the environment are not mutually exclusive, and how you can bring people together. On each of these points, she conveyed the kinds of views that make her an ideal choice for serving as the Secretary of the Interior.

I was also interested in her thoughts on a major piece of legislation for rural Eastern Oregon. It is the Malheur County Owyhee legislation, which seeks to resolve differences in this extraordinary part of my State, the Owyhees—differences that have literally gone on for decades. We brought together ranchers and Tribes and environmental folks, and we said: Here again, what we can do is create rural employment. We can protect the ag economy and the farmer's way of life. We can also create great opportunities for recreation in that part of the State. The Congresswoman got it in a second. She said that is exactly what we need to do—build models that bring farmers and ranchers together with environmental folks and scientists who understand the nature of some of these challenges from a scientific and climate standpoint.

I will tell you that I have gone to more than my share of nomination hearings, but what I saw was a nominee with exceptional backbone and decency, who was being clear, being straightforward. At times, it was a little hard to take because the questioning, I thought, was not just strong but over the line. At the same time, the Congresswoman showed her calm, her knowledge, and her perseverance in the face of this.

I am just going to close with this.

Colleagues, I have tried to kind of make my calling card a public service of bringing people together, finding fresh ideas, and the very kinds of approaches that the Congresswoman talked about during two, I felt, very draining kinds of sessions. My view is that it is critical for the Senate to be able to recognize there are going to be disagreements. The Senate is made up of a lot of people with very strong views, and what I believe we ought to insist on of all candidates is a level of decency and respect for all concerned. The Congresswoman showed that in the face of some very strong questioning.

When I was done, I said: Not only am I going to support you because of your views on rural jobs and your recognizing that protecting jobs and the environment are not mutually exclusive—that we can do both—but because of your track record of bipartisanship, featuring Congressman YOUNG's coming here.

Also, I come to the floor of the U.S. Senate to say that I was there for both sessions, and I saw an elected official, a Congresswoman, handle a lot of very tough, strong questions, and at every level, she tried to stick to the facts. She tried to make the case for what she thought was a great opportunity, especially in the West, but that she would be in all of the communities that the Department of the Interior is responsible for and that everyone would get a fair shake. Every Democrat and every Republican would get a fair shake.

That is the kind of fundamental decency we want in a nominee.

And I will close with this: It sure stands in sharp contrast to what we saw over the last 4 years, two Secretaries, essentially, infamous rather than famous, who too often were willing to set aside the science and support the powerful and those who were going to walk away making quick dollars at the expense of the environment.

People of this country now have a chance, almost like you take a dilapidated stage out of an auditorium, and now we have got a chance to start anew. We have got a nominee who is qualified. She is fair. She is going to concentrate on bringing people together, and she is going to make history.

It is long, long, long past time, colleagues, that this country had a Native American leading the Interior Department.

So I pledge after that second hearing, I am going to come back on the floor and not just vote for her but speak for her because her decency, her thoughtfulness—I see my friend from New Mexico here—that sense of caring and that fairness in the face of some very, very aggressive questioning makes me feel that this is a very special sort of leader.

Congresswoman HAALAND has my full, unqualified support, and westerners are looking forward very much to working with her, get her to Oregon, and see what our challenges are.

I urge all Members of the Senate on Monday to support the historic nomination of Congresswoman HAALAND to head the Interior Department.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). The Senator from Wyoming.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I thank Senator DAINES for his leadership on this issue.

The only thing the previous speaker and I have in common is agreeing that it is high time that we had a Native American woman to lead the Department of the Interior.

On behalf of the people of Wyoming, I am opposing President Biden's nomination of Congresswoman HAALAND to serve as Secretary of the Interior.

As Secretary, she will continue the job-killing, anti-energy attack on Wyoming's livelihood that President Biden started during his first week in office.

Let's recap just how bad President Biden's Executive actions are for my State.

A University of Wyoming analysis found that Wyoming stands to lose nearly $13 billion in tax revenue if we don't lift the Biden ban on new oil and gas leasing and drilling on Federal lands. To put this in context, $13 billion in tax revenue would educate 60,000 Wyoming students from kindergarten through high school graduation. It would fund the University of Wyoming for the next 59 years. It would fund our public safety and corrections budget for the next 68 years. And it would fund the Wyoming Department of Health for the next 26 years. These are real numbers, and the Biden ban is having real consequences.

In Wyoming, we put the tax revenue from Federal land leases to use educating our kids, caring for the sick, and funding public infrastructure.

Maybe this sounds like my complaint is just with President Biden. That is

how Congresswoman HAALAND would have you see it. Congresswoman HAALAND says that she will simply be following the administration's orders and implementing its agenda at the Interior Department. This isn't exactly encouraging for a number of reasons.

The White House's very first action in implementing their climate change agenda is on track to cost my home State a whopping $13 billion in revenue. I shudder to think what their next action will cost us, especially with Department heads committed to blindly enacting the Biden agenda without consideration for the extraordinary impacts it will continue to have on energy States like Wyoming.

Second, Secretaries have an incredible amount of power to make decisions on how an administration's agenda gets implemented. Based on her own public statements and actions, Congresswoman HAALAND is more radical in her positions than President Biden.

None of these facts are particularly encouraging to folks in Wyoming and the West who will be devastated by the policies that Congresswoman HAALAND plans to champion. What we need is a Secretary who understands the issues that westerners face. We need someone who knows the ways that States like Wyoming are contributing to America's energy independence and doing so in increasingly environmentally friendly ways. Banning permitting on Federal lands in Wyoming means banning access to 68 percent of Wyoming's minerals. For our State and our country to remain energy independent, we need someone at the Department of the Interior who recognizes that if we shut down producers at home, we are only increasing the power of polluters like Russia and China abroad.

Conservatives are regularly attacked as anti-science and anti-environment. This couldn't be further from the truth. I can tell you there are no greater stewards of our land than the people who actually work it, be it farmers, ranchers, or energy producers. We care more about the land and natural resources than just about anyone. It is our livelihood.

But it is more than that. It is our way of life. We know that responsible care for the land means that we have to have a healthy give-and-take with the land.

In Wyoming, we support both energy protection and conservation, fossil fuels and clean energy technologies. Wyoming leads the Nation as the biggest net energy supplier at the same time that we are driving the future of carbon capture and utilization technology.

Representative HAALAND and the Biden administration claim their ban on leases supports the environment, but this ban actually hurts environmental conservation efforts. Energy development on public lands helps to fund conservation, including the Land and Water Conservation Fund to the tune of billions of dollars.

Additionally, since 2000, the United States has had the largest absolute decline in emissions of any country. We did this while at the same time rising to become the world's top energy producer. The truth of the matter is, you can be both environmentally friendly and energy friendly. In Wyoming, we are doing both. Under the Biden and Haaland administration, we will do neither.

I want to add one more thing. I recognize the longstanding connection of Native Americans to the land. Representative HAALAND has that connection, and I honor her heritage and appreciate how significant the nomination of a Native American to lead the Department of the Interior is to the Tribes and to indigenous people. But there is no connection between her heritage and her support of the Green New Deal and attacking oil and natural gas production as a means to address climate change. If our goal is to reduce emissions, then our focus should be on clean air, not attacking energy production.

We can achieve our environmental goals through things like carbon capture while remaining energy independent.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to oppose Representative HAALAND's nomination to serve as Secretary of the Interior.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. President, what is the status of the floor?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate is considering the Haaland nomination.

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. President, I rise today in support of my colleague in the New Mexico congressional delegation, my Representative in the House of Representatives, and President Joe Biden's nominee for Secretary of Interior, Congresswoman DEB HAALAND.

Congresswoman HAALAND is a member of the Pueblo of Laguna. She is what we like to call in New Mexico a 35th-generation New Mexican.

As many have noted, she will make history as the first-ever Native American Cabinet Secretary, something that, frankly, should have happened a long, long time ago in this country.

Deb also has lived experience—as a single mother, as a small business owner, as a Tribal administrator—experiences that will serve her well and bring real representation to President Joe Biden's Cabinet.

She grew up in a military family. Her father was a decorated Marine combat veteran, and her mother is a Navy veteran. She grew up like a lot of kids with parents in the military, moving frequently, actually attending 13 different public schools over the course of her childhood.

Before being elected to Congress, she owned her own business, she was the chair of the board of a tribally owned business, and also served as Tribal administrator for the Pueblo of San Felipe.

Thanks to all of that experience, Congresswoman HAALAND knows firsthand how the decisions that we make here in Washington, and particularly in the Interior Department, affect communities across the country, especially in Tribal communities and rural Western States.

As Representative of the First District of New Mexico, my former district, Congresswoman HAALAND has served as vice chair of the House Committee on Natural Resources and the chair of the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, a position where she made us very proud.

As a committee leader, she routinely demonstrated her commitment to working across party lines.

Of all the Members of Congress newly elected in 2018, she introduced the most bills with bipartisan cosponsors. She has always shown the ability to bring people together, something evidenced by her introduction in our committee by Congressman DON YOUNG, Republican of Alaska.

She has an open door. She has an open mind and will listen and consult with a diverse range of stakeholders to try and build real consensus.

I am confident that she is the leader that we need at Interior to take on the important work of restoring our landscapes, opening up new outdoor recreation opportunities for all Americans, and putting our public lands to work in confronting the climate crisis that too many of our colleagues have long ignored.

Americans want the Department of the Interior to create more equitable access to our public lands, to stand for environmental justice, to find real solutions for the climate crisis, to protect wildlife and clean water, and support rural economic development.

Many of us here in this body—in the Senate—demonstrated just last year, when we passed the historic and bipartisan Great American Outdoors Act, that making conservation and outdoor recreation a key part of our national economic recovery is a goal that has the ability to unite us all, Republicans and Democrats.

Implementation of that new law will allow us to put many Americans back to work repairing our campgrounds, repairing our trail systems, building new visitor centers, and Congresswoman HAALAND is eager to lead that work.

She is also uniquely qualified to help us restore the Department of the Interior's nation-to-nation relationship with Tribal nations and to help Indian Country recover and rebuild from COVID–19.

The Interior Department will play a leading role in implementing President Biden's American Rescue Plan in Indian Country. That historic rescue package, which the Senate just passed over the weekend—and I would point out did not have a single Republican vote—includes more than $31 billion in emergency support for Indian Country.

Let me put that in perspective. That represents the single greatest investment in Indian Country in American history—in American history.

This emergency support is desperately needed in Tribal communities. Over the past year, American Indians and Alaska Natives infected by COVID–19 have been hospitalized at a rate four times higher than White Americans and have died from the disease at nearly twice the rate. That is not just some statistic. I know firsthand because of the people I know and have lost in Indian Country.

On top of these unacceptable public health outcomes, Tribal communities have also been disproportionately impacted by the educational and economic devastation of this past year—the lack of broadband, for example.

These disparities reflect the persistent inequities that are the direct result of decades of chronic underinvestment by Congress in Indian Country. That is why the American Rescue Plan includes $20 billion in emergency funds for Tribal governments that have taken on enormous, unprecedented costs to protect the health and safety of their members. It also includes billions of dollars of investment in Indian Country to expand access to healthcare, education, transportation, housing, and even essentials that many of us just take for granted, things like broadband, like internet, like electricity or water.

The Senate urgently needs to take up Congresswoman HAALAND's nomination to lead the Department of the Interior so that Tribes will finally have the partner they need in effectively implementing the American Rescue Plan and to help them steer their communities out of this perilous moment.

Finally, it is unfortunate, frankly, that this needs to be said, but I do need to take a moment to address characterizations of Congresswoman HAALAND that were raised by some of my colleagues in the Energy and Natural Resources Committee that were neither accurate nor, frankly, appropriate to the kind of debate that we have in that committee.

I was disappointed by the tenor of the debate in our committee, as some of my colleagues described Congresswoman HAALAND as ''radical'' or as ''extreme'' for holding policy views that fall well within the mainstream and fairly represent many of her constituents—I would say the vast majority of her constituents.

As a westerner, Congresswoman HAALAND well understands that confronting the climate crisis, not denying it, and transforming our economy will not come without costs. We need to be honest about that. That is especially true for fossil fuel workers, including many of our fellow New Mexicans, who have long powered our economy and deserve our respect and support. But we need to be thorough on the details and thoughtful in preparing our traditional energy communities for a transition to the clean energy future that the market has already told us is coming—is here—and we need to be honest with them.

I am absolutely certain that Congresswoman HAALAND will be a true partner to Western States like New Mexico, Alaska, Colorado, Montana, and Wyoming as we navigate this challenging transition.

As we confront the climate crisis that is already an existential threat to our land and water resources and the communities that depend on those resources in the West, we must diversify our economy. We must invest in those communities and remain a global leader in producing and exporting energy.

Despite the objections that have been raised against her nomination and the holds that have unfairly held up her confirmation, I am confident in Congresswoman HAALAND's commitment to work with every single one of us on these pressing challenges, and I am eager for the Senate to finally take up Congresswoman HAALAND's confirmation so that she can get to work protecting our natural heritage for future generations.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, today the Senate is debating the nomination of DEB HAALAND, a Member of Congress, to serve as Secretary of the Interior. If confirmed, she will be the first Native American Cabinet member in U.S. history. This is a historic moment, and it should be recognized.

I want to be very clear with you. Representative HAALAND's policy views and lack of substantive answers during her nomination hearing, in my opinion, disqualify her for this job.

In May of 2019, Representative HAALAND said unequivocally in an interview with The Guardian: ''I am wholeheartedly against fracking and drilling on public lands.'' On her campaign website, she stated she wanted to ''keep fossil fuels in the ground.'' On the same site, she pledged to ''vote against all new fossil fuel infrastructure,'' period.

I, along with many western Senators, have consistently opposed nominees who hold such views, and in my opinion and the opinion of my constituents, these views are extreme.

Representative HAALAND's views aren't just statements; they are backed up by legislation that she has cosponsored. As a Member of Congress, she was a day-one cosponsor of the Green New Deal. Now we are talking about destructive legislation that would not just overhaul American energy but would impact almost every sector of society and cause great harm to America's economy. That bill was so extreme that when it was brought here to the Senate floor, it received no support. None.

She also cosponsored legislation to provide permanent Federal protections for the grizzly bear. I believe that legislation is also extreme, and I will tell you why.

The legislation that she proposed as a Member of the House completely disregards the scientific conclusions of the Bush administration, the Obama administration, and the Trump administration. How many things can we name that all three of those Presidents agreed upon? But the three of them did. They all concluded—the Obama administration, the Bush administration, and the Trump administration concluded that it was time to take the grizzly bear off the endangered species list.

Both Democratic and Republican Interior Departments determined that the grizzly bear was fully recovered, but Representative HAALAND has chosen instead to ignore the science and the scientists of the very Department that she is now nominated to lead. Representative HAALAND's policy views are squarely at odds with the mission of the Department of the Interior. That mission includes taking species off of an endangered species list when they are recovered, and the grizzly bear is fully recovered.

That Department also manages our Nation's oil, gas, and coal resources and does it in a responsible manner, not eliminating access to them completely.

Just as troubling as her policy views were her answers to questions during the confirmation process. She struggled or refused to answer the basic questions any nominee for the Department of the Interior would be expected to know and answer. She was unwilling or unable to respond to questions about the Department, about resource policy, and about the laws that she was asked to implement.

I asked her why the Biden administration wouldn't just let energy workers keep their jobs. She had no good answer.

American jobs are being sacrificed in the name of the Biden agenda, and Representative HAALAND wouldn't defend it—couldn't defend it. Senator RISCH had to ask her multiple times if she supported shutting down the Keystone Pipeline before she admitted that she did. He then asked her multiple times why she thought that was a good idea, and she never really gave an answer.

Her written answers to the questions for the record were equally vague and unacceptable. In one response to a question of mine, she refused to acknowledge that the United States has higher environmental standards for oil and for gas production than Russia or Nigeria—would not acknowledge that.

The American people deserve straight answers from a potential Secretary about the law, about the rules, and about the regulations that are going to affect so many lives and livelihoods. She gave very few of those at her nominating hearing and in her written responses.

Representative HAALAND's extreme views, cosponsorship of catastrophic

legislation, and lack of responsiveness disqualify her from this important position as Secretary of the Interior. If she is allowed to implement her Green New Deal-inspired policies at the Department of the Interior, the results for America's energy supply and economy will be catastrophic.

So I cannot support and will not support her nomination, and I urge other Senators also to vote against the nomination.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. MANCHIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 3 minutes.

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

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I am pleased to speak today on the nomination of Representative DEBRA HAALAND to be the Secretary of the Interior. Her nomination was carefully considered by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, which I am privileged to chair.

Her hearing went well, and it went for 2 days. Every member of the committee questioned her. Most asked her two rounds of questions, and some asked three. We then asked her 70 pages of questions for the record—nearly 300 questions, many with multiple subparts.

The committee questioned her closely on her beliefs, her opinions, the President's policies, and what she will do if confirmed. In the end, the committee voted to report her nomination favorably, 11 to 9. I am proud to have voted to report her nomination, and I am proud to speak in favor of her confirmation today.

While I may not personally agree with some of Congresswoman HAALAND's past statements and policy positions, as Secretary she will be carrying out President Biden's agenda, the agenda that the voters elected President Biden to pursue.

At her hearing, she confirmed that she and the administration recognize that our country will remain dependent on fossil fuels for years to come, and a transition to a cleaner energy future must come through innovation, not elimination.

She also affirmed her strong commitment to bipartisanship. She understands the need to work across the aisle to find the bipartisan solutions needed to address the diverse needs of our country and has demonstrated that she can do so effectively.

I was also deeply impressed by the strong endorsement she received by Congressman DON YOUNG, for whom I have the utmost respect. DON YOUNG has been in Congress long enough to be able to read people and know their heart and soul. He took the time and trouble to appear before the committee and testified to the productive working relationship he has had with Congresswoman HAALAND and her willingness to work with him on important issues. That meant a lot to me, and I hope it will also resonate with my colleagues.

President Biden is in perhaps the most difficult position a modern-day President has ever been in, bringing us back from the brink after January 6. That day changed me, and I feel strongly that with the deep divisions running through our country and the Halls of Congress today, we have to have people who have demonstrated they have the temperament and willingness to reach across the aisle. Congresswoman HAALAND has demonstrated she does and she will.

As the President works to bind together a nation split by deep political, racial, social, and economic divisions, he is also trying to assemble a Cabinet that reflects the rich diversity of our Nation, one that looks like America. And 230 years after Washington called his first Cabinet meeting, it is long past time to give a Native American woman a seat at the Cabinet table.

For these reasons, I support DEB HAALAND's nomination and will vote to report her and to support her, and I look forward to working with her to protect our public lands and ensure the responsible use of our natural resources in the most bipartisan manner. I strongly support her nomination. I urge all of my colleagues to vote to invoke cloture today and to confirm her nomination next week.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 31, Debra Anne Haaland, of New Mexico, to be Secretary of the Interior.

Charles E. Schumer, Chris Van Hollen, Michael F. Bennet, Jack Reed, Tammy Duckworth, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jeff Merkley, Christopher A. Coons, Richard Blumenthal, Patrick J. Leahy, Amy Klobuchar, Tina Smith, Brian Schatz, Robert Menendez, Richard J. Durbin, Martin Heinrich, Maria Cantwell.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of DEBRA ANNE HAALAND, of New Mexico, to be Secretary of the Interior, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY), and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 54, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 118 Ex.]

YEAS—54

Baldwin	Heinrich	Peters
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Reed
Blumenthal	Hirono	Rosen
Booker	Kaine	Sanders
Brown	Kelly	Schatz
Cantwell	King	Schumer
Cardin	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Carper	Leahy	Sinema
Casey	Luján	Smith
Collins	Manchin	Stabenow
Coons	Markey	Sullivan
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Tester
Duckworth	Merkley	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murkowski	Warner
Feinstein	Murphy	Warnock
Gillibrand	Murray	Warren
Graham	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Hassan	Padilla	Wyden

NAYS—42

Barrasso	Grassley	Risch
Blackburn	Hagerty	Romney
Blunt	Hawley	Rounds
Boozman	Hoeven	Rubio
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Shelby
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Tillis
Cruz	Marshall	Toomey
Daines	McConnell	Tuberville
Ernst	Paul	Wicker
Fischer	Portman	Young

NOT VOTING—4

Burr	Kennedy
Cassidy	Moran

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. VAN HOLLEN). On this vote, the yeas are 54, the nays are 42.

The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Oklahoma is recognized.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, we are a year into the COVID epidemic—a year. If you think about it, this week a year ago, in Oklahoma City there was a basketball game going on between the Utah Jazz and the Oklahoma City Thunder. They were 2 minutes away from tip-off, and the announcer came on the speaker and said: Ladies and gentlemen, there has been a case of COVID–19 that has been discovered by one of the players. This game is postponed.

And with that one announcement, a year ago this week, all professional sports stopped across the entire country, and the country, for a moment, woke up and realized: This is more serious than we thought. And everything shifted. Within a week, the United States had shut down for 8 weeks, and we went into lockdown.

At the beginning point of that, this Congress came together in a bipartisan way and passed something called the CARES Act, $1.6 trillion, an enormous relief bill, because we were walking into uncharted territory. We created things like the Paycheck Protection

Program. We created ways to be able to assist behind the scenes. We even created a way to be able to help not-for-profits, knowing that if the not-for-profit sector collapsed, there is no way government could possibly keep up.

Lots of work went into that, in a bipartisan way, to be able to resolve that, and that CARES Act stabilized our economy—$1.6 trillion. It was one of five bills that we passed in this body last year, all bipartisan, all of them with us working together to try to find out what are the essential things we have to do, knowing that every single dollar that was spent on COVID was not budgeted. Every single dollar was borrowed, all of it from last year, a total of $4 trillion.

Only $3 trillion of what was actually allocated last year has actually been spent. There is still $1 trillion allocated in last year's five bills that is still unallocated—$1 trillion. Over the weekend, this body passed on a straight partisan vote—and then the House did the same—to be able to add another $2 trillion to the spending for COVID–19. But this bill was different. There was no bipartisan conversation. In fact, 10 Members of the Republican conference went to the White House and tried to sit down with President Biden and say: Let's do a bipartisan issue. There are issues that are unresolved. But, thankfully, we are on the back side of this pandemic. We are not at the same spot we were a year ago. We can now see the end. We know that we are going to have every adult have access to the vaccine by the end of May. The economy is turning around, and things are shifting dramatically, thankfully. So let's do the things that we have to do now and keep the same commitment we had last year.

Last year's commitment was simple: Do the things we have to do, knowing every dollar was borrowed, but not more than we have to do because none of this is budgeted, and none of this has gone through committees. Let's try to do what needs to be done and not more than what needs to be done—until now. Starting the next couple of days, the Treasury will begin to process borrowing another $2 trillion.

I had an Oklahoman whom I talked to this morning who said: How are you doing spending my money at this point?

I laughed, and I said: Actually, this time, it is not even your money. It is not even tax dollars that are coming down; it is borrowed money—from the Chinese, from the open market, from everywhere that we can go get $2 trillion of additional spending to be able to spend it.

While many people will be eager to be able to receive a check for $1,400, because there are a lot of people having a hard time right now coming out of the back side of the pandemic, getting back to work, paying some bills—they may be a little surprised to be able to find out that they are getting a $1,400 check, but so are prisoners. They are also getting a $1,400 check. They are also finding out that people who are not legally present in the country are getting a $1,400 check.

There was an interesting interchange here on the floor on the night of that debate on whether people were getting checks or not getting checks who are not legally present, and so Newsweek magazine did a fact check on, are people not legally present getting a $1,400 check? Just yesterday, they published their fact check and came out—true, people not legally present in the United States are about to receive $1,400 checks in the mail based on the bill that was just passed on a partisan basis.

There are billions of dollars in this bill that are allocated for vaccines. Republicans were audacious enough to be able to raise their hands and say: What are those billions of dollars going towards? It says vaccines, but the problem is that the Biden team has already announced they have done the purchase for every single vaccine for every single adult in America.

In other words, for every single person who can actually get the vaccine, the vaccine purchases have already been done. Those are set and ready to go by the end of May because we still have $6 billion left in the vaccine fund from last year. But this bill that just passed this week, adding another $2 trillion in debt, also includes tens of billions of dollars for vaccines. So the immediate question is, Is that for international vaccines? No; that is a different account. There is money for international vaccines to be sent out, but this is supposedly for the United States, for the purchase of vaccines. Where is that money going when we have already purchased ahead of time all of the vaccines for every single adult in America? We don't know. Unfortunately, this bill was not taken through committee, so no one even had the conversation or time to even find out why.

There is a lot of money for education in this bill, and there is a lot of need in education across the country. In fact, the bill that just passed, this $2 trillion, actually spends almost three times—in this one bill, almost three times—for education what typically the U.S. Federal Government does for the entire year for education. I would say there is a great need, except when you actually look at the unspent money for education from the five bills that were passed last year, there is still $68 billion unspent from the education funds from the five COVID bills last year.

There is no requirement that the schools actually open or use that money to open the schools. In fact, 95 percent of the money allocated for COVID relief for education CBO has said can't even be spent this year at all. The earliest it could even be spent would be next year. And it is well in excess of $100 billion.

There is a provision in this. The Small Business Administration, as I was reading through the 600-plus pages of this bill—that is a real picture of really what this bill is shaped like. One provision of the Small Business Administration allocates $390 million to administer the loan program, but the loan program itself disburses $70 million.

Let me run that number past us again. The program cost for the administrative Washington, DC, cost of running the program is $390 million; the actual amount that they anticipate that they will actually distribute is $70 million, totaling a $460 million program total. Just $70 million of it actually gets to people; $390 million of it stays in Washington, DC, for the bureaucracy.

All of those things could have been fixed if we actually went through committee.

In this COVID bill, there are things like new customs duties for South Korea. I have yet to figure out what South Korea and customs duties have to do with COVID.

There is also slipped in, for the first time ever, Federal funding for abortion. I have yet to see what abortion has to do with COVID, but this bill, for the first time in 44 years, uses Federal tax dollars to start paying for abortion. That has not been done before. In fact, when Joe Biden used to sit in that chair right over there, he often spoke about that we should not use Federal funds for abortion funding. Yet, in the COVID bill, somehow abortion funding has become relevant to fighting off COVID.

I have had some people ask questions about whether this bill could have been better if we had actually done it in a bipartisan way. It could have been significantly better. If you ask how I know that, it is because I saw the five bills we did last year, and they didn't have problems like this in them last year because we worked it out together. This one is different.

This bill could have been significantly improved in a major way. One of them is the way we deal with charities. You see, in previous bills, we sat down and talked about our not-for-profits.

I have a very strong belief personally that we have three safety nets in America. Families are the first safety net; nonprofits, churches, faith-based houses of worship are the second in society; and the third safety net is government.

Government can never keep up with all of the needs in America. If families collapse and if our not-for-profits collapse, government will never be able to keep up. So in previous versions, we have actually addressed that with not-for-profits. We did that in the Paycheck Protection Program to make sure that not-for-profits could get assistance and get help to be able to survive through this.

We also added in a way that we would encourage individuals to be able to donate to not-for-profits. We gave them a write-off. In the very first bill, we

added in $300. If you gave to a not-for-profit, you get to write that off your taxes right away. In the December bill, we reupped that—$300 for an individual and $600 for a family that you could write off on your taxes immediately if you would donate to a not-for-profit.

Why did we do that? Well, I brought that issue up, quite frankly, and we had wide bipartisan agreement to say that was a good idea because we should encourage not-for-profits because we need them for that safety net. Not-for-profits are the faces that take care of the hungry and the homeless and the hurting in our society, and we need them to be strong. But in this bill that came out, we didn't address the not-for-profits. We didn't have the option to be able to bring it up and debate it and say: What should we do? So it just got left out.

Why should we continue to be able to push on this issue? Because we need them to be strong. They are a remarkable part of our economy, our safety net, and our community. They are Americans doing what we do best—serving each other, serving our neighbors, and helping in every possible way that we can.

So a group of us have gathered together to be able to drop a bill dealing with these not-for-profits and encouraging us, again, to accelerate this issue of giving Americans the ability to be able to write off on their taxes, whether they itemize or not, a below-the-line deduction for their taxes to be able to make sure that we encourage people to be able to give to not-for-profits. And it matters. If you want to be able to help do something significant, help those close to you and the ongoing work that they are doing.

Those folks have felt it a lot. According to a study by Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies, between March and May of 2020, our nonprofits have projected job losses around 1.6 million workers. They leaned in and helped anyway, even though they were in real trouble. As of December 2020, the nonprofit workforce still remained down by about 930,000 jobs.

We have a long way to go to have that sector actually fully recover. They are such a significant part of our economy. According to the latest data—again, available from Johns Hopkins—it was found that nonprofit organizations employed the third largest workforce in the U.S. economy; nonprofits, a group that people just drive past all the time, but many people drive to or walk to because they need real help.

What happened when we actually passed the CARES Act and we added this deduction in and encouraged Americans to start donating to not-for-profits to help them survive this year? What happened with that? Well, I can tell you what happened because now we can look back and see the data. The most recent data we have for the fundraising effect for this project shows that there was an increase in the third quarter of 2020 of charitable giving—a 6-percent increase in donors and an 11-percent increase in new donors when compared to 2019.

We put that incentive out, and people saw the need across the country and the opportunity to do that, and people gave. We saw increases in all donor categories in the third quarter of last year, the largest increase in giving coming from donors giving $250 or less. That increased by 17 percent just in the third quarter of last year.

I understand there are a lot of factors to that. There were a lot of needs, and people were doing what they do best and engaging. But we need to continue to encourage the strength of our not-for-profits because if there is a focus to say ''Well, government should do that,'' government can send checks, but government has a hard time actually meeting human needs. That requires a face and a person and a commitment, and that is done differently when it is a not-for-profit.

We have great Federal workers all across the country who work really hard, but they also work often from a distance. Local not-for-profits in small, rural communities will have a much greater connection to individuals to be able to help in their time of crisis than someone 1,000 miles away who means well but doesn't see them on a daily basis. If we want to help human needs, we will find ways to be able to help not-for-profits.

Tuesday of this week, Senator COONS, Senator LEE, Senator SHAHEEN, Senator SCOTT from South Carolina, Senator KLOBUCHAR, Senator COLLINS, Senator CORTEZ MASTO, and myself—we all introduced the Universal Giving Pandemic Response and Recovery Act. We are just asking a simple question: Can we continue to strengthen our not-for-profits and encourage Americans to give to those not-for-profits with their time, with their money, and with their passion and joy? When you actually engage with a not-for-profit, you will find you are the one who really receives.

There is not a moment that I talk to somebody who serves in a not-for-profit that they don't tell me how hard the work is and how draining the work is, and then with a smile, they will say how rewarding it really is. There is not a time that I walk into a homeless shelter or a food bank and they don't tell me about the people they meet on a daily basis and the joy for them going home, talking to their own family, and remembering the blessings that they have, and the joy they have to get up the next day to be able to help those in greatest need. Let's encourage that.

If you want to have a Biblical example, Biblically, the calling for government is to encourage those who do good and punish those who do wrong. We have a lot of nonprofits around the country that are doing good. Let's encourage them, and let's encourage Americans to be able to be engaged in volunteering and in giving.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I am here on the floor today to talk about the unfolding, urgent situation on our southern border, and I do so as the ranking Republican on the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee.

This unfortunate situation at the border includes a lot of kids coming over the border, UACs, as they call them, unaccompanied alien children. These children are making a long and dangerous journey north, putting themselves at risk and bringing our immigration system and our shelter system along the border to a breaking point.

You may have heard that the Biden administration insists this is not a crisis. Here are the facts. You decide.

This chart shows the dire situation that we are in. On Tuesday, the most recent confirmed information we have is there were 3,400 of these children in Border Patrol custody. Ten days ago, that number was 1,700. So in 10 days, this number has doubled. To put this in perspective, at the very height of the border crisis in 2019 that we all remember being talked about a lot on the floor of this Senate and around the country, families and children were coming in, in big numbers. At the very height, it was 2,600 unaccompanied kids. Today, based on some information we just received anecdotally from the Customs and Border Protection folks, it is over 3,500. It is a 35-percent increase even from where it was during the crisis, and it is growing.

Under law, these children have to be transferred to the Federal Department of Health and Human Services, HHS, within 72 hours of their being apprehended, and why we had that law in place was to be able to help these kids. So instead of being in a Border Patrol detention facility, which, by the way, were all designed for single males—they don't have any separation, don't have any trained people to help provide care to children, and it is law enforcement, Border Patrol agents—but within 72 hours, we had said that you have to transfer these children to a Health and Human Services facility that is appropriate for children. How is that working?

Again, as of Tuesday, there were 3,400 of these kids in Border Patrol custody in the wrong kind of detention facilities for children. There were 2,800 children who were ready to transfer to HHS. In other words, they had been screened, gone through a process. As of Tuesday, there were 500 beds available, meaning 2,300 children are remaining in Border Patrol custody in overcrowded, adult facilities without proper care because there is nowhere to take them.

Look, it is a bad situation. HHS contractors are supposed to be trained to care for the kids. The Border Patrol

agents are not trained for that. They are doing their best, but it is not a safe situation for the kids. By the way, nobody in Border Patrol believes it is a good situation for the kids. These facilities, the Border Patrol facilities at the Border Patrol stations and HHS facilities are all at a breaking point. They are busting at the seams. Is that a crisis? I don't know. You decide.

This influx comes, by the way, during a season when you normally don't have a lot of people coming over the border. This is in the winter. Normally, in the spring and then in the fall, you see the biggest influxes of families, kids, individuals. So we expect these numbers to get a lot worse. We expect it to get a lot worse into the spring.

By the way, we spoke to Customs and Border Patrol folks today. They told us the numbers are up again today. In fact, we have some internal document from the Department of Homeland Security that a media organization reported on. It is an official document that says DHS, themselves, predict there will be 117,000 children who will be placed in this situation this year. So they know it just is growing.

Again, is it a crisis? You decide. It is certainly a dangerous situation. By all accounts, many of these migrants, including children, face serious threats to their lives and well-being on the trip north.

Just as happened in the past surges in 2014 and 2019, we know this includes many victims of human trafficking who are deceived and coerced by traffickers and smugglers as they are taken from Central America up to the U.S. border. The trip is treacherous. We have evidence that exploitation and sexual abuse occurs along the way.

In 2019, again, the last time this happened, estimates of migrants who were victims of sexual or physical abuse along the journey ranged from 30 to 75 percent. Individual victims have described incredibly disturbing accounts of being subjected to violence, sexual assault, rape by traffickers and other criminals. It is a bad situation.

By the way, this situation is the direct result of policy changes. The new administration came in determined to dismantle all of what the previous administration had done to try to disincentivize people from coming to the border, and they have been effective in doing that. They have dismantled the immigration practices and proceedings that were working to reduce these incentives. It had resulted in very few kids coming to the border, as an example—almost none.

Last week, the Secretary of Homeland Security said in a press conference that the surge of unaccompanied kids is a ''challenge'' but not a ''crisis.'' He then deflected blame to the previous administration. That is fine. Look, I wish it were just a challenge that didn't require an urgent response, but that is not the reality along the border today. I, frankly, don't care what we call it. Call it a difficult situation, a challenge, whatever you want, but I care a lot about what we do in response.

There is an old saying that says Washington only responds to a crisis. I think, unfortunately, there is a lot of truth to that. We have to respond here. We have to do something. That is why I think we need to consider this dire situation a crisis before it gets much worse.

The next chart shows the reality, which is this surge happened almost immediately after President Biden and his administration were sworn in and they made these announcements about changes in policy. Here we have the election. Here we have the swearing-in. Look at this huge surge in both family units and in these kids. As I said, we have twice as many kids today as we had 10 days ago.

This is surging up. Nearly 10,000 unaccompanied alien children and twice as many family members crossed our border in February, and that is the shortest month of the year. These surges stopped under the previous administration because they put in place policies that reduce the incentives for individuals, families, and unaccompanied minors to try to unlawfully enter the United States. In less than 2 months, the Biden administration has systemically taken away these tools that were being used to reduce these incentives. On day one, the new administration revoked the emergency declaration for the border, stopped construction of the border fence, and placed a 100-day halt to deportations. Not surprisingly, this gave traffickers the green light to exploit the situation, and more people and more drugs are now moving across the border.

Next, the new administration reversed what is known as the Migrant Protection Protocols or the ''Remain in Mexico'' policy, which required asylum seekers to wait in Mexico rather than being released in communities around the United States while waiting for their asylum claims to be adjudicated. About 20 percent of the asylum seekers who went through the entire application process, including all of the hearings, were granted asylum in 2018.

So, if you go through all of the process, about 20 percent of those individuals actually got asylum. Now, that is a self-selected group because I know not everybody goes to the hearing. In fact, the best data show that most don't show up for all of the hearings. The long-term data show that about half of all asylum applicants eventually get removal orders due to their not attending all of their asylum hearings. We don't have great data on this, to be honest, and some people say that very few go to these asylum hearings. Some say more do. The point is that about half of them are getting removal orders—we know that—for not attending all of their asylum hearings.

Given that there is a 1.2 million-case backlog in America today for asylum applicants and that there were fewer than 5,000 noncriminals deported last year by ICE, that tells us that, under the current system, if you are a noncriminal asylum seeker who is denied asylum and is subject to one of these removal orders, it is highly unlikely that you are going to actually end up being deported from the United States. Asylum seekers know that. So do the traffickers. It is no wonder there has been a surge of those who want to live in the United States who have come to the border and sought asylum in recent years.

I went to the border in 2019, and many of my colleagues have been down to the border to see this situation. I will be going back again soon to see firsthand what is happening and to see how we can help. It should not be a partisan issue. It should be one in which Democrats and Republicans alike see what is happening—see the tragedy unfolding along the border—and do something to address it. This Migrant Protection Program put in place by the Trump administration had resulted in a sharp reduction in the surge of asylum claims as people realized, pending their asylum hearings, they were not going to be released in U.S. communities. Now we are seeing the reverse happen.

Second, the Biden administration actually suspended Safe Third Country agreements with the Governments of El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, which allowed migrants to apply for asylum in the first foreign country they crossed into. This, of course, reduced incentives for migrants from those countries to make the long, arduous, and dangerous journey to the southern border.

These agreements were in the process of being fully implemented, but they were already helping and had the potential of finding a much more expeditious way to identify and process those who would qualify for legitimate asylum-refugee status before they would come all the way to our border. All that work that has been accomplished has now been lost. I urge the administration to reinstate those Safe Third Country agreements with Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador.

Third, the new administration has also significantly changed the way we process migrants during the COVID–19 crisis. Instead of establishing the practice of turning away most immigrant and nonimmigrant visa holders to protect the health and safety of the American people, we are now learning from media reports, including the Washington Post, that this new administration has made an unofficial exception to the COVID–19 rules for children and for families.

Border Patrol agents and CBP officers who are on the frontlines are telling us that they are returning to the pre-COVID practice of bringing people into the country despite the health crisis that all of us understand. The reports are that either the CBP officers are not testing kids and families for

COVID at all or, if they are, they are still releasing some of those who test positive to shelters or into the United States with a request that they quarantine after they travel to their final destinations in the interior of the United States. In fact, we know of one instance in which more than 100 unlawful immigrants in Brownsville, TX, who tested positive for COVID–19, were simply told to quarantine when they reached their final destinations regardless of how many people they interacted with when taking a bus—in that case, most were taking a bus, apparently—or when taking a plane to their destinations. Obviously, that doesn't make any sense.

The final policy changes that encourage illegal entry is the new administration's advocating for amnesty for those here illegally without making it clear that such amnesty would not apply to anyone not already here. That is important. As the experience of the last amnesty in 1986 demonstrated, unless it is very clear that illegal entry won't be rewarded, it will spawn more illegal entries. Now, let's face it. The traffickers and the smugglers are going to take advantage of this, and they are going to misrepresent the reality, but, still, it is important that all of us as policymakers make it very clear, as we talk about amnesty, that it is not as to the people who might come in the future; it is as to the people who are already here.

I will say that the State Department has announced that it will be reinstating the Central American Minors Program, which was a streamlined refugee process that existed under the Obama administration and was run by the U.S. Government and the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, but it was discontinued under the Trump administration. I think it is a positive thing that they are reinstating that.

We don't have all of the details yet, but I will tell you that standing up this program without incentivizing people to use it is not going to be very effective. Even if it were to be as effective as it was at the height of the program, which was during the Obama administration, it would not be nearly enough people. In 2 years, the program resettled 3,300 individuals. So 3,300 children were resettled in 2 years. That is not going to make a real impact when we are receiving, right now, 3,300 children every couple of weeks at the border. Again, I hope they do reinstate that program, as I think that would be positive, but they have to do much more in order to avoid this tragic situation from continuing and getting much worse.

The decision by the new administration to change all of these policies, which were working, without having viable alternatives is causing this chaos. It was done without thinking through the real safety and security concerns for both communities and citizens of the United States as well as for these unaccompanied kids and their families. As a result, we have a surge of people being incentivized to enter our country unlawfully, and our systems are being strained during a public health emergency.

This influx is even worse than in 2019, not just because the numbers are greater but because we now have the COVID–19 pandemic, and children and families are being forced into tight quarters in detention facilities. Asylum seekers with COVID–19 are being released into our communities, and Customs and Border Protection officers who haven't been able to receive the vaccine yet, which is a problem, are being exposed to this influx of migrants who haven't been tested. So it is an even bigger problem—forgetting the numbers—given the situation we are in.

That ties in another concern I have about the way this crisis has been handled so far, which is the administration's response to the overcrowding at the shelter facilities. It has been to rush and potentially cut corners to place these unaccompanied children with sponsors because their goal, after HHS detention in HHS facilities, is to get these children out to sponsor families. The standards of due diligence that are required to ensure these children are not being placed in danger are not being met, as far as we can tell, which continues a troubling trend that goes back years and administrations.

It is an issue I have worked on since 2015, when we had a terrible situation in my home State of Ohio wherein kids were given back to the traffickers by HHS—the traffickers who had brought them up from Central America by lying to their parents about what they were going to do: take them to school and so on. These kids ended up working on an egg farm, 6 to 7 days a week, below the minimum wage. I have seen this. I have seen what happens when HHS does not take its time and do it right, and it is very difficult for HHS to do that with the surge that it has.

Over the course of three bipartisan reports and hearings as part of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, which I chair, and across two different administrations, we found failures to ensure the safety of or to even keep track of these vulnerable children once they were handed off to sponsors as well as a fundamental refusal by Agencies to accept that they were responsible for the welfare of these kids. That is the reality. Our bipartisan investigations also found that the Office of Refugee Resettlement failed to exercise appropriate oversight at its facilities and wasted millions of taxpayer dollars on organizations and on contractors that could not acquire State licenses to safely open the planned shelter facilities.

As those in this administration attempt to process this influx of unaccompanied kids and safely get them to longer term housing solutions, it is urgent that they do the due diligence on who is going to be looking after these children and not cut corners as some reports are indicating. That means fingerprinting the sponsors. That means background checks. That means home visits. The Federal Government cannot allow these kids to fall victim to human trafficking, to abuse, or other harm.

I, along with my bipartisan cosponsors, will be reintroducing the Responsibility for Unaccompanied Minors Act again in the coming days to help ensure these requirements are met to protect our kids.

Here is the reality: Once these children arrive at the border, there are no good options. The answer is to stop providing the incentives, the pull factor. That is the short-term imperative. We should not be encouraging these young people to make that arduous journey to then have them end up in a detention facility. That is wrong for them. It is a place where single males are crowded together but where kids are not taken care of. Then, when they have to go to the HHS facility, there is not enough room—again, making the point of there being 3,400 kids in detention and 2,800 kids who are ready to be transferred to HHS, to more appropriate facilities, but there are only 500 beds. So 2,300 are kept in these overcrowded facilities that are meant for single males. It is not a good option. There is no good option. The option is to keep them from coming up to the border in the first place.

Yes, we can do more on the push factors also. That means investing in Central America and other places to try to make those countries places where people would want to stay rather than come to the United States. Yet, my colleagues, that is what is called a long-term solution. Let's be frank. I am for it, but we have to recognize that this is not a solution to the current crisis that we face.

In the last 5 years, we have spent $3.6 billion of U.S. taxpayer funds in aid for these Northern Triangle countries of Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras. President Biden is proposing to spend another $4 billion in those countries. I support smart investments that don't get wasted because of corruption or other challenges, but it won't fix the crisis this month, this year, or next year. The development of the Northern Triangle is a decades-long effort—one we need to do but one that is not going to address, again, the crisis that we face now.

I urge the Biden administration to also step up efforts to tie any aid to better collaboration with our international partners, including with the Governments of Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador, to address this challenge, discourage migration, and provide alternatives to those seeking to make the dangerous journey north. They need to help us, and they have in the past.

In the Trump administration, we had a valuable partner in Mexico, as an example. It used tens of thousands of its

own military to patrol its own southern border to ensure migrants could be processed, if necessary, and turned away if they didn't meet the requirements. That was very helpful. I am concerned that these troops have now been pulled back—that is the information that we are receiving—partly because, as we are told, President Biden is not encouraging the current Mexican leadership to continue this practice. I hope that changes. The current surge in unaccompanied children at our border, in the midst of a global pandemic, is a situation in which no one wins and the children lose the most.

I am disappointed that the Biden administration chose to overturn the policies put in place by the Trump administration, which were to help control the flow of migrants during this pandemic, without having any viable alternatives. I am concerned that leaders at key Agencies involved in the response to this crisis are somehow seeing it as in their interests to downplay the severity of the situation.

I urge the Biden administration to change course. Put back in place smart policies that reduce the pull factors, and address the need for legal and orderly processes for migration.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, before he leaves the floor, let me just congratulate our colleague from Ohio.

That was, perhaps, the most concise and informative speech I have heard on that topic, including speeches that I have given on that topic. In representing a border State, as I do, and in my having served on the Judiciary Committee and on the Immigration Subcommittee for my entire time here, the way he described it, I thought, was entirely accurate. I think you can call it a crisis, a challenge—whatever you want to call it—but it is getting worse all the time, and I think it will get much, much worse if we don't act and act together. So I thank him for his outstanding remarks.

(Ms. CORTEZ MASTO assumed the Chair.)

REMEMBERING HOWARD BALDWIN

Madam President, I have had the privilege of working alongside some truly incredible public servants throughout my career. Without a doubt, one of the finest was Howard Baldwin.

Howard was brilliant, effective, humorous, and exceedingly humble—a rare combination made even more striking because of his kindness. He was an extraordinary person.

Over the weekend, I received the sad news that Howard had passed away, and I want to share just a few words about the incredible life and legacy of my late friend.

Howard and I crossed paths as young lawyers in San Antonio, TX, where we used to play a little pickup basketball together.

He graduated from St. Mary's School of Law a few years before I did, and much to the benefit of families across our State, he quickly found his calling working on child support and family issues.

Howard spent time as a private lawyer, as a State-appointed judge, and as a regional director for child support enforcement. He bounced back and forth between the Texas Attorney General's Office and the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services, and his colleagues would joke: Howard, how can we miss you if you won't stay gone?

But a man as talented and devoted and as effective as Howard is always in high demand. And when I was elected as attorney general of Texas in 1998, he was one of the first people I called.

At the time, the child support division of the attorney general's office was a disaster. Staff were completely overwhelmed by the sky-high number of cases. The office ran a computer system that was so dysfunctional it actually managed to decrease productivity, and a lack of support from previous leadership made even minor improvements impossible.

I knew turning things around wouldn't be easy, but it was absolutely essential that we do so, and I knew that Howard was the only man that I knew for that job.

A news article at the time summed up the monumental task of fixing the broken child support enforcement system by saying, ''Howard Baldwin will look either like a fool or a hero; there won't be much middle ground.''

Today, with the benefit of hindsight, I can assure you that Howard came out looking like a hero.

Unlike previous leaders of the child support division, Howard didn't view it as purely an enforcement or collection agency. He truly cared about the children and family welfare, and he wanted to help families get to a place where both parents could be involved in their children's lives.

To better serve these families, he shifted our focus to customer service. He hired more staff. He brought the division into the technology age, and he empowered the incredible attorneys and staff we worked with to implement changes at every level to affect not only the quality of service but also the quality of outcomes. And the results speak for themselves.

During my time as attorney general, the child support division collected more than $3 billion in child support for more than 1 million Texas children. We broke records annually for the most child support ever collected in a year and the biggest year-to-year increases in collection.

The Texas Child Support Division at the Attorney General's Office went from an unproductive mess to the premier organization of its type in the country. We became a model for other States, and Howard was the guy with all the answers.

I had so much trust in Howard and his ability to steer the ship that I later asked him to serve as my first assistant attorney general. This is the person who oversees the day-to-day operations of the AG's office which, at the time, employed more than 3,800 Texans.

Howard used his deep-seated knowledge of Texas State government to improve the attorney general's office across the board. He built strong relationships with folks on both sides of the aisle, and when something needed to be done, all he had to do was to pick up the phone and call a friend and a colleague. He knew who to call, what to ask for, and how to convince the biggest skeptic in the room to see things his way without ever breaking the smile on his face.

I say this in all candor with the greatest admiration: Howard was the most effective bureaucrat I have ever met.

As big an impact as Howard had on my State—our State—his influence has reached beyond the borders of the Lone Star State.

Howard was an active member of the National Child Support Enforcement Association, where he spent more than a decade as a board member and nearly 2 years as president. He earned the respect and admiration of folks across the country who shared his passion for helping children and helping families.

When a friend and former colleague of Howard's shared the news of his passing with his national network, the response was immediate and overwhelming. Friends and colleagues from Washington State, Kentucky, and New York said that Howard, the Texas bureaucrat, was their mentor.

For those who had the privilege of knowing Howard, this wasn't a surprise. After all, Howard had a wonderful way of advancing the careers of others around him. He wanted them to succeed as well. When their joint efforts were successful, he then made sure that they, not he, got the credit.

He was generous with his time and his knowledge, whether helping someone with an entry-level job or a division leader in another State.

Howard was consistently driven by his passion for helping children. More than two decades ago, he said: ''It gets into your blood because it makes such a difference in people's lives.''

And I can tell you that I have seen the difference firsthand time and time and time again. During my first term in the Senate, I was traveling to El Paso, TX, and I was about to get on my flight when a guy named Joe—I could see it on his uniform—who was part of the ground crew there, came up to me and said: Are you JOHN CORNYN?

I said: Yes, I am.

And he asked: I bet you don't remember me. Do you?

Well, as you can imagine, it caught me a little off guard, so I smiled and said: I am sorry. Can you remind me?

He said: I am Joe. You sued me and threatened to put me in jail for not paying my child support.

Well, that is not the response I expected, but he said: You took me to court because I wasn't paying my child support, but I didn't want to pay it because my ex-wife wouldn't allow me to see my children.

He was holding up the chocks that go under the wheels of the airplane to keep it from rolling, and at this point I was thinking: This guy is going to take a swing at me, or worse.

He then surprised me again. He said: But you know what? After I started paying it after you sued me, the judge ordered my ex-wife to let me spend time with our daughter, and I realized what kind of father I needed to be, what kind of man I needed to be, and I made things right.

He raised his left hand and pointed at his wedding ring. He said: My wife and I got back together.

Well, I was in awe, not only of Joe, but the power of people like Howard Baldwin and everyone at the child support division trying to protect children and trying to restore families. I don't think any one of us could have expected to help reunite a divorced couple, but Howard did everything in his power to help parents support their children, both financially and emotionally, to encourage positive outcomes.

There is no way to quantify the amount of good Howard did throughout his career and throughout his life, but I can say without a doubt he changed lives—many, many lives.

Howard's advocacy for children was his calling, but there were no children he loved more than his two boys, James and Eric. Howard's family was his entire world. His wife Rita was at its center. Throughout their 46-year marriage, Rita wholeheartedly supported and encouraged Howard. I know she was proud of him.

So on behalf of the State of Texas, I want to thank the Baldwin family for sharing their beloved patriarch with us for so many decades. I personally am grateful, profoundly grateful, for Howard's friendship and his impact on my life and the great example of service that he set.

Sandy and I send our deepest condolences to Rita, James, Eric, and the long list of friends across Texas and the country who are mourning the loss of this incredible public servant and friend.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

NOMINATION OF DEBRA ANNE HAALAND

Ms. ROSEN. Madam President, I rise today to speak in support of the historic nomination of Congresswoman DEB HAALAND to serve as our Nation's next Secretary of the Interior.

This Cabinet position is of great importance to our Nation and especially to Western States like mine—like ours, Madam President, and I can't think of anyone more qualified to fill this position than Congresswoman DEB HAALAND, one of the first Native American Members of Congress and a proven leader.

Let me start by telling you why this Cabinet position means so much to Nevada. In the Silver State, over 50 million acres of land is managed by the Interior Department. That is over 70 percent of our entire State.

People come to Nevada from all over the world to experience our pristine and our majestic public lands and monuments. These lands, well, they are not just a source of beauty; they are also a source of economic opportunity for Nevada.

In previous administrations, we have seen efforts to put those public lands on the chopping blocks. But that won't happen under DEB HAALAND's leadership.

I have had the chance to speak with Congresswoman HAALAND one-on-one, hear directly from her, and get to know her.

She has spent her entire career fighting to protect public lands, waters, monuments, cultural sites and natural beauties around our Nation and, of course, in our great State of Nevada.

And I know, if confirmed, she will work with me and Senator CORTEZ MASTO to strike the right balance between critical protections for our public lands, environment, and wildlife, and the needed economic development across Nevada.

DEB HAALAND, well, she has been committed to conservation as a Member of Congress, and she will be just as committed to conservation as our next Interior Secretary.

Congresswoman HAALAND, she will take the bold steps needed to confront climate change. And if this historic confirmation succeeds, she will bring new and needed perspective to the Presidential Cabinet—one that has been missing since the President's Cabinet was formed all the way back in 1789.

As Secretary of the Interior, DEB HAALAND will be the first—the first—Native American Cabinet member, and she will give a voice to Tribal communities in Nevada and across our country.

She will take steps to restore and respect Tribal sovereignty. She will continue to be an advocate and an ally to Native communities, and she will help to right the many historic wrongs and injustices that have been committed against Native Americans and Tribal communities.

DEB HAALAND is exceptionally qualified to lead this Agency. She brings a breadth of experience and diversity to the table. She will be a positive force for good. She will guide our Nation forward.

I urge my colleagues to vote yes on DEB HAALAND's nomination.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

REMEMBERING REX LEE

Mr. LEE. Madam President, I come to the Senate floor today in recognition of an anniversary of sorts. My late father, Rex Lee, died 25 years ago today after an extended and heroic battle with cancer.

I prefer to remember my dad not as someone who was ill but someone who was full of life and healthy for most of his life—in fact, his entire life, even while battling with a significant illness.

Rex grew up in the small town of St. Johns, AZ. It is a really, really small town. In fact, we used to joke that he may have been 21 years old before he realized that the true name of the town wasn't ''Resume Speed.'' It was a little dot along the highway in eastern Arizona. It was a place that he loved, and it was a place where he learned to love those dear to him and close to him, a place where he was taught in school and in church, where he learned to serve his fellow beings.

He attended Brigham Young University as a freshman in the fall of 1953, somewhat under protest. He had wanted to attend the University of Arizona, like his cousins Mo and Stewart Udall before him.

His parents told him: You can go wherever you want, but your first year needs to be spent at Brigham Young University in Provo, UT.

He went there and was immediately smitten with the place and commenced a relationship that would extend for the rest of his life and would significantly impact his life in many, many ways.

Halfway through college, he left to serve a 2½-year mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Mexico. During that time, to say he became fluent in the Spanish language and the Mexican culture would be an understatement. It was a fluency that never really left him.

While I was a missionary many decades later, he used to write me letters in Spanish, and even after I had been speaking and studying the language for some time, I knew I had to keep my Spanish dictionary close to me when I read letters from my dad, written in his adopted native tongue, Spanish.

While serving as a missionary there, he briefly met Janet Griffin, whom he would later marry and who was my mother. Janet was the daughter of an employee of the U.S. Embassy, the U.S. Treasury Attache in the Mexican Embassy.

While they didn't interact much then, they reconnected when they were both back at Brigham Young University about 6 or 8 months later. It wasn't exactly love at first sight for my mom, but it was for my dad. They went on to have seven children together, and I am grateful that they did. I am the fourth of those seven.

My dad ended up going to law school at the University of Chicago. As it

turned out, the law suited him well. He liked it, and it liked him back. He ended up finishing first in his class at the University of Chicago. He clerked at the U.S. Supreme Court for Justice White. Shortly after that, he joined the Phoenix law firm of Jennings, Strouss & Salmon and represented clients, both big and small, individual and corporate, mostly civil but also some criminal cases.

But he loved the law. He loved the opportunity that he had to represent clients. He loved the challenge that each case brought him. He loved the opportunity to digest large volumes of information and condense it down into a single legal brief and then into a single oral argument that he could present in court.

His enthusiasm was so intense that once in a while a judge would pull him aside afterward and ask him why he was so intense about the case, and he would respond by saying: OK, I will try to dial down the intensity next time.

Little by little, he became more conversant in court, never to the point of being chatty or inappropriately familiar, but at a point where he felt he was able to have a conversation with the judge and able to communicate to the judge the facts and the law of the case in a simple way.

As they were raising their seven children, there were a lot of things that were unexpected in life, including seven very loud, rambunctious children; including the fact that one day, as he was practicing law in Phoenix, he got a phone call informing him that Brigham Young University would be opening a law school and they wanted him to be its founding dean. I was just 1 year old at the time.

That is how my family ended up in Utah. We ended up being connected to Brigham Young University basically for the rest of my life ever since then.

My dad, in addition to serving as the dean of BYU's law school, served as the Assistant Attorney General during the Ford administration, over the Civil Division of the Department of Justice. And during President Reagan's first term, he served as Solicitor General. This is when I had my first real exposure to the law.

I found during that era of my dad's service that I could miss school once in a while if I asked my parents if I could just go with my dad to court. He would go into court, and it felt a little bit like sitting in an extended session of church in a different language. It may not sound exciting, but I was impressed by the majesty of the whole event. As much as anything, I was impressed by how much my dad generally enjoyed being in court and making arguments. He had a way of making it fun.

After serving as Solicitor General of the United States, he went back to BYU and resumed his teaching career while simultaneously continuing to argue cases in front of the Supreme Court as a private practice litigator.

It was during that period of time, in June of 1987, that my father, while at the peak of physical condition, an avid runner and marathoner, got the news that he had stage IV non-Hodgkin's T-cell lymphoma, a pretty deadly and advanced form of cancer. With a young family still at home, this hit us pretty hard. We were afraid that we were going to lose him.

Through the able help of some excellent doctors and as a result of a fortuitous set of circumstances culminating in him receiving some experimental treatment then going on at the National Cancer Institute and the National Institutes of Health, they were able to prolong his life, and he lived nearly another 9 years. They put him into remission within a few months, very nearly losing him in the process, but then he came back.

He had some of the best years of his life after that bout with cancer. It was just a couple of years after that that he was asked to serve as president of Brigham Young University. I still remember this happened shortly after I had been accepted as a freshman at BYU, just as I was graduating from law school.

Later that summer, as I was preparing to enter as a freshman at BYU, I got a letter in the mail. The letter was signed by my dad. It was a letter that welcomed me to the university and then ended with the words: ''I look forward to meeting you on campus this fall.'' So I put it on the refrigerator with a Post-it note, saying: ''Dad, thanks so much for the really personal note.''

My dad had a great sense of humor, and notwithstanding his love of law and his professional accomplishments, at home, he was just our dad and our friend. In fact, calling him just our dad doesn't really even do it justice. He was someone who had so much energy and enthusiasm for life.

When we were little kids, he would come home from work, and we played a great game. We called it ''run around dad,'' and we didn't know that that wasn't necessarily an entertaining game. We didn't know that it probably wasn't that fun for him, but we would run around him, and he would figure out ways to trip us, and it was hilarious every single time it would happen. My mom would watch patiently in the corner, realizing that after four or five trips, someone was going to cry, but it all worked out OK.

Our dad taught us to work hard. He taught us to be kind to each other and to others, and he did that not just through the profession of his faith with words—and there was that. Of course, he was a devoutly faithful father and husband, and he taught us to pray and to read and love the Scriptures, but he also taught us those things through his very actions.

I remember when I was a boy and decided that I wanted to set up a small business enterprise shoveling driveways, and after a couple of particularly heavy snowstorms, I wasn't sure whether I could complete all of the jobs that I had. He offered to be my indentured servant. I graciously offered to pay him, but he said: No, this one is on me. You are not going to pay me. You can get paid, in fact, for the fact that I am going to work for you. It was a fantastic deal. It was one of my favorite memories of my life because he had a lot of other things to do, but he chose to help me, not just to teach me to work but also so he could spend time with me, and it was a lot of fun.

He loved amusement parks. He loved roller coasters, and he loved being really, really exceptionally, unusually, embarrassingly loud while going down said roller coasters. He loved to ride, and he loved every aspect of it, even when he knew how it was going to end.

As my brother Tom once remarked, recalling the circumstance in which my brother Tom had asked my dad for the name of a particular tool that my dad was using while assembling a swing set, he said: Dad, what is that?

My dad looked at it and couldn't tell whether it was a wrench or something else. It was a specialized tool used only for a swing set. My dad said to him: I don't know what it is called, but when you need one of those, nothing else will do.

Tom later remarked, that same description can be used of my dad. There is not really a single word that you can place to describe him, but when you need one of him, nothing else will do.

During most of the last 6½ years of his life, he was serving as president of BYU. He stayed exceptionally busy. He even managed to argue a case or two in front of the Supreme Court every single year he was serving as president of BYU, even though during most of that time his cancer had come back. It had come back in a slightly different form—slower growing but less treatable.

Notwithstanding the pain that he was enduring and the discomfort caused by the treatment, he never lost his optimism, the zeal for his work, or his love for his family. He was such a blessing to all of us to watch him go through that. We didn't feel sorry for him as much as we should have, but part of the reason we didn't feel as sorry for him is that unless you really paid attention, you couldn't tell he was in pain. He didn't complain about it. It certainly didn't slow him down, not at least until the very end.

I will always remember, as if it were yesterday, the moment when I took him to the hospital for what I feared would be the last time, and indeed it was. Just a couple of weeks before his death, I was in my second year of law school, and my mom and my wife let me know that things weren't going well and I needed to go and help my dad get to the hospital.

As we were wheeling him into the hospital that day, I could hear him. He was almost unconscious. Once we got him into the hospital, they put an oxygen mask over him. His voice was muffled, but he was muffling something. I

listened closely, and because I was, by then, a second-year law student, I recognized some of the legal vernacular that he was using, and I quickly discerned, based on some of his appellate briefs that I recently had read, he was preparing for what he hoped and expected and genuinely believed would be his next argument before the U.S. Supreme Court. And I thought: Way to go. There to the bitter end, he is ready for what is next. He is ready to stand for vindicating the interests of his client and for doing his job and doing it well.

At no moment during any of this, notwithstanding his service in education, in government, and the practice of law, and his extended church service as a lay minister in my faith, did I ever feel that we were neglected as a family. To be sure, he was gone a fair amount of time. He was a busy man, but when he was home, he was 100 percent home. He was all in. He loved—or at least if he didn't love it, he at least had us convinced that he loved being at home and loved working with his kids, studying with them, and helping them with their homework.

When someone serves you that well, that faithfully, and that consistently over that many years, it has an effect and a very positive one. To this day, I still, from time to time, hear his words echoing in my head reminding me to do things as best as I possibly can do them; reminding me, as a lawyer, when you are in court, when you have won your case and you know you have won it, he said sit down and don't say another word; reminding me that when you have got a choice between a ten-cent word and a three-dollar word, choose the ten-cent word every time if it will do the job; reminding me to be kind to others and that you will never regret doing so. He reminded me to give others the benefit of the doubt. Those are things that stick with all of us.

So I know I speak certainly for myself and for my siblings—Diana, Tom, Wendy, Stephanie, Melissa, Christie, and my mom Janet—that we miss him. The State of Utah and the Western United States and the United States of America is a better place because of the fact that he was here. I will never forget, on the morning of March 11, 1996—again, exactly 25 years ago today—I saw the Sun rising over the Wasatch Mountains to our east in Provo, UT. It was at that moment when I realized that it would likely be the last time the Sun would rise with my father on the Earth. The Sun has risen and set on that same mountain range many, many thousands of times since then, but we remain better off for the fact that he was here.

If he were here, I would tell him: I miss you, Dad. I love you, and I thank you.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, last week the Congress passed and tomorrow the President will sign into law the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, which includes $10 billion to respond to COVID–19 internationally. While this is a tiny fraction of the $1.9 trillion in the Rescue Plan, it is critically necessary. As long as the virus continues to spread and mutate into more transmissible and deadlier variants in other countries, it will remain a threat to Americans.

Within that amount, $580 million is included to support the U.N. Global Humanitarian Response Plan for COVID–19 through U.S. voluntary contributions to international organizations, including the World Health Organization, the World Food Programme, UNICEF, the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, and other international organizations.

UNICEF offers critical operations and technical assistance to ministries of health and education around the world as countries continue to adapt their health and education activities to meet COVID–19 protocols. UNICEF also focuses on strengthening risk communication and community engagement to ensure that women, children, and their families know how to prevent COVID–19; providing supplies to communities and educational and health facilities to support the prevention and treatment of COVID–19, including WASH supplies and personal protective equipment; and ensuring that children and women have continued access to basic healthcare, education, child protection, and gender-based violence services, including ensuring access to immunizations, prenatal and postnatal care, and HIV care in an environment safe from infection by the virus.

It is obvious that UNICEF has a critical role to play in the international COVID–19 response. The same can be said of the World Food Programme, UNHCR, and WHO. I am pleased that Congress was able to provide additional funding for these and other international organizations to support their lifesaving work.

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I rise to talk about the passage of the historic American Rescue Plan. This monumental legislation will help us get this pandemic under control and help families and small businesses weather the economic crisis. It includes critical funding for vaccine production, testing, and additional PPE. It includes the resources we need to help kids get back to school safely, enhanced unemployment to help workers who are suffering during this pandemic, food assistance for low-income families, and stimulus checks to help make ends meet with hours cut and expenses rising. It also makes long-overdue enhancements to EITC and CTC that will help lift millions of children out of poverty. And it provides resources to keep families in their homes during this pandemic.

First, it provides critical assistance for renters and people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Before the pandemic, an estimated 568,000 people, many with underlying health conditions, were already experiencing homelessness. One out of four renters was paying more than half of their income in rent, leaving too many making impossible choices between essential expenses or even at risk of eviction. COVID–19 has both revealed and exacerbated these housing problems. One out of five renters reports being behind on rent, and renters were an estimated $57 billion dollars behind on rent as of January.

I am pleased that the Senate-approved bill includes new resources to assist people experiencing or at risk of homelessness through emergency housing vouchers and homelessness assistance and supportive services administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, as well as emergency assistance for rural housing for residents of properties financed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Housing Service.

In addition, the American Rescue Plan provides $21.6 billion in emergency rental assistance through States, localities, and territories, including $2.5 billion reserved for high-need grantees.

This funding supplements the $25 billion in emergency rental assistance funding provided by Congress in December, Section 501 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Public Law 116–260, Section 501, but includes additional flexibilities to ensure grantees can better stabilize renters. The Biden administration should again extend the Federal eviction moratorium that expires on March 31, 2021, so that grantees have time to distribute assistance to renters in need to prevent evictions and displacement.

With the emergency rental assistance provided in this bill, renters will be able to receive up to 18 months of financial assistance, including future rent and utility payments, including pad rents in manufactured housing communities, and unpaid rent or utility bills that have accumulated. Renters can also receive assistance for

other housing-related expenses necessary to promote housing stability, such as but not limited to security deposits; relocation and rental fees for displaced households; late fees related to a former or current rental unit; and internet service provided to the rental unit. Section 3201 does not preclude grantees from continuing payment processes provided in section 501. These processes are the provisions that govern payments of rent and utility assistance either to property owners and utilities or directly to tenants and the application for assistance by landlords and owners under subsection (f). Additionally, funds can be used to provide housing stability services, such as but not limited to case management; tenant-landlord mediation; legal services related to eviction and housing stability; housing counseling; fair housing counseling; and specialized services for people with disabilities, people with chronic health conditions, seniors, or survivors of domestic violence or human trafficking. Similar to section 501, section 3201 permits grantees to use a certain percentage of their funds on administrative costs to support eligible program activities, including the provision of financial assistance and housing stability services. After deducting the amount grantees may use on program administration, grantees may also use up to 10 percent of their funds on providing housing stability services. As in section 501, funds are provided to States to assist renters throughout the State, including in rural communities, as well as cities and counties that receive a direct allocation.

Given how badly these resources are needed, the Department of Treasury and grantees must do all they can to implement this rental assistance program quickly and successfully and not create any artificial barriers to assistance. With some benefits provided by the CARES Act, documentation requirements to prove eligibility have erected artificial barriers that have cut people off from the benefits Congress intended them to receive. Indeed, diverse stakeholders, including tenant advocates, landlords, and State and local government agencies, have raised concerns that such requirements that have been applied in existing emergency rental assistance programs have prevented renters from completing applications and are overly burdensome for program staff. It is critical that any renters who are struggling to pay their rent during the pandemic are not barred from accessing this assistance due to cumbersome documentation requirements or other barriers. An applicant's simple attestation should be the only documentation required to meet program eligibility requirements. Additionally, grantees may continue the income assessment procedures pursuant to section 501 to determine eligibility.

The COVID–19 pandemic has had broad impacts on individuals, families, businesses, availability of government services and supports, and throughout our economy. It has changed where and how many people work. It has made it more difficult not just to keep a job but also to find a new job, to get enough hours, and to find childcare or someone to care for a sick loved one. All of these challenges brought on by the pandemic have made it more difficult for families to make ends meet. These effects are likely to exist for months and years to come. Given these factors, Treasury and grantees should broadly read the requirement regarding the connection between a renter's hardship and the coronavirus pandemic when determining the eligibility of the renter. As the language states, the hardship must have occurred ''during or due, directly or indirectly, to the coronavirus pandemic.'' The economic effects of the pandemic will be felt long after the virus is contained. Certain industries and communities have been particularly hard-hit from the pandemic and will likely take years to recover. Treasury should issue guidance that makes this point clear to ensure renters are not cut off from needed assistance as they try to recover from economic downturns caused by the pandemic.

Section 3201 also provides that after October 1, 2022, certain grantees may expend funds on ''other affordable rental housing and eviction prevention activities'' that benefit any very low-income renter household. Such activities can include but are not limited to affordable housing development, preservation, or acquisition, and other forms of rental assistance and eviction prevention activities targeted to very low-income renters.

To ensure continuity in monitoring funds provided by section 3201 and section 501 and ease of grantee implementation, Treasury should maintain the same reporting requirements that were included in section 501.

The committee encourages the administration to create and maintain a central public repository of information on State and local rental assistance programs, which at a minimum identifies the program's administering agency and contact information, so that renters and landlords can more easily identify available assistance.

Finally, to the extent there is any confusion with regard to the taxability of assistance, Treasury, in consultation with the Internal Revenue Service, should provide guidance to clarify this for grantees and program participants.

The American Rescue Plan also provides vital home ownership assistance to families across the country. This much-needed assistance would not have been possible without the dedication and diligence of our colleague, Senator JACK REED, who is the author of the Homeowner Assistance Fund we have enacted. For nearly a year, he has been leading the charge to keep families in their homes and avoid another foreclosure crisis, and I am grateful to him for his leadership on this issue.

There is no question that homeowners are struggling as a result of this pandemic. In January, more than 3.3 million homeowners were more than 30 days behind on their payments or in foreclosure. More than 2 million households are more than 3 months behind, putting them at risk of foreclosure. Many of these households are in forbearance, but others are not. And the number of homeowners behind on mortgage payments doesn't account for other costs, such as utility and insurance bills, that are building up not just for homeowners with a mortgage but also for the more than one-third of homeowners who own their home outright.

Black, Latino, and Asian households are more likely to report that they have fallen behind on their mortgages. As with so much else in this health and economic crisis, the burden is falling the heaviest on the communities of color and low-income communities.

We cannot repeat the mistakes of the past. We cannot allow this pandemic to become a housing crisis that exacerbates economic inequality and widens the racial home ownership gap. This time, we must give communities the tools to help homeowners weather this crisis and remain in their homes.

Many homeowners who are in forbearance have loans backed by a Federal agency or Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac. Throughout this pandemic, these agencies have extended forbearance and post-forbearance options to help borrowers resume making regular payments at some point or get an affordable loan modification. Many borrowers in forbearance today will also be able to get back on track with these existing options. But these options won't help all homeowners. Many homeowners do not have the benefit of the loan workout options that come with a federally backed or Fannie Mae- or Freddie Mac-backed loan, have accumulated other utility or housing costs, or have a manufactured home loan that is not a mortgage. And still other homeowners have a federally backed loan but, given the severe disruption to our economy, just need more help than is available through their mortgage program. These homeowners will need direct assistance, and they will need it quickly.

That is exactly what the Homeowner Assistance Fund will do. The American Rescue Plan Act's Homeowner Assistance Fund creates a nearly $10 billion fund at the Department of the Treasury to provide resources to States, Tribal governments, and Tribally designated housing entities to help homeowners staying in their homes. Treasury will allocate funds among the States and other eligible recipients, taking into account the number of individuals in a State who have been unemployed in recent months, as well as the number of homeowners who have fallen at least a month behind on their mortgage, regardless of whether they are in forbearance, or who are in foreclosure. States and eligible recipients

will use the funds Congress has provided in this bill for direct relief to eligible homeowners and to set up, staff, and administer the programs providing that relief.

As Congress has established in the bill, direct relief through the Homeowner Assistance Fund can include help with missed mortgage payments, financial help to make a mortgage modification viable, assistance with broadband and utility costs; and other relief that homeowners need to get back on track financially. At least 60 percent of a State or other eligible entity's funds must go to households at or below 100 percent of area median income or households below 100 percent of the national median income, whichever is higher, to ensure that help reaches those homeowners who need it most. Including homeowners with incomes of up to 100 percent of the national median income when that is higher than the area median income will ensure that funds adequately reach homeowners in Tribal areas and rural areas, where localized incomes may be lower. Remaining assistance funds are targeted to socially disadvantaged individuals, including homeowners of color, who too often are left behind in our economy and who data indicate are at disproportionate risk of foreclosure.

While Congress has authorized the program, the intent is for Treasury to play a vital role in making this program a reality by administering the Homeowner Assistance Fund prudently and flexibly to keep the greatest number of families in their homes. In the days ahead, Treasury must provide States and other eligible entities with the certainty they need to accept and distribute these funds efficiently. Treasury must set clear expectations for the types of eligible programs States can administer and the guidelines States must follow to administer these programs equitably and in accordance with the law. That includes ensuring States and other eligible entities understand up front that they can use a portion of the funds provided through the Homeowner Assistance Fund to establish and administer their programs, so that States can immediately get the systems and staffing in place to put funds into the hands of the people who need them. And if there is any uncertainty among States or individuals who might apply for assistance, Treasury should immediately clarify that any assistance received through the Homeowner Assistance Fund is not income for a homeowner.

Treasury must also establish reporting to ensure that funds are reaching the households who need them most. Both to comply with the law and to ensure funds are being used equitably, Treasury must establish periodic public reporting by State of key metrics, including the amount of funds disbursed, the acceptance rate of applicants, reasons applicants are denied, the number of individuals assisted, the number of households assisted by income range, the types of assistance provided, the average amount of assistance per household, and household outcomes. These data should also be assessed by race, ethnicity, gender, and other factors to determine compliance with all laws, including the Fair Housing Act. While Fair Housing Act enforcement remains the jurisdiction of the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Justice, this program and all housing programs must be developed and administered to comply with this foundational civil rights law.

States and other eligible recipients will also be vital partners in getting relief out quickly. Too many homeowners have been struggling for nearly a year. We need to get them relief now. Following the 2008 economic crisis, State housing finance agencies in select States were great partners in providing direct relief to homeowners through the Hardest Hit Fund. In my home State of Ohio, the Ohio Housing Finance Agency helped tens of thousands of people with mortgage payment assistance, modifications with assistance, and more. We need all States to be prepared to get these funds out quickly and without unnecessary barriers. Treasury can help facilitate this with clear guidance and templates that allow States to put out funds without delay.

I will continue to fight for the assistance people experiencing homelessness, renters, and homeowners need to stay in their homes. I also look forward to working to successfully deploy the historic resources provided in this bill.

CONFIRMATION OF MERRICK BRIAN GARLAND

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, I rise today to voice my support for the President's nominee for Attorney General, Judge Merrick Garland, who is not only a fellow Marylander, but somebody I have known personally for many years. And I know that President Biden has picked a nominee with impeccable credentials and unimpeachable character. His experience stretches from the halls of the Justice Department to the chambers of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, and he embodies the decency, the impartiality, and the commitment to justice that our Nation deserves as the Attorney General of the United States. I am confident that Judge Garland will serve admirably and faithfully as the next Attorney General.

The Nation already knows Merrick Garland because of his Supreme Court nomination and as the former Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, where he earned a reputation as one of our Nation's finest and fairest jurists. But his tenure on the D.C. Circuit was just the most recent achievement in a life dedicated to serving the rule of law. After excelling at law school, Judge Garland clerked for the Second Circuit Court of Appeals and then for the Supreme Court. He then rose through the ranks of a prominent law firm before jumping back into public service feet-first as a Federal prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney's Office during the administration of President George Herbert Walker Bush and then later served as the Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General at the Department of Justice.

As a senior DOJ official, Judge Garland was tasked with overseeing the case of the Oklahoma City bombing, one of the deadliest domestic terrorist attacks in American history. It left 168 Americans dead and hundreds more injured. Merrick Garland brought a steady hand to an operation that involved massive amounts of evidence, pressure from the public, and a large team with diverse skills and backgrounds. With fidelity to the law and meticulous attention to detail and unrelenting focus, Merrick Garland helped bring the bomber, Timothy McVeigh, to justice. He has called this case the most important thing he has done in his life.

Mr. Chairman, ranking member, and committee members, we are going to need his experience as we once again confront the rise of domestic terrorism, particularly in the wake of the horrific events of January 6. And the next Attorney General must not only take on the rise of White supremacists and radical militia groups, but also ensure that justice is rendered equally and fairly by promoting and ensuring racial equity, rooting out discrimination in our criminal justice system, addressing police reform, and ensuring that we don't see a concerted effort to limit people's citizens' right to vote in the United States of America. As Justice Garland has himself stated, ensuring the rule of law and making real the promise of equal justice under the law are ''the great principles upon which the Department of Justice was founded and for which it must always stand.'' Judge Garland has spent his career doing both, and I have no doubt he will honor that tradition as Attorney General.

During Judge Garland's confirmation hearing his commitment to public service and ensuring equal justice were on display. He shared that he felt an obligation to payback our country for protecting and welcoming his grandparents who fled to the United States to escape anti-Semitism and persecution. He stated that serving as an Attorney General that combats injustice and discrimination would be ''the highest, best use of my own set of skills.''

While his professional experiences have prepared him for this job, it is his character that makes him right for this moment. Should he be confirmed, Judge Garland will be charged with restoring credibility and independence to the Department of Justice, making it clear that the Department is not the political instrument of the White House. I know Merrick Garland is up to

the task. The lengthy list of testimonials speaking to his fairness and sound judgement span the political spectrum. He is respected by lawmakers, scholars, and lawyers of every legal persuasion and political philosophy. And on a personal note, I can attest to the fact that his brilliance is matched by his kindness. His many achievements have never gone to his head. He has always stayed humble and treated everyone with respect.

It is for these reasons and many more that I was honored to vote for the President's nominee to serve as the next Attorney General of the United States, Judge Merrick Garland.

CONFIRMATION OF MICHAEL STANLEY REGAN

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, now is the time to take substantive action to combat climate change, address environmental justice, and help clean up the Chesapeake Bay. To help address these critical issues, President Biden nominated Michael Regan to be Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Michael Regan most recently served as secretary of the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality. During that time, Mr. Regan led the implementation of North Carolina's Executive Order 80, a landmark effort to address climate change's impact and transition the State's energy economy. Mr. Regan also created North Carolina's first Environmental Justice and Equity Advisory Board to address societal disparities exacerbated by environmental issues during his tenure as secretary.

Mr. Regan has a strong record of bipartisanship, having previously served at the EPA under both Democratic and Republican Presidents. He is committed to rebuilding EPA's Federal workforce, which saw record departures during the Trump administration. During the Trump administration, we saw the EPA workforce shrink to levels not seen since the Reagan administration, and those who resigned or retired include some of the Agency's most experienced scientific veterans, as well as young environmental experts who traditionally would have replaced them, causing a brain drain at the EPA. Maryland is home to many of those Federal employees, and I look forward to working with Mr. Regan to rebuild the civil servant backbone of the EPA.

One of EPA's most critical roles for the State of Maryland is its role in the cleanup of the Chesapeake Bay. We are at a very critical junction in the implementation of the Chesapeake Bay Agreement and our mutual goal of clean water in the Chesapeake Bay by 2025. On December 29, 2010, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency established the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load—TMDL—a historic and comprehensive agreement that includes accountability features to restore clean water in the seven jurisdictions within the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The agreement is a national and indeed international model for watershed restoration. It sets limits for pollution that equate to a 25-percent reduction in nitrogen, 24-percent reduction in phosphorous, and 20-percent reduction in sediment. As the Bay TMDL states, ''The TMDL is designed to ensure that all pollution control measures needed to fully restore the Bay and its tidal rivers are in place by 2025[.]''

I look forward to working with Mr. Regan to make sure that EPA uses every tool available to them, including enforcement measures when necessary, to make sure that all jurisdictions are on track for our mutual goal of clean water in the Chesapeake Bay by 2025.

Furthermore, I am pleased that Mr. Regan has indicated that he will reconstituting the position of Senior Advisor to the Administrator of the EPA for the Chesapeake Bay.

I believe that Michael Regan is a strong choice to lead us into a new era at the EPA. For these reasons, I supported Michael Regan's nomination as the Administrator of the EPA.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DENNIS DAVIES

● Mr. DAINES. Madam President, this week I have the honor of recognizing Dennis Davies of Lewis and Clark County for his compassion and dedication to his community during the pandemic. While schools were closed to in-person instruction, Dennis saw that students needed a place to do their work at home. He rose to the occasion and began building desks for young Montanans enrolled in virtual school.

When the COVID–19 pandemic hit, Dennis was inspired by a TV segment that profiled a teacher from Iowa who made desks for students and thought he could do the same for Montana's students.

At first, he paid desk supply expenses out of his own pocket. After the community recognized the service he was providing, donations began rolling in. Now, with the assistance of donated supplies and funds, he is able to expand his operation and build even more desks for kids. Dennis works alongside many Montanans who volunteer their time to help him build and deliver desks, and he hopes to provide 2,000 desks to students across the State. Though that amount may be daunting, he is excited to help do his part to help Montana families get through the pandemic.

It is my distinct honor to recognize Dennis for his compassion and dedication to the people of Lewis and Clark County in this trying time. His kindness and charitable approach to work serves as an inspiration to all Montanans.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:54 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1. An act to expand Americans' access to the ballot box, reduce the influence of big money in politics, strengthen ethics rules for public servants, and implement other anti-corruption measures for the purpose of fortifying our democracy, and for other purposes.

H.R. 842. An act 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.

At 4:14 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 579. An act to make a technical correction to the ALS Disability Insurance Access Act of 2019.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 8. An act to require a background check for every firearm sale.

H.R. 1446. An act 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.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 842. An act 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; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. MANCHIN for the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

*David Turk, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of Energy.

By Mr. MENENDEZ for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Wendy Ruth Sherman, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of State.

*Brian P. McKeon, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Secretary of State for Management and Resources.

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

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. CARPER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. COONS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 697. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of the Bicentennial of Harriet Tubman's birth; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. KING, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 698. A bill to establish a pilot program through which the Institute of Museum and Library Services shall allocate funds to States for the provision of internet-connected devices to libraries; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 699. A bill to require a review of women and lung cancer, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. MORAN, Mr. TESTER, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 700. A bill to establish a portal and database to receive and maintain information regarding blocked railroad-highway grade crossings and to require the Secretary of Transportation to evaluate the requirements of the railway-highway crossings program; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 701. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide equal coverage of in vitro specific IgE tests and percutaneous tests for allergies under the Medicare and Medicaid programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. HYDE–SMITH (for herself, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. ROUNDS, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mr. THUNE):

S. 702. A bill to prohibit Federal funding of State firearm ownership databases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 703. A bill to reduce the excessive appreciation of United States residential real estate due to foreign purchases; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 704. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a grant program to improve the resiliency of the power grid to natural disasters and reduce the risk of wildfires caused by power lines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 705. A bill to amend the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 with respect to future interstate designations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. BURR):

S. 706. A bill to modify a provision relating to adjustments of certain State apportionments for Federal highway programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. CASEY):

S. 707. A bill to require a certain percentage of natural gas and crude oil exports be transported on United States-built and United States-flag vessels, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 708. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to convene a task force to advise the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use on a national strategy for preventing mental health and substance use crises during a public health emergency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 709. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to ensure health insurance coverage continuity for former foster youth; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. MARSHALL):

S. 710. A bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study to evaluate the activities of sister city partnerships operating within the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 711. A bill to require the Secretary of Labor to award grants to organizations for the provision of transition assistance to members and former members of the Armed Forces who are separated, retired, or discharged from the Armed Forces, and spouses of such members, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 712. A bill to amend the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act to provide for immediate eligibility for former foster youth under Medicaid; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CASEY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 713. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to temporarily suspend increased line speeds at meat and poultry establishments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. REED):

S. 714. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for current year inclusion of net CFC tested income, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 715. A bill to amend the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to require the submission of certain reports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 716. A bill to amend the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to provide for legal reform, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 717. A bill to amend the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to impose time limits on the completion of certain required actions under the Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 718. A bill to amend the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to reform agency process requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 719. A bill to amend the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to provide for project delivery programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 720. A bill to encourage States to permit members of the Armed Forces who are outside of the State under orders to renew a permit to carry a concealed firearm through the mail, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 721. A bill to amend the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to impose time limits on the completion of certain required actions under the Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. MERKLEY:

S. 722. A bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to establish a program to provide grants and loan guarantees to improve the energy efficiency of publicly owned wastewater treatment facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. CARDIN, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 723. A bill to amend the Small Business Act and the CARES Act to extend the covered period for the paycheck protection program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. LUJAN (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. WYDEN, and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 724. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to make the provision of Wi-Fi access on school buses eligible for E-rate support; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE:

S. 725. A bill to end offshore corporate tax avoidance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 726. A bill to transfer administrative jurisdiction over certain Bureau of Land Management land from the Secretary of the Interior to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for use as a national cemetery, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. CASEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. REED, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 727. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the maximum age for children eligible for medical care under the CHAMPVA program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 728. A bill to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 729. A bill to establish an Educational Equity Challenge Grant program administered by the Department of Education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BRAUN:

S. 730. A bill to amend title VI of the Social Security Act to remove the prohibition on States and territories against lowering their taxes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Ms. SINEMA, and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 731. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the management of information technology projects and investments of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BROWN, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 732. A bill to strengthen Buy American requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 733. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to create an innovation zone initiative, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 734. A bill to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to provide for grants in support of training and education to teachers and other school employees, students, and the community about how to prevent, recognize, respond to, and report child sexual abuse among primary and secondary school students; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 735. A bill to amend the Scientific and Advanced-Technology Act of 1992 to further support advanced technological manufacturing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. KAINE, Mr. REED, Mr. WARNER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. COONS, Ms. SMITH, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. PADILLA, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 736. A bill to regulate assault weapons, to ensure that the right to keep and bear arms is not unlimited, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. DAINES):

S. 737. A bill to establish a Federal cost share percentage for the Milk River Project in the State of Montana; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. KAINE, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 738. A bill to provide for grants for States that require fair and impartial police training for law enforcement officers of that State and to incentivize States to enact laws requiring the independent investigation and prosecution of the use of deadly force by law enforcement officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. PAUL):

S. 739. A bill to specify the state of mind required for conviction for criminal offenses that lack an expressly identified state of mind, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. COONS, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CASEY, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 740. A bill to help charitable nonprofit organizations provide services to meet the increasing demand in community needs caused by the coronavirus pandemic, preserve and create jobs in the nonprofit sector, reduce unemployment, and promote economic recovery; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LUJÁN (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 741. A bill to establish a broadband infrastructure finance and innovation program to make available loans, loan guarantees, and lines of credit for the construction and deployment of broadband infrastructure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BROWN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. KAINE, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. WARNER, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. Res. 105. A resolution condemning the coup in Burma and calling for measures to ensure the safety of the Burmese people, including Rohingya, who have been threatened and displaced by a campaign of genocide conducted by the Burmese military; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. HAGERTY):

S. Res. 106. A resolution recognizing Girl Scouts of the United States of America on its 109th birthday and celebrating its legacy of fostering civic action and community service among girls and creating leaders in Gold Award Girl Scouts, including the 2020 National Gold Award Girl Scouts; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. HAGERTY (for himself and Mr. COONS):

S. Res. 107. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate relating to the 10th anniversary of the March 11, 2011, earthquake and tsunami in Japan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. Res. 108. A resolution to make technical corrections to the amendments made by Senate Resolution 30 (117th Congress) to Senate Resolution 458 (98th Congress), and for other purposes; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 127

At the request of Mr. REED, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 127, a bill to support library infrastructure.

S. 141

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 141, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny the deduction for advertising and promotional expenses for prescription drugs.

S. 212

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 212, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable tax credit against income tax for the purchase of qualified access technology for the blind.

S. 338

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 338, a bill to promote the general health and well-being of individuals accessing work through digital marketplace companies, and for other purposes.

S. 377

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 377, a bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors.

S. 444

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 444, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide or assist in providing an additional vehicle adapted for operation by disabled individuals to certain eligible persons.

S. 501

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 501, a bill to prohibit earmarks.

S. 563

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) were added as cosponsors of S. 563, a bill to amend the Federal

Reserve Act to prohibit certain financial service providers who deny fair access to financial services from using taxpayer funded discount window lending programs, and for other purposes.

S. 610

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 610, a bill to address behavioral health and well-being among health care professionals.

S. 611

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 611, a bill to deposit certain funds into the Crime Victims Fund, to waive matching requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 628

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 628, a bill to increase access to agency guidance documents.

S. 632

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 632, a bill to amend chapter 11 of title 35, United States Code, to require the voluntary collection of demographic information for patent inventors, and for other purposes.

S. 636

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) were added as cosponsors of S. 636, a bill to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to submit to Congress an annual report on projects that are over budget and behind schedule, and for other purposes.

S. 675

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 675, a bill to provide for the reporting to State and local law enforcement authorities of cases in which the national instant criminal background check system indicates that a firearm has been sought to be acquired by a prohibited person, so that authorities may pursue criminal charges under State law, and to ensure that the Department of Justice reports to Congress on prosecutions secured against prohibited persons who attempt to acquire a firearm.

S. 682

At the request of Mr. PETERS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 682, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish a vaccine for COVID–19 to certain individuals who are not enrolled in the patient enrollment system of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

At the request of Mr. KELLY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 682, supra.

S. RES. 34

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 34, a resolution recognizing the 200th anniversary of the independence of Greece and celebrating democracy in Greece and the United States.

S. RES. 35

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 35, a resolution condemning the military coup that took place on February 1, 2021, in Burma and the Burmese military's detention of civilian leaders, calling for an immediate and unconditional release of all those detained and for those elected to serve in parliament to resume their duties without impediment, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 37

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 37, a resolution expressing solidarity with the San Isidro Movement in Cuba, condemning escalated attacks against artistic freedoms in Cuba, and calling for the repeal of laws that violate freedom of expression and the immediate release of arbitrarily detained artists, journalists, and activists.

S. RES. 96

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 96, a resolution designating March 8 through March 14, 2021, as ''Women of the Aviation Workforce Week''.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. CARPER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. COONS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 697. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of the Bicentennial of Harriet Tubman's birth; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise to celebrate Harriet Tubman, one of the most notable individuals in Maryland's history. Congress began officially recognizing March 10th as Harriet Tubman Day in 1990 and I am always grateful to speak to her accomplishments. Throughout her life she served as an abolitionist, soldier, spy and, most famously, as a conductor on the Underground Railroad. I would like to reflect on her contributions to human rights, civil rights, and women's rights in our Nation and to renew my commitment to addressing the shameful legacy of slavery in Maryland and across the U.S.—particularly as it pertains to environmental justice.

Harriet Tubman was born Araminta Ross to enslaved parents in Bucktown, Maryland in 1822. After emancipating herself, she dedicated her life to the advancement of freedom and the fight against slavery. Araminta adopted the name ''Harriet'' at the time of her marriage to John Tubman, a free Black man, around the year 1844. Tubman and her husband continued to live in Dorchester County until her escape from slavery in 1849, at the age of 27. She would courageously return to make over thirteen dangerous trips to lead nearly 70 enslaved people seeking freedom, repeatedly risking her life in pursuit of our Nation's highest aspirational ideal.

Throughout the American Civil War, Tubman served the Union at various times as a cook, nurse, scout, and even spy. She helped orchestrate the Combahee River raid in South Carolina that freed over 700 enslaved men, women, and children. After the war's end, Harriet focused her efforts on women's suffrage. In 1908, Tubman established the Harriet Tubman Home for the Aged in Auburn, New York. Five years later, she died of pneumonia on March 10, 1913. Although she spent her final decades in New York, the marshes and forests of Maryland's Eastern Shore are where Harriet Tubman first grew spiritually and physically strong.

Harriet Tubman made an indelible impact on my State and our Nation's history and I am proud to have played a role in memorializing her story to future generations. I worked to secure the authorities and funding for the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway, which tells the story of her life in Dorchester and Caroline counties, and for the Harriet Tubman Underground National Historical Park. The National Park Service administers the national historical park Congress created in December 2014 and the national monument authorized by President Obama in 2013 as a single unit. The Park Service works in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which manages the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, and the State of Maryland, which owns and co-manages the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Visitor Center, to commemorate and interpret Tubman's remarkable story. Visitors can access the marshlands, largely preserved since her time, at the Visitor Center and nearby Refuge. The Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park centers her life's work not in physical structures, but instead through the landscape in Tubman's native Dorchester County, which we must defend against the social and ecological hazards of climate change.

While climate change is a global issue, it is felt on a local scale. Dorchester County's low-lying landscape of

tidal marshes, narrow peninsulas, and country roads linking isolated communities is threatened by sea level rise and land subsidence. Over one-half of the county lies in the 100–year floodplain, much of it in the tidal floodplain; even minor storms and routine high-tide events can flood vast portions of the county. In addition to flooding, saltwater intrusion threatens the failure of rural septic systems, and damage to roads, bridges, and other critical infrastructure. Climate-driven changes to the coastal ecosystem are also making it harder to earn a living through the primary local sources of income: agriculture, forestry, and the seafood industry.

Local communities are at the frontline of adaptation, and initial social inequality causes the disadvantaged groups in those communities to suffer disproportionately from the adverse effects of climate change, resulting in greater subsequent inequality. Dorchester County is no exception. After the Civil War, freedmen and women settled the land, which was often less arable and therefore more affordable. Today, the county has a population of 32,000, 26 percent of whom are Black. Black individuals are almost twice as likely to be unemployed or live below the federal poverty level as their white neighbors, attributable to systemic racism that has roots in Harriet Tubman's time of enslavement. The Union of Concerned Scientists developed a Climate Equity Tool to identify communities that face conditions that heighten their vulnerability to harm and are therefore high-risk environmental justice areas, including Dorchester County. UCS projects that the county will see a six-inch rise in sea level by 2030 and 13–inch rise by 2045.

Absent national or international climate policy direction under the Trump administration, cities and towns on the Eastern Shore and around the world have been focusing on solving their own climate problems. They are working to build flood defenses, plan for heatwaves and higher temperatures, install water-permeable pavement to better deal with floods and stormwater, and improve water storage and use. Dorchester County has a flood mitigation plan that identifies projects to protect resources at risk of being lost, including historic and cultural sites. However, implementation of such plans requires significant funding. It is essential that Congress enhance the resilience of vulnerable communities in Dorchester County and across the Eastern Shore—and the Nation—whose residents have been forced to manage periodic flooding and other climate impacts in relative social and political isolation. Frontline communities in Dorchester and neighboring Eastern Shore counties with strong historical and cultural ties require sufficient federal financial and technical assistance now to help plan for the future and make choices about how best to protect themselves from tidal flooding, saltwater intrusion, and coastal disasters.

Environmental justice is an essential component to carry on with respect to the anti-racist work that Harriet Tubman pioneered. The American Rescue Plan Act will provide debt relief and assistance to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers who have faced disproportionate impacts from the pandemic as a result of longstanding discrimination, as well as $50 million in funding to reduce the air pollution that is linked with contributing to COVID–19 deaths, targeted to low income communities and communities of color. These provisions present only a small down payment on the types investments needed to address inequality, and have yet to squarely address climate change.

The local communities on the Eastern Shore that served as Harriet Tubman's training ground in resistance are rarely credited for their outsized influence on Maryland's maritime industry, culture, and environment. We must do better to enshrine their place in our historical consciousness and provide them with the tools necessary to prepare for climate change. I am grateful for the opportunity to showcase the exceptional efforts of one particular Marylander and honor her by pursuing climate and environmental justice policies.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. CARDIN, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 723. A bill to amend the Small Business Act and the CARES Act to extend the covered period for the paycheck protection program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the PPP Extension Act of 2021. I'm pleased to be joined in introducing this bill by my colleagues, Senators CARDIN and SHAHEEN. Last March, the three of us, along with Senator RUBIO, formed a Small Business Task Force that crafted the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)—a forgivable loan program designed to help keep small employers afloat and their employees paid during the pandemic. The bipartisan bill that we are introducing today would simply extend the current application deadline for new PPP loans from March 31st to May 31st of this year, and then provide an additional 30-day period during which time the Small Business Administration may continue processing applications received prior to the new May 31st deadline. Representatives VELÁZQUEZ, LUETKEMEYER, BOURDEAUX, and KIM (CA) have introduced a companion bill in the House.

The PPP has been hugely successful in helping our Nation's small businesses and nonprofits survive the pandemic and continue paying their employees. In 2020, more than five million small employers received forgivable PPP loans, helping to sustain upwards of 50 million American jobs. This includes more than 28,000 Maine small businesses, who received nearly $2.3 billion in forgivable PPP loans.

Recognizing the importance of this program for our Nation's small employers, the bipartisan December 2020 COVID-relief law provided an additional $284.5 billion to reopen the Paycheck Protection Program and allow the hardest hit small employers to receive a second forgivable loan. The December law also made other improvements to the PPP, such as expanding forgivable overhead expenses to include supplier costs and investments in facility modifications and personal protective equipment needed to operate safely.

Since reopening in January, more than two million additional forgivable loans—totaling nearly $165 billion—have been approved for small businesses across the Nation. In Maine, more than 10,000 small employers have been approved for more than $692 million in forgivable loans since PPP's reopening. In total, Maine small employers have been approved for nearly $3 billion in forgivable loans since the program was created last year.

I have heard from countless small employers about the impact this program has had on them and their employees. The owner of Shipyard Brewing Company in Portland told me that without the relief that PPP provided, his company would be bankrupt. The Ecology School, a non-profit environmental education program in Saco, would have had to lay off the majority of its staff without the support of two forgivable PPP loans. I've heard from the owners of Jeff's Catering in Brewer, the Poland Spring Resort, and the Hamilton Marine in Searsport that PPP helped keep their businesses alive and their employees paid.

With the ongoing distribution of COVID–19 vaccines and the promise of warmer weather throughout the Nation, there is a light at the end of the tunnel. We're not there yet, which is why we need to extend the deadline to apply for new loans. Extending the deadline would also help address concerns I continue to hear from Maine small employers about delays in the processing of new loan applications because of difficulty in resolving error messages generated by the Small Business Administration computer system.

By extending the PPP for another two months and then providing an additional 30 days after that time for the SBA to process applications that are still pending, this bill would help our Nation's small employers retain access to forgivable PPP loans. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Thank you, Mr. President.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 105—CONDEMNING THE COUP IN BURMA AND CALLING FOR MEASURES TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF THE BURMESE PEOPLE, INCLUDING ROHINGYA, WHO HAVE BEEN THREATENED AND DISPLACED BY A CAMPAIGN OF GENOCIDE CONDUCTED BY THE BURMESE MILITARY

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BROWN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. KAINE, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. WARNER, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 105

Whereas, on February 1, 2021, the Government of Burma was overthrown by the Burmese army, or Tatmadaw, returning the same army responsible for the genocidal military campaign against the Rohingya people to a greater position of power and authority, at least temporarily;

Whereas the hundreds of thousands of Burmese citizens who have taken peacefully to the streets to protest the coup have been met with increasingly brutal displays of force by the Tatmadaw and the Myanmar Police Force, and over 50 citizens have been killed to date;

Whereas, since the February 2021 coup, the Tatmadaw-enforced media and communications blackouts and travel limits are limiting the ability of journalists and humanitarian actors to provide services or monitor the safety and security of people across Burma, including approximately 600,000 Rohingya remaining in Rakhine State;

Whereas media reports that the Burmese military have recently blocked shipments of humanitarian assistance intended for persons displaced by the ongoing offensive and militarization in the ethnic states;

Whereas recently announced United States sanctions target Tatmadaw actors specifically for their role in the coup, but ethnic minorities living within Burmese borders have suffered a wide range of systematic abuse and discrimination for many years;

Whereas, since August 25, 2017, approximately 740,000 Rohingya have fled from Burma to escape the Burmese military and security force's well-documented and systematic campaign of persecution and atrocities;

Whereas most of the Rohingya fled to neighboring Bangladesh, resulting in the creation of the world's largest and most densely populated refugee camp, while others escaped to India, Thailand, Malaysia, and other parts of South and Southeast Asia;

Whereas, on December 3, 2018, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum concluded that ''there is compelling evidence that the Burmese military committed ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity, and genocide against the Rohingya'';

Whereas the May 2019 Amnesty International report on war crimes in Rakhine State outlines continued human rights violations, including ''indiscriminate attacks'' on civilians, and expresses alarm about the impact of continued fighting on the food security of Rakhine State;

Whereas then-United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Zeid Ra'ad al-Hussein testified that the Tatmadaw's brutal campaign against the Rohingya was a ''textbook example of ethnic cleansing'' and ''without regard for basic principles of international law'';

Whereas, in his nomination hearing, Secretary of State Antony Blinken stated that he would oversee an interagency review to determine whether Burma's crimes against the Rohingya amount to genocide;

Whereas, after many years of hosting hundreds of thousands of Rohingya refugees while bearing other internal challenges, media report that the Government of Bangladesh is growing weary of hosting the Rohingya, building new barriers to restrict the ability for Rohingyas to work, access education, buy SIM cards, learn the local language, exercise their right to freedom of expression, including peaceful assembly, or move freely;

Whereas, in a step toward reducing the refugee population on the mainland, the Government of Bangladesh has relocated over 10,000 Rohingya from Cox's Bazar to Bhasan Char, a flood-prone island in the Bay of Bengal, but has denied the United Nations access to the island and the ability to undertake independent technical and protection assessments to verify whether the island is safe and habitable to host this vulnerable population;

Whereas it has not been verified that Rohingya refugees' ongoing relocation to Bhasan Char is fully informed and voluntary, as required under international law;

Whereas the United Nations Refugee Agency reports that 2,400 Rohingya refugees chose dangerous boat journeys to escape their limited futures in Bangladesh over the last year, leading to at least 200 deaths and missing persons;

Whereas efforts to force the return to Burma of more than 800,000 Rohingya refugees now living in Bangladesh would constitute a gross violation of international human rights law and would come at increased risk during this time of political instability and military rule;

Whereas the fundamental operational principles of voluntary repatriation must be based on informed consent, legal and physical safety, dignity, and the absence of any form of coercion, economic or otherwise, as well as the full protection of the returnees' human rights, including the right to restore their citizenship status in Burma;

Whereas approximately 236,000 Rohingya refugees returned to Burma from Bangladesh under the terms of a 1992 agreement after a previous bout of violence against the Rohingya forced them to flee, only to face continued denial of restoration of their citizenship, prejudice, violence, and persecution, and in many instances forced to live in internally displaced persons camps with their freedom of movement restricted;

Whereas Burma's 1982 citizenship law stripped Rohingya of their Burmese citizenship, rendering them stateless;

Whereas the Government of Burma continues to systematically discriminate against the Rohingya people, including by restricting registration of Rohingya births and denying them freedom of movement as well as access to healthcare, land, education, marriage, voting rights, and political participation;

Whereas, on November 23, 2017, the Government of Burma and the Government of Bangladesh signed an agreement, known as the ''Arrangement'', on the return of displaced persons from Rakhine State, which is modeled after the 1992 repatriation agreement between Burma and Bangladesh;

Whereas the Arrangement includes references to restoring normalcy and human rights in Rakhine State, ensuring refugee returns comply with international standards of safety, dignity, and voluntariness, and commencing a process to address root causes in line with the Rakhine Advisory Commission recommendations;

Whereas Rohingya refugees currently hosted in Bangladesh demonstrated in protest against an initial November 2018 repatriation plan between the Governments of Bangladesh and Burma, citing concerns for their security and the lack of meaningful political reforms in Burma to include restoration of their full citizenship; and

Whereas, following the 2021 coup, human rights groups, humanitarian actors, and refugees in Cox's Bazar continue to express grave concerns about the heightened risk for a renewed campaign of genocide in Burma, calling for a halt to any efforts to move or adjust the status of any Rohingya persons: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the February 1, 2021, military coup that deposed an elected government and cast a pall over years of hope, investment, and progress toward a more democratic and free Burma;

(2) expresses deep concern for the safety and security of the hundreds of thousands of Burmese people who have taken to the streets to protest the coup, and condemns the Tatmadaw and the Myanmar Police Force for their acts of terrorism against Burma's civilian populations;

(3) calls on Burmese authorities to allow journalists, human rights organizations, United Nations monitors, and humanitarian actors full and safe access to every part of the country, including Rakhine State, to ensure that humanitarian needs of all internally displaced persons are being met and that human rights of every population in Burma, including ethnic minorities, can be monitored and protected;

(4) asks the governments of countries neighboring Burma, including Bangladesh and Thailand, to provide immediate, direct cross-border assistance to adequately address humanitarian needs of all refugees suffering from ongoing Burma Army militarization and offensives;

(5) welcomes steps by the Government of Bangladesh and other neighboring states to receive Rohingya refugees, but raises substantial concern regarding reports of refugees being turned away or moved into holding centers, as well as for the health and safety of all refugees, including those currently living in camps at Cox's Bazar and Bhasan Char;

(6) appeals to Bangladesh and other countries in the region to commit to providing safe harbor for Rohingya refugees, until their human rights, including their right to restoration of full citizenship, can be guaranteed;

(7) calls on international organizations and all host governments, including the Government of Bangladesh, to ensure improved access for Rohingya refugees to basic services, education, and livelihood opportunities;

(8) asks the Government of Bangladesh to allow the international community, including the United Nations and other human rights and humanitarian actors, full and complete access to all Rohingya in Bangladesh while refraining from any forced relocation of Rohingya refugees into temporary settlements or other ''model villages'';

(9) urges the Government of Bangladesh to grant the United Nations access to conduct independent, comprehensive technical and protection assessments of Bhasan Char and to verify that any relocations of Rohingya refugees to Bhasan Char are voluntary and done with fully informed consent;

(10) encourages the Government of Bangladesh to guarantee Rohingya refugees on Bhasan Char freedom of movement, including the right to choose to return to Cox's Bazar;

(11) commends the significant contributions of numerous donor nations, including the United States, and encourages donors to increase future investments to better meet the significant humanitarian needs in Burma and Bangladesh, while taking particular care to ensure that no donor funding supports the Burmese military regime or individuals who supported or benefited from the coup;

(12) affirms United States Government efforts to engage regional partners, including the Association for Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), to coordinate pressure on Burma to end all oppression of minority communities and address all related human rights concerns;

(13) urges countries in the region to abide by commitments made under regional declarations to provide assistance and safe disembarkation to Rohingya and others stranded at sea;

(14) enjoins United States and multinational business that have invested in Burma to discontinue investment in military-owned businesses and State-owned enterprises that fund the Tatmadaw and enable the oppression and mistreatment of the Rohingya and other ethnic minorities in Burma; and

(15) urges the President of the United States—

(A) to fully investigate and continue to hold accountable Burmese military leaders, including Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, for gross violations of human rights, war crimes, crimes against humanity, including sexual and gender-based violence, or genocide;

(B) to suspend all political and financial support to the State Administrative Council and the peace process including to the Joint Peace Fund;

(C) to make a formal determination on behalf of the United States designating the actions against the Rohingya by the Burmese military as genocide;

(D) to advocate with counterparts from other donor nations to reinstate all humanitarian aid for Burmese refugees and internally displaced persons that can be provided directly to those needing assistance without passing funds through the army, government, or military-owned enterprises; and

(E) to work with interagency partners to impose any additional targeted sanctions through existing authorities, including under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114–328; 22 U.S.C. 2656), the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–61; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) and the Tom Lantos Block Burmese JADE (Junta's Anti-Democratic Efforts) Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–286; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note), to prevent further egregious violations of human rights against ethnic minorities in Burma.

SENATE RESOLUTION 106—RECOGNIZING GIRL SCOUTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON ITS 109TH BIRTHDAY AND CELEBRATING ITS LEGACY OF FOSTERING CIVIC ACTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE AMONG GIRLS AND CREATING LEADERS IN GOLD AWARD GIRL SCOUTS, INCLUDING THE 2020 NATIONAL GOLD AWARD GIRL SCOUTS

Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. HAGERTY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 106

Whereas the Girl Scout Movement was founded on March 12, 1912, in Savannah, Georgia, by Juliette Gordon Low, whose life mission was to build girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place;

Whereas Girl Scouts of the United States of America (in this preamble, referred to as ''Girl Scouts'') has emphasized public service, civic engagement, and fostering a sense of community in girls across the country for over a century;

Whereas Girl Scouts works to champion the ambitions, cultivate the talents, and develop the skills of girls to be leaders in their communities and in the world;

Whereas, in these challenging times, Girl Scouts provides community, consistency, and connection for girls and a safe haven through uncertainty;

Whereas, in the time of COVID–19, Girl Scouts offers girls a place to safely connect and share experiences with ''Girl Scouts at Home'' and other skill-building digital programming and adventures as they continue their Girl Scouts journeys;

Whereas Girl Scouts has made many programs available to all girls, regardless of membership, as Girl Scouts embraces the role it plays in enhancing girls' educational journeys, especially at a time when their lives are disrupted by the pandemic;

Whereas Girl Scouts have continued to make a positive difference in their communities during the pandemic by creating masks, safely delivering Girl Scout Cookies to first responders and health care professionals, collecting goods for local food banks, and other active, creative ways that demonstrate concern and commitment to their fellow citizens;

Whereas Girl Scouts believe in sisterhood, justice, and fairness by committing to make the world a more equitable place for all girls, no matter their race, ethnicity, or religion;

Whereas, at a time when civics education is missing from many schools, Girl Scouts introduced new K–12 Civics badges to bring girls experiences that deepen their understanding of democracy and government, prepare them for a lifetime of civic engagement, and motivate them to be catalysts for change;

Whereas Girl Scouts offers girls 21st century programming in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), as well as the outdoors, entrepreneurship, and beyond, helping girls develop invaluable life skills and take the lead early and often;

Whereas Girl Scouts in grades 9 through 12 can advance their civic engagement by earning the Gold Award, the most highly regarded award in the world for girls;

Whereas Gold Award Girl Scouts take on projects that have a measurable and sustainable impact on a community by assessing a need, designing a solution, completing a project, and inspiring others to sustain it;

Whereas, each year, Girl Scouts selects 10 exceptionally inspiring Gold Award Girl Scouts, nominated by local councils, as National Gold Award Girl Scouts;

Whereas National Gold Award Girl Scouts have completed projects that demonstrate extraordinary leadership, have a measurable and sustainable effect, and address a local challenge relating to a national or global issue; and

Whereas the 2020 National Gold Award Girl Scouts hail from regions throughout the country, including Los Alamos, New Mexico, Chesapeake, Virginia, Greensboro, North Carolina, Johns Creek, Georgia, Downers Grove, Illinois, Bakersfield, California, Kenosha, Wisconsin, Houston, Texas, Trussville, Alabama, and Arvada, Colorado: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes Girl Scouts of the United States of America for 109 years of inspiring girl leadership, including civic and community engagement;

(2) congratulates all Girl Scouts who earned the Gold Award in 2020, including the National Gold Award Girl Scouts; and

(3) encourages Girl Scouts of the United States of America to continue to nurture and support the leadership development of girls, including their ambitions, talents, and skills as future women leaders.

SENATE RESOLUTION 107—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE RELATING TO THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARCH 11, 2011, EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMI IN JAPAN

Mr. HAGERTY (for himself and Mr. COONS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 107

Whereas, at 2:46 p.m. on March 11, 2011, an earthquake initially reported as measuring 8.9 on the Richter scale, the strongest recorded in more than 100 years in Japan, occurred near the Tohoku region of Northeast Japan, 81 miles off the coast from Sendai City;

Whereas intense shaking could be felt from Tokyo to Kamaishi, an arc of roughly 360 miles;

Whereas the earthquake generated a massive tsunami that caused widespread damage to a swath of the northeast Japanese coastline and traveled across the Pacific Ocean, causing damage to coastal communities as far away as the States of Hawaii, Oregon, and California;

Whereas authorities in Japan confirm at least 15,899 deaths from the earthquake and resulting tsunami;

Whereas, within minutes of the earthquake, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration alerted emergency workers in the States of Hawaii, California, Oregon, Washington, and Alaska that a potentially catastrophic tsunami was heading toward those States and mobilized the Tsunami Warning System in the Pacific;

Whereas the earthquake forced the emergency shutdown of 4 nuclear power facilities in Japan, representing a significant loss of electric generation capacity for Japan and necessitating rolling blackouts in portions of Tokyo;

Whereas the earthquake and the resulting tsunami severely damaged the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station, precipitating a loss of power for cooling systems at that facility and necessitating emergency measures to prevent serious radiation leakages;

Whereas international response to the disaster was swift, with search and rescue teams arriving from the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, France, and China, among other countries;

Whereas the USS Ronald Reagan aircraft carrier and its support vessels were deployed to the earthquake region to participate in search and rescue and relief operations;

Whereas elements of the III Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF), a United States Agency for International Development Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART), and other United States military and civilian personnel were deployed to Japan to render aid and help coordinate United States relief efforts;

Whereas the United States-Japan alliance is based upon shared values, democratic ideals, free markets, and a mutual respect for human rights, individual liberties, and the rule of law, and is central to the security and prosperity of the entire Indo-Pacific region;

Whereas the Self-Defense Forces of Japan have contributed broadly to global security missions, including relief operations following the tsunami in Indonesia in 2005, reconstruction in Iraq from 2004 to 2006, and relief assistance following the earthquake in Haiti in 2010;

Whereas Japan is among the most generous donor nations, providing billions of dollars of foreign assistance, including disaster relief, annually to developing countries;

Whereas, since 2011, Japan has committed tremendous resources and effort to decommission the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station by taking measures on contaminated water and extracting fuel;

Whereas, since 2011, Japan has committed tremendous resources and effort to restore the environment in Fukushima Prefecture, in collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency, to ensure that citizens can live with peace of mind with safe water and food; and

Whereas, 10 years after the earthquake and resulting tsunami, Japan is seeking to host a successful Olympics in Tokyo where the best athletes from across the world can showcase their talents amidst the ongoing global COVID–19 pandemic: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) mourns the loss of life resulting from the earthquake and tsunami in Japan on March 11, 2011;

(2) expresses its deepest condolences to the families of the victims of the tragedy;

(3) expresses its sympathies to the survivors who are still suffering in the aftermath of the natural disaster;

(4) commends the Government of Japan for its courageous and professional response to the natural disaster; and

(5) supports the efforts already underway by the United States Government, relief agencies, and private citizens to assist the Government and people of Japan with the revitalization efforts in Fukushima Prefecture.

SENATE RESOLUTION 108—TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO THE AMENDMENTS MADE BY SENATE RESOLUTION 30 (117TH CONGRESS) TO SENATE RESOLUTION 458 (98TH CONGRESS), AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

S. RES. 108

Resolved,

SECTION 1. PAY OF STAFF DISPLACED BY A CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP.

Section 6 of Senate Resolution 458 (98th Congress), agreed to October 4, 1984, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (3)(A)—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''an employee'';

(ii) in clause (i), by inserting ''an employee'' before ''of a committee'';

(iii) in clause (ii)—

(I) by inserting ''an employee'' before ''in an office''; and

(II) by striking ''or or'' at the end;

(iv) in the first clause designated as clause (iii), as added by Senate Resolution 805 (116th Congress), agreed to December 17, 2020—

(I) by inserting ''an employee'' before ''in an office''; and

(II) by adding ''or'' at the end;

(v) by redesignating the second clause designated as clause (iii), as added by Senate Resolution 30 (117th Congress), agreed to February 3, 2021, as clause (iv); and

(vi) in clause (iv), as so redesignated, in the matter preceding subclause (I), by inserting ''an employee or officer (including the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate and the Secretary of the Senate) in the office'' before ''of''; and

(B) in paragraph (4)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) in clause (iii), by striking ''employment described in paragraph (3)(A)(iii)(I)'' and inserting ''an individual described in paragraph (3)(A)(iv)(I)''; and

(II) in clause (iv), by striking ''employment described in paragraph (3)(A)(iii)(II)'' and inserting ''an individual described in paragraph (3)(A)(iv)(II)''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by striking ''or after the expiration'' and inserting ''after the expiration''; and

(II) by inserting ''or after the change in the individual occupying the position described in clause (iii) or (iv) of subparagraph (A), as applicable,'' after ''clause (ii) or (iii) of paragraph (3)(A),''; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking ''clause (i) or (ii)'' and inserting ''clause (i), (ii), or (iv)''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''such employee'' and inserting ''such displaced staff member''.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1399. Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. ROSEN) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 96, designating March 8 through March 14, 2021, as ''Women of the Aviation Workforce Week''.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1399. Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. ROSEN) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 96, designating March 8 through March 14, 2021, as ''Women of the Aviation Workforce Week''; as follows:

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas the first week of March is internationally known as ''Women of Aviation Worldwide Week'';

Whereas Women of Aviation Worldwide Week was created by the Institute for Women Of Aviation Worldwide;

Whereas the aviation industry is anticipating a significant shortage of skilled professionals in the coming years;

Whereas the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor projected that, in the next 10 years, the overall employment of airline and commercial pilots is expected to grow more than 6 percent in the United States;

Whereas less than 2 percent of the aircraft maintenance technicians in the world and less than 10 percent of all working aeronautical engineers are women;

Whereas the Federal Aviation Administration reports that less than 8 percent of pilots and only 26 percent of air traffic controllers in the United States are women;

Whereas women make up only 24 percent of the employees in the aerospace industry;

Whereas aviation is a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (commonly known as ''STEM'') focused career path;

Whereas the future of an abundant aviation workforce depends on a robust and diverse pool of candidates; and

Whereas women such as Amelia Earhart, Cicely Williams, and Bessie Coleman have inspired, and will continue to inspire, young women to pursue careers in aviation: Now, therefore, be it

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I have 7 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

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

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 11, 2021, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 11, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 11, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nomination.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 11, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 11, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 11, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, March 11, 2021, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

MAKING TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO THE AMENDMENTS MADE BY SENATE RESOLUTION 30 (117TH CONGRESS) TO SENATE RESOLUTION 458 (98TH CONGRESS)

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 108, which was submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 108) to make technical corrections to the amendments made by Senate Resolution 30 (117th Congress) to Senate Resolution 458 (98th Congress), and for other purposes.

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

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 108) was agreed to.

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

RECOGNIZING GIRL SCOUTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON ITS 109TH BIRTHDAY

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 106, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 106) recognizing Girl Scouts of the United States of America on its 109th birthday and celebrating its legacy of fostering civic action and community service among girls and creating leaders in Gold Award Girl Scouts, including the 2020 National Gold Award Girl Scouts.

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

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 106) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

WOMEN OF THE AVIATION WORKFORCE WEEK

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 96.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 96) designating March 8 through March 14, 2021, as ''Women of the Aviation Workforce Week''.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to; that the Rosen amendment at the desk to the preamble be agreed to; that the preamble, as amended, be agreed to; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 96) was agreed to.

The amendment (No. 1399) to the preamble was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the preamble)

Strike the preamble and insert the following:

Whereas the first week of March is internationally known as ''Women of Aviation Worldwide Week'';

Whereas Women of Aviation Worldwide Week was created by the Institute for Women Of Aviation Worldwide;

Whereas the aviation industry is anticipating a significant shortage of skilled professionals in the coming years;

Whereas the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor projected that, in the next 10 years, the overall employment of airline and commercial pilots is expected to grow more than 6 percent in the United States;

Whereas less than 2 percent of the aircraft maintenance technicians in the world and less than 10 percent of all working aeronautical engineers are women;

Whereas the Federal Aviation Administration reports that less than 8 percent of pilots and only 26 percent of air traffic controllers in the United States are women;

Whereas women make up only 24 percent of the employees in the aerospace industry;

Whereas aviation is a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (commonly known as ''STEM'') focused career path;

Whereas the future of an abundant aviation workforce depends on a robust and diverse pool of candidates; and

Whereas women such as Amelia Earhart, Cicely Williams, and Bessie Coleman have inspired, and will continue to inspire, young women to pursue careers in aviation: Now, therefore, be it

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, as amended, reads as follows:

S. RES. 96

Whereas the first week of March is internationally known as ''Women of Aviation Worldwide Week'';

Whereas Women of Aviation Worldwide Week was created by the Institute for Women Of Aviation Worldwide;

Whereas the aviation industry is anticipating a significant shortage of skilled professionals in the coming years;

Whereas the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor projected that, in the next 10 years, the overall employment of airline and commercial pilots is expected to grow more than 6 percent in the United States;

Whereas less than 2 percent of the aircraft maintenance technicians in the world and less than 10 percent of all working aeronautical engineers are women;

Whereas the Federal Aviation Administration reports that less than 8 percent of pilots and only 26 percent of air traffic controllers in the United States are women;

Whereas women make up only 24 percent of the employees in the aerospace industry;

Whereas aviation is a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (commonly known as ''STEM'') focused career path;

Whereas the future of an abundant aviation workforce depends on a robust and diverse pool of candidates; and

Whereas women such as Amelia Earhart, Cicely Williams, and Bessie Coleman have inspired, and will continue to inspire, young women to pursue careers in aviation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates March 8 through March 14, 2021, as ''Women of the Aviation Workforce Week'';

(2) celebrates the aviation workforce of the United States;

(3) encourages educational and training institutions to recruit women to join the aviation workforce;

(4) encourages employers in the aviation industry to hire a diverse workforce, including women, veterans, and other underrepresented individuals; and

(5) commits to—

(A) raising awareness about the gender gap in the air and space industry; and

(B) taking legislative actions to address the gender gap in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (commonly known as ''STEM'') fields.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d–276g, as amended, appoints the following Senator as Vice Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the Canada-U.S. Interparliamentary Group conference during the 117th Congress: The Honorable MICHAEL D. CRAPO of Idaho.

The Chair, on behalf of the Republican Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 99–93, as amended by Public Law 99–151, appoints the following Senators as members of the United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: The Honorable CHARLES GRASSLEY of Iowa (Vice Chairman); The Honorable JOHN CORNYN of Texas; and The Honorable JAMES RISCH of Idaho.

The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d–276g, as amended, appoints the following Senator as Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the Canada-U.S. Interparliamentary Group conference during the 117th Congress: The Honorable AMY KLOBUCHAR of Minnesota.

The Chair. on behalf of the Republican Leader, pursuant to the provisions of S. Res. 64, adopted March 5,

2013, appoints the following Senators as members of the Senate National Security Working Group for the 117th Congress: The Honorable JOHN CORNYN of Texas (Administrative Co-Chair); The Honorable DEB FISCHER of Nebraska (Co-Chair); The Honorable BEN SASSE of Nebraska (Co-Chair); The Honorable MARCO RUBIO of Florida; The Honorable ROY BLUNT of Missouri; The Honorable LINDSEY GRAHAM of South Carolina; The Honorable JIM INHOFE of Oklahoma; The Honorable JIM RISCH of Idaho; The Honorable MITT ROMNEY of Utah.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2021

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 3 p.m., Monday, March 15; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, that following morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the HAALAND nomination, with all postcloture time expiring at 5:30 p.m.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. Now, at 5:30 p.m. there will be a rollcall vote on confirmation of the HAALAND nomination to be Secretary of the Interior.

As a reminder, cloture was filed today on the Guzman nomination to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration and on the Tai nomination to be United States Trade Representative.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2021, AT 3 P.M.

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 4:02 p.m., adjourned until Monday, March 15, 2021, at 3 p.m.

DISCHARGED NOMINATION

The Senate Committee on Finance was discharged from further consideration of the following nomination pursuant to S. Res. 27 and the nomination was placed on the Executive Calendar:

XAVIER BECERRA, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SCHOOL TESTING IN DISTRICT

HON. JAKE AUCHINCLOSS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Madam Speaker, the American Rescue Plan is going to help get kids back to full, in-person learning in the Massachusetts Fourth. Since even before taking office, opening the schools has been my top district priority.

With the Rescue Plan, we are not only boosting the production of vaccines that protect teachers and staff, we are also providing money for HVAC upgrades and for ongoing COVID surveillance testing in the schools. This testing catches outbreaks early and breaks transmission chains. It provides confidence and transparency as we reopen. I'm proud that scientists & operators in my district are developing these cutting-edge, low-cost school-testing technologies, including at Ginkgo Bioworks, CIC Health and Project Beacon. Classrooms must be open, and they must be safe for students and teachers alike. With vaccines and testing, they will be.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHELSEA KERR VENESKEY

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Chelsea Kerr Veneskey on receiving the Blair County Chamber of Commerce's Young Professional of the Year Award, which recognizes a leader who is making Blair County a better place for young people to live and do business.

Chelsea consistently is involved in community service projects and regularly mentors other young professionals as they develop professional strengths. She also promotes participation in our region's civic and business organizations, and she serves on numerous boards. Chelsea is immensely dedicated to our community's growth.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate Chelsea on this accomplishment and thank her for her service to the Blair County community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FREDERICK WALTON ALLEN

HON. DARIN LaHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Frederick Walton Allen of Peoria, Illinois, who passed away on January 24, 2021, at the age of 97.

Fred Allen, born on June 10, 1923, in Ripon, Wisconsin, had a long and distinguished career as a plaintiff's attorney. A self-made businessman, Fred built his law firm in Peoria around respect and integrity, virtues admired by both his clients and community. These priorities helped him become the first downstate Illinois lawyer to win a $1 million award for a client and become a member of the Inner Circle of Advocates, an elite national group limited to plaintiff's attorneys who had won seven-figure awards.

Fred lived a full life and his accomplishments were not limited to his legal career. As a young man, his studies were halted early due to the start of WWII. Mr. Allen enlisted on December 7, 1942, exactly one year after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and became a pilot in the U.S. Army Air Forces. After his military service, he signed a contract as a pitcher with a minor league affiliate for the Cleveland Indians. In 1949 when Fred graduated from Law School at Northwestern University, he immediately took the ''rocket train'' to Peoria where he applied for his first job at a firm. He continually served others through countless years of membership at the Elks Club, the American Legion, the Country Club of Peoria, and the First United Methodist Church of Peoria. He loved central Illinois and made many quiet contributions to better the lives of those in his community.

Fred will also be remembered for his love and commitment to his wonderful family. He was preceded in death by his wife Tilley, who said Fred's love and devotion to her throughout their 66 years of marriage were beyond measure. He was blessed with three daughters, Diane, Rita, and Laura, 7 grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren. Fred's fondest memories in life were ones spent with his family and his love and pride for them were boundless.

I want to offer my condolences to the Allen family and the people of Peoria on the loss of a great man. Fred left a lasting impact on those who had the pleasure of knowing him. May his memory be eternal.

RECOGNIZING MARGARITA ''MARGIE'' NELSON IN HONOR OF WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Madam Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I rise today to recognize Margarita ''Margie'' Nelson, whose dedication towards bettering Southern Florida and giving back to her community has had a significant impact on Florida's 25th Congressional district.

Born in East Chicago, Indiana in 1958, Margie moved to Naples, Florida in the 1970s. It is here where she met her husband, Kevin, and together they have three children, Teresa, Sheri, and Billy. Margie began her long career with the Collier County Sheriff's office in 1970, where she worked for the Department of Investigations. While working and raising her family, Margie received her bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Hodges University. She continued her career with the Collier Sheriff's office until her retirement in 2014.

Unable to stay away from serving her community, Margie returned to school and received her teaching certificate. Then, in 2016, she rejoined the workforce as an Exceptional Student Education (ESE) teacher for the Hendry County public school system. Presently, Margie is the guidance counselor at LaBelle Middle School, where she uses her wisdom and experience to assist and support her students. Her commitment towards helping her students cannot be matched, and, if Margie wasn't busy enough, she is currently in the process of receiving her master's degree for school guidance counseling.

Her passion for serving others is not limited to working with students, she is also an active volunteer in several organizations within her community. She is an integral member of a sewing group at the First Baptist Church of LaBelle, where she creates activity bags for her local children's hospital and participates in projects to help an orphanage in Guatemala. Additionally, she volunteers to acquire and assemble boxes for Operation Christmas Child, which provides gifts to needy children worldwide during Christmastime.

Madam Speaker, as a lifelong public servant, Margie's commitment to giving back knows no bounds, and it is truly a privilege to know and work with her. Her determination to help others has never wavered, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this outstanding individual.

COVID–19 HATE CRIMES ACT

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, at a time when all families are struggling with the threat of COVID–19, various communities are also suffering from the rise in hate crimes. In the last year, nearly 3,000 firsthand accounts of physical, verbal, and online attacks against those of Asian descent were reported. Asian Americans are fighting not just the COVID–19 pandemic, but an additional pandemic of hate and bigotry.

One third of Americans have witnessed someone blaming Asian Americans for the coronavirus. Eight out of ten AAPI youth report being bullied or verbally harassed due to their race. Elderly Asian Americans are being assaulted—tragically resulting in even death. Online hate speech and cyberbullying against Asians has increased by 900 percent during the pandemic. This is horrific—and it goes against the moral fabric of our nation. We

must address these ongoing hate crimes and incidents with urgency.

That is why I reintroduced the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act. My bill would designate a point person at the Department of Justice to expedite the review of hate crimes related to COVID–19, specifically crimes of violence motivated by the actual or perceived relationship to the spread of COVID–19. My bill also includes initiatives to establish online reporting of hate crimes or incidents in multiple languages and to expand public education campaigns to encourage and empower ethnic communities to feel comfortable and report these incidents.

My bill also directs the Attorney General to work with Health and Human Services, the COVID–19 Healthy Equity Task Force, and community-based organizations to issue best practices to mitigate racially discriminatory language in describing the COVID–19 pandemic.

Madam Speaker, during this time of heightened anxiety and fear surrounding COVID–19, we cannot lose sight of protecting the health and safety of every single person—no matter their race, ethnicity, age, or background. The COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act is a necessary step to confront the second pandemic of racism and discrimination in this country. I urge my colleagues to join me in this effort to keep all Americans safe.

IN RECOGNITION OF DEBBIE ECKENRODE

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Debbie Eckenrode on receiving the Blair County Chamber of Commerce's Joseph P. Rosenhamer Chamber Spirit Award, which recognizes a longtime Chamber member who embodies the traits we hope to see in business leaders.

Debbie has been an outstanding member of the Blair County Chamber of Commerce and frequently leads efforts to support the chamber's community events. Additionally, she mentors new chamber members and entrepreneurs in the region. Debbie is a dedicated member and ensures that the organization maintains its robust presence in the community.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate Debbie on this accomplishment and thank her for her service to the Blair County community.

SUPPORT FOR H.R. 1276, VA VACCINE ACT OF 2021

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, I would like to express my strong support for H.R. 1276, the VA VACCINE Act of 2021.

HONORING GABRIELLA GONZALEZ AND MORGAN HARVEY UPON RECEIVING THE NATIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR LIFESAVING AWARD FROM THE GIRLS SCOUTS OF THE USA

HON. ELAINE G. LURIA

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize two young women from Virginia Beach, Gabriella Gonzalez and Morgan Harvey, who were awarded the National Medal of Honor Lifesaving Award from the Girls Scouts of the USA.

After practice on a hot summer day in August 2019, Morgan and Gabriella's rowing club team decided to take turns jumping from a rope swing into Virginia Beach's Lake Joyce. The summer fun took a turn for the worse when their coach, Dr. Mark Winters, severely fractured his ankle on the bottom of the lake. Gabriella and Morgan both sprang into action to assist Dr. Winters. Gabriella swam along with other crew members to help her coach, holding his body above water and comforting him as he went into shock. Morgan rowed back to shore, helped guide rescue crews to the location, and organized team members to provide additional support. With their help, Dr. Winters was able to receive prompt medical attention, likely saving his life.

Both Gabriella and Morgan credit their experience as girl scouts in preparing them for the intense situation. With the poise and bravery that they displayed in such a critical moment, Morgan and Gabriella are more than worthy of the National Medal of Honor Lifesaving Award.

It is important that we recognize individuals in our communities who go above and beyond to make a difference. I am proud to represent these two young heroes in Congress, and I congratulate Gabriella and Morgan on receiving this well-deserved honor.

RECOGNIZING DOUG BUSH FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND APPOINTMENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank Mr. Doug Bush for his years of service to the United States Congress and congratulate him on his appointment to serve as the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology.

A graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, former Army officer, and long-serving congressional staffer, Doug has served our country in uniform and as a civilian for nearly 30 years. Though he started his congressional career as a Senate staffer, something we try not to hold against him, Doug has spent the last 14 years as a valuable member of the House Armed Services Committee's professional staff.

From 2007 to 2019, Doug supported the Tactical Air and Land Forces Subcommittee's oversight of aviation and ground-based weapon systems, equipment, and programs. Doug's work with committee members helped the committee accelerate the development and fielding of weapon systems and equipment that enhanced the capabilities of our Armed Forces and terminate under-performing programs. More recently, Doug served as the Deputy Staff Director of the Armed Services Committee from 2019 to 2021 where he managed the day-to-day operations of the committee and the development of the annual National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). As the Congress grappled with how to safely continue operations during the COVID–19 pandemic this past year, Doug played a critical role to ensure the Armed Services Committee continued to conduct effective oversight while also enacting the 60th consecutive NDAA.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the House Armed Services Committee, I extend our deepest appreciation to Doug for his dedicated service to the committee, the Congress, and the military and civilian personnel of the Armed Forces. We wish him well as he continues his public service at the Pentagon with the Department of the Army.

IN RECOGNITION OF MATTHEW FOWNES

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Matthew Fownes, a Dairy Queen franchise owner, on receiving the Blair County Chamber of Commerce's Small Business Person of the Year Award. This honor recognizes individuals who have responded well to adversity while serving the Blair County community.

Though businesses in the hospitality and restaurant industry faced extraordinary challenges due to COVID–19, Matthew remained committed to growing his business and to protect his employees' livelihoods. He persevered through challenges and adapted to serve Blair County residents efficiently and safely under the COVID restrictions, saving jobs in our community.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate Matthew on winning this accomplishment and thank him for his service to the Blair County community.

HONORING JOHN DOUGLAS AS IOWAN OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Mr. John Douglas, Executive Director of the Wilkie House in Des Moines, as our Iowan of the Week.

John's gift for working with kids and helping them reach their highest potential is immediately evident upon visiting with him about his work. He speaks with passion and expertise on issues such as the importance of quality

child care and the urgent need to address the childcare cliff effect to create better opportunity for families. At the Wilkie House you can see his determination and dedication not only in tackling big projects like significant infrastructure improvements to the building and playground, but also in little things like walking kids to their parent's car at the end of the evening to say goodnight.

Like many small non-profit leaders, John dedicates an immense amount of time and effort, wears many hats, and maximizes limited resources to make his programs successful. During workdays that regularly last nearly 12 hours, John works on grants, community outreach and engagement, assisting families in overcoming barriers, and accessing resources and administration. He's constantly working on growing funding to keep up with the increase in numbers so the Wilkie House can serve more children. With all that and more on his plate, he still spends time with the kids during afterschool activities and cites it a source of great joy.

Established in September of 1917, the Wilkie House initially served as an extension of the War Recreation Board for Black Officers at Fort Des Moines, making it one of the oldest African-American community-based organizations in the state of Iowa. Today the organization's rich history is carried forward through the mission of developing character and esteem in young people through promotion of academics, building social skills, health, and recreation. The nonprofit serves nearly 400 youth ages 5–18 years and their families during the fiscal year, with the majority of participants coming from low-income families and diverse ethnic backgrounds.

The ongoing COVID–19 pandemic has presented significant challenges to John and his team. The Wilkie House was one of the first organizations to reopen and stay open throughout the summer and for virtual learning support in the school year. They adapted to facilitate safe, full-day school year programming during virtual learning days so youth participants could better understand and complete their academics, receive tutoring and daily meals, and fulfill critical social needs through recreational and social skill building activities. It would be impossible to measure the kind of positive impact this program has had on our community during such a difficult time.

Despite the additional challenges, John and the Wilkie House team have continued to provide after school programming so kids can have snacks and dinner, engage in active and creative activities, and receive tutoring and homework assistance. They maintain summer programming with trips to the park and the zoo, volunteer opportunities, and work with youth on growth areas like problem solving, coping with change, independence, compassion, and career readiness. John also helps the Wilkie House maintain its position as a community hub by hosting evening and weekend events that bring people together for meals, fun activities, sporting events, and even musical performances from groups like the Isiserettes Drill and Drum Corp.

Before stepping up to his current role, John worked as a coordinator of a federal grant at the Evelyn K. Davis Center for Working Families. He spent time in higher education and worked internationally in non-profits to help families living in extreme poverty, including those in slums, orphanages, and children living on the street. Giving back to those in need, particularly young children, has been the highlight of his career.

Individuals like John Douglas who prioritize service over self in order to create a better life for individuals and better community for all their neighbors, especially those who are underserved and underrepresented, are commendable for so many reasons. Not only has he had an immediate and positive effect on the kids and families he serves through the Wilkie House, but the whole of Des Moines is better off because of his ongoing efforts. I'm proud to count John as a neighbor and thank him for his dedication. It is my honor to name him our Iowan of the Week.

RECOGNIZING MONA SHORES' SAILORS FOOTBALL STATE TITLE

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. HUIZENGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the Mona Shores' Sailors on their incredible second consecutive D–2 football state title at Ford Field in Detroit, MI.

This team has shown a great level of resilience and skill throughout this past year. Notably, the Sailors put together a perfect season despite the challenges brought on by the coronavirus pandemic, boasting a 12–0 record, which is the best record in school history.

I would like to congratulate each player and coach of the Mona Shores' Sailors who played an integral role in capturing the state title:

Players: Keondre Pierce, Larry White, Gary Humphrey, Landon Thalman, Khyree Hamel, Demetri Roberson, Mark Konecny, Eli Farnum, Keegan Dekuiper, Dahmir Farnum, Minh Nguyen, Benjamin Payne, Jeff Lenartowicz, Elijah Johnson, KeWaun Farnum, Brady Rose, Karsen Marihugh, TaVonie Jackson, Drew Sandberg, Stephen Koziak, Sam Wahlberg, DJ Caviness, Bryce Sikkenga, Jesse Love, Theartric Theus III, Mason Klos, Kemper Millis, Dauson Trigg, Cody Crites, Luke Emmons, and Andrew Grimm.

Coaches: Matt Koziak, Aaron James, Brian Sikkenga, Greg Vargas, Dave Check, Kyle Brott, Tyler Vanbergen, Mike Koziak, Thom Grimm, and Chris Hilliker.

Team Support: Jack Nummerdor, Dan Shroeder, Jason Dykstra, Rick McAdams, Jimmy Merrill, Patrick Lamay, Carson Koziak, Braden Koziak, Payton Koziak, and Samual Sikkenga.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Mona Shores Sailors on their second consecutive Division 2 football state title, and for being a Michigan symbol of resilience in the face of this ongoing pandemic.

RECOGNIZING GEORGIANNA ''GEORGIE'' CARTER-KRELL IN HONOR OF WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Madam Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I rise today to recognize Georgianna ''Georgie'' Carter-Krell, whose dedication to our nation's veterans, amidst her own personal tragedy, has had a significant impact on our country and South Florida.

Born in Massachusetts on August 25, 1932, Georgie and her three children moved to Florida in the 1960s, and they quickly found themselves living in Hialeah. Georgie's only son, Bruce Wayne Carter, enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1968 to defend his nation during the Vietnam War. Private First Class Carter served in Company H, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines, and was killed in action on August 7, 1969 in the Quang Tri Province. At the young age of nineteen, PFC Carter put the lives of his fellow soldiers ahead of his own, and, when ambushed, used his own body to shield his men from an enemy grenade. He was buried with Military Funeral Honors on August 25, 1969 at the Vista Memorial Gardens in Miami Lakes, Florida.

PFC Carter's heroic act quickly reached the White House, where, in 1971, Bruce was posthumously awarded our nation's highest recognition, the Medal of Honor. In the years that followed Bruce's death, Georgie truly turned her grief into action and became an advocate for our veterans. Initially, she volunteered with her neighbor at the Miami VA hospital and assisted those who had strokes or other injuries which prevented them from feeding themselves. They quickly became known as the Silver Spoons and traveled throughout the nation to VA hospitals promoting this program. Georgie became an integral member of the American Gold Star Mothers, where she served as the National President twice, in 2001 and 2008. With the help of former Congresswoman, and my good friend, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, the Miami VA Hospital was renamed the Bruce W. Carter VA Medical Center in 2008.

While Georgie became a steadfast voice for those who needed her most, she continued to regret that her son was buried in Florida and not at Arlington National Cemetery. As a result, Georgie worked with my team and me to have Bruce's remains transferred to Arlington, and, on November 4, 2020, PFC Carter was laid to rest with Military Funeral Honors at Arlington National Cemetery. This act served as an important reminder to all that a soldier's life is always valued, no matter how much time has passed.

Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to know Mrs. Carter-Krell and I commend her for her dedication to preserving her son's memory and her unwavering support for our veterans. Georgie is a true patriot and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this outstanding individual.

ADVANCING AMERICA'S DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to promote the strategic partnership between the United States and the Arab Republic of Egypt. I find it of the utmost importance to advance diplomatic relations with a nation that has proven many times to be a dedicated friend to the United States and our allies.

It's no secret that the Middle East is a complicated region with divisions deeply rooted in ancient conflict dating back thousands of years. Egypt has been a proven partner to the U.S. foreign policy goals in the region, with the hopes to end these conflicts and bring peace to a region that so desperately craves it. Without Egypt's partnership, the fight against terrorism and the strive for curbing proliferation would not be possible. I've always said that trust is a series of promises kept. The Arab Republic of Egypt has proven time and time again that they can be a trusted ally and friend to the people of the United States.

Egypt has been, and will continue to be, a beacon of hope for all nations across the Middle East and North Africa and a leader for prosperity, culture, and education for other nations to follow. Using this foundation to advance interfaith tolerance and freedoms, I have long been inspired by the Egyptian people, their freedoms, and their diligence to make the region and world a better place for their children. I am of the belief that the Egyptian government and the Egyptian people have played a vital role in the success of American foreign policy in the region over the recent decades.

Under the leadership of President Trump, the U.S. and Egypt became even closer allies in the fight against terrorism. I hope that the Biden administration will support the Egyptians as much as President Trump did during his time in office.

Regional peace is a goal of not only myself, but the people of the United States, Egypt, and many other nations across the globe. Therefore, it's critical that we recognize the sacrifices and efforts that Egypt has played in the regional peace agreements that have surfaced under recent years. Ever since the 1979 peace treaty with Israel, Egypt, and the United States, both nations have proven to be effective regional partners.

Madam Speaker, I'm thankful for the close friendship that the U.S. shares with Egypt. I hope that we can continue to advance this great relationship with our friends in the Middle East. I urge all my colleagues to join me in recognizing the strategic partnership between our nations and to continue to advance our shared goals going forward.

IN RECOGNITION OF VIRGINIA HELSEL

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Virginia Helsel on receiving the Blair County Chamber of Commerce's George Award, which recognizes an individual's volunteer efforts that have improved life in Blair County. A nurse by trade, Virginia started God's Little Offerings in her garage to help Blair County families in need. Though the organization originally provided only holiday meals, it has expanded to assist with other necessities.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate Virginia on this accomplishment and thank her for her service to the Blair County community.

RECOGNIZING LEONOR TOMERO FOR HER SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND APPOINTMENT TO THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank Ms. Leonor Tomero for her years of service to the United States Congress and congratulate her on her appointment to serve as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear and Missile Defense Policy in the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

Leonor has committed her professional career to advancing dialogue on nuclear nonproliferation and arms control within the nonprofit world, amongst our international allies and partners, and most notably, with the Departments of State and Defense. She has been a strong advocate for taking a commonsense approach to rethinking our reliance on nuclear weapons—one of the only true existential threats to humankind today. Though she started her congressional career as a Senate staffer, something we try not to hold against her, Leonor has spent the last 10 years as a valuable member of the House Armed Services Committee's professional staff.

From 2010 to 2021, Leonor supported the Strategic Forces Subcommittee's oversight of national security space, nuclear weapons, nuclear non-proliferation, nuclear clean-up, and missile defense issues. Leonor's work with committee members helped the committee conduct proper oversight of both programmatic and policy aspects of strategic deterrence and increased understanding regarding the delicate balance of strategic stability. Leonor's commitment to advancing space from a national security standpoint culminated in the establishment of the Space Force, which despite the previous administration's boasting, was truly a bi-partisan effort that emanated from the HASC Strategic Forces subcommittee.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the House Armed Services Committee, I extend our deepest appreciation to Leonor for her dedicated service to the committee, the Congress, and the military and civilian personnel of the Armed Forces. We wish her well as she continues her public service at the Pentagon with the Undersecretary of Defense for Policy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, on March 11, 2021, I missed the vote on the Motion to Recommit for H.R. 8. If present, I would have voted no.

CELEBRATING ELISA DE LA VARA

HON. RUBEN GALLEGO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. GALLEGO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the faithful service and hard work of Elisa de la Vara, who will retire this month after nearly fifty years of service to the people of Arizona. Born and raised in the small border community of Somerton, Arizona, Elisa has dedicated her life to following her father's example by giving back to her community.

Elisa most recently served as Chief Community Officer for the Arizona Community Foundation. In this role, she oversaw the investment of nearly half a billion dollars in grant funding to community organizations across Arizona and brought diverse voices and perspectives together through her work with the Latinos Unidos Initiative, the Black Philanthropy Initiative, the Asian Pacific American Women's Giving Circle, and the Native American Initiative. She also led the Foundation's affordable housing initiative and rural philanthropy work, where she developed innovative solutions to make sure more Arizona families had access to housing.

Elisa has also served in many other roles including as District Director for my distinguished predecessor, Congressman Ed Pastor, Special Assistant to Arizona Governor Bruce Babbitt, Executive Vice President for Chicanos Por La Causa, and Assistant to the President of the League of United Latin American Citizens. Elisa's work often focused on housing. She opened and led Fannie Mae's Arizona Office and she developed and hosted Arizona's first Spanish language real estate television show on Univision entitled Bienvenido a Mi Casa, which was devoted to informing and educating viewers on the rights and responsibilities of home ownership, including the mortgage process.

Throughout her distinguished career, Elisa rightfully earned many awards and recognitions. I would like to share my deep appreciation to Elisa for her years of service to our Congressional District, to our community, and to all of Arizona, and I wish her all the best in her retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BYRON DONALDS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. DONALDS. Madam Speaker, I was meeting with National Guard personnel in my

office discussing their needs and dire dietary conditions while stationed here. Unfortunately that meeting ran into the end of rollcall No. 73. Had I been present, I would have voted ''nay'' on rollcall No. 73.

IN RECOGNITION OF LINDSAY BUMBARGER

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Lindsay Bumbarger on receiving the Blair County Chamber of Commerce's Judith A. Rossi Educator of the Year Award, which recognizes educators who have influenced educational systems in a manner that benefits Blair County's economy.

As a 2nd grade teacher at Baker Elementary School in Altoona, Pennsylvania, Lindsay has overcome great educational challenges during the COVID–19 pandemic. In her career, Lindsay has taught students at several grade levels and has been recognized as a dedicated and innovative teacher. In her spare time, Lindsay also volunteers as an ESL teacher for Blair County families that do not speak English.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate Lindsay on this accomplishment and thank her for her service to the Blair County community.

RECOGNIZING JAMIE JACKSON FOR HER SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND APPOINTMENT TO THE WHITE HOUSE COUNSEL'S OFFICE

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank Ms. Jamie Jackson for her service to the United States Congress and congratulate her on her appointment to serve as a Senior Deputy Associate Counsel at the White House.

A two-time graduate of the University of Virginia and with a law degree from the University of Maryland School of Law, Jamie's career has spanned a decade of public service. After working in various positions in the Legislative and Executive Branches of government, Jamie joined the House Armed Services Committee's professional staff in 2018, where she served as the minority staff lead for the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigation. She also advised Members of the full committee and the Subcommittee on Military Personnel on policy matters related to information technology, cybersecurity, and military justice.

More recently, Jamie served as the committee's Deputy General Counsel from 2019 to 2021, where she played a critical role in the development and passage of two National Defense Authorization Acts (NDAA). Through her work with Members, outside committees, the Office of Legislative Counsel, and the Office of the Parliamentarian, Jamie played a central role in advising Members and staff of the committee on legal and procedural matters related to the bill. I can say with certainty that the committee would not have been able to get the 59th and 60th consecutive NDAAs done without the tireless work and support of Jamie Jackson.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the House Armed Services Committee, I extend our deepest appreciation to Jamie for her dedicated service to the committee, the Congress, and the military and civilian personnel of the Armed Forces. We wish her well as she continues her public service at the White House.

RECOGNIZING MONTAGUE WILDCATS FOOTBALL STATE TITLE

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. HUIZENGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the Montague Wildcats on their incredible D–6 football state title at Ford Field in Detroit, MI.

This team has shown a great level of resilience and skill throughout this past year. Notably, the Wildcats put together a perfect season despite the challenges brought on by the coronavirus pandemic, boasting a 12–0 record, and winning their third state title in school history.

I would like to congratulate each player and coach of the Montague Wildcats who played an integral role in capturing the state title:

Players: Izac Jarka, Michael Moore, Zachery Nelson, Drew Collins, Rodney Brassfield, Andrew Kooi, Ian Degen, Colton Blanksrom, Try Mikkelsen, Chase Gowell, Tugg Nichols, Dylan Everett, Sam Smith, Reece Taylor, Owen Petersen, Nick Moss, Kade Johnson, Alec Waruszewski, Joel Booth, Walker Martin, Aaron Rolf, Dakota Croff-Wiegand, Silas Jancek, David Dobson, John Greiner, Chris Kessler, Hayden McDonald, and Luke Booth.

Coaches: Pat Collins, Brock Myers, Cody Kater, Craig Smith, Denny Barnes, Dan French, Brian Jaekel, Randy Mikkelsen, Brad Francis, Matt McDonald, Evan Eilers, and Jeff Stark.

Team Support: Tim Stoudt, Eric Greiner, Ron Arnson, Jace Collins, and Kellen Francis.

Administrative Support: Jeffrey Johnson, Troy Moran, and Jay Mulder.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Montague Wildcats on their Division 6, football state title and for being a Michigan symbol of resilience in the face of this ongoing pandemic.

ENERGIZING AMERICAN SHIPBUILDING ACT OF 2021

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I reintroduce the ''Energizing American Shipbuilding Act'', which I have sponsored since 2016 as part of my ''Make it in America'' agenda. I thank my bipartisan original cosponsors for their support, as well as U.S. Senators ROGER F. WICKER (R–MS) and ROBERT P. CASEY, Jr. (D–PA) for sponsoring the companion bill.

Our bipartisan legislation seeks to recapitalize America's strategic domestic shipbuilding and maritime industries by requiring that increasing percentages of liquefied natural gas (LNG) and crude oil exports be transported on U.S.-built, flagged, and crewed vessels. In total, our bill would require that 15 percent of total seaborne LNG exports be exported on vessels built in the United States by 2043 and 10 percent of total seaborne crude oil exports by 2035.

In total, the ''Energizing American Shipbuilding Act'' is projected to result in the construction of more than 40 American ships: approximately 28 LNG carriers by 2043 and 12 oil tankers by 2035. This work will support thousands of new well-paying jobs in American shipyards, as well as the domestic vessel component manufacturing and maritime industries.

Unless Congress acts, all U.S. seaborne LNG and crude oil exports will be on foreign-flagged vessels, operated by foreign crews. American shipyards and mariners are ready for the job, and our bill ensures they are no longer expected to compete against heavily subsidized foreign shipyards in Korea, China, and elsewhere.

There is strong precedent for this policy. In 1995, Congress enacted the Alaska Power Administration Asset Sale and Termination Act (Public Law 104–58). This federal law allowed the export of crude oil from Alaska's North Slope but required that those exports be transported on U.S.-flagged vessels to preserve the tanker fleet essential to our national defense. It was good policy then, and it is good policy now.

The ''Energizing American Shipbuilding Act'' would implement a similar requirement that fixed percentages of seaborne U.S. LNG and crude oil exports be on U.S.-built, flagged, and crewed vessels. These same vessels, once built under our bill, would be available to meet the U.S. military's sealift and supply needs around the globe.

Like many members of Congress, I am deeply troubled that our military, namely the Defense Logistics Agency, relies on foreign-owned oil tankers, including state-owned enterprises closely linked to the Chinese government. Our bipartisan bill also counters other export countries' similar requirements, including the Russian-flagged vessel requirement for arctic oil and natural gas exports announced by the Kremlin in December 2018.

The United States projected to become a net crude oil exporter and the top LNG exporting nation in the coming years. Exports of these two strategic national assets—LNG and crude oil—should be on American vessels, which is exactly what our bill would require.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members of the House to join us in cosponsoring the ''Energizing American Shipbuilding Act.'' Lastly, I want to thank my former Chief of Staff, Ms. Emily Burns, for her instrumental role in developing this legislation during the 114th and 115th Congresses while on my staff.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BOB EGOLF

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Bob Egolf of Churubusco, Indiana.

For 65 years, Egolf worked in the grocery business. He started his career at John Shelton's IGA, located on North Main Street in Churubusco in 1956 when he was 14 years old. Seven years later, he purchased the grocery from Shelton in 1967, and in 1982 built a new store south of Churubusco on US 33.

Egolf's IGA is known throughout the area for its freshly cut meats and daily baked bakery 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 with 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.

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the Global Partnership for Education, the largest global fund solely dedicated to transforming education in lower-income countries.

Access to quality education reduces poverty, advances economic prosperity, improves peace and security, and strengthens public health. As we now know too well, COVID–19 has compounded the barriers that keep kids from being educated both here at home and around the world.

International basic education programs, including GPE, increase equitable access to education, providing children with foundational reading, math, social, and emotional skills.

Access to education is severely impacted by emergencies. 1 in 3 children and young people are out of school in countries affected by conflict or disaster, and half of school-age refugee children are out of school. And, of course, 1.6 billion children in more than 190 countries were impacted by the closure of educational institutions at the peak of the COVID–19 pandemic. GPE works in the countries with the greatest need, targets the hardest to reach children, and can respond quickly to emergencies.

I thank my colleagues, Representatives BRIAN FITZPATRICK and MIKE QUIGLEY, who have joined me to introduce this important resolution. I urge all of my colleagues to cosponsor this resolution, which affirms the leadership and commitment of the U.S. to improving access to quality, inclusive public education; calls for multi-year pledges from the U.S. to allow GPE to maximize its impact in supporting governments to provide this education; and calls on the State Department and USAID to promote children and youth attending schools around the world.

Madam Speaker, we know the value and impact quality education can make on one's dignity, wellbeing, and livelihood. This resolution affirms that every child deserves to reach their fullest potential.

IN RECOGNITION OF JUDY JUDA

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Judy Juda of Duncansville, Pennsylvania on receiving the Blair County Chamber of Commerce's Athena Award, which recognizes individuals who have high professional ambitions, perform well in their fields, and devote time to meaningfully improve the Blair County community.

While serving as the Program Director for the Blair County Chamber of Commerce, Judy was instrumental in forming several programs designed to benefit women as they seek, obtain, and hold leadership positions in their community. She has been recognized for her work on We-LEaD, Leadership Blair County Adult, Leadership Blair County Youth, and other programs offered through the Chamber.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate Judy on this accomplishment and thank her for her service to the Blair County community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROYANNE ORTIZ

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a great Republican leader and public servant, Royanne Ortiz. As a resident of Bullhead City for 10 years, Royanne graciously and selflessly used her leadership skills to benefit Arizonans. Her bold leadership was reflected in her role as District Director for Mohave County Republican Central Committee since 2017 and through the many successful Lincoln Day Dinners she oversaw in District 2.

Royanne was also well known for her fearless approach towards education policy issues. Her tenacity and passion for education reform even led her to running for the 2020 Mohave Community College Board. Her commitment to civic duty and her community was regularly reflected through her participation in meetings hosted by the Bullhead City Council, Colorado River Republican Women Club, and Colorado River Union High School District. I believe Royanne Ortiz is a great example of a Republican woman and her impact and involvement will not be forgotten by her community.

Madam Speaker, I express my deepest condolences to the family of Royanne Ortiz on her passing, and I encourage my colleagues to join me in celebrating her life and legacy as a valuable civic servant to the people of Arizona.

RECOGNIZING THE FRONTLINE HEALTHCARE WORKERS OF SOUTH DAKOTA

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize, celebrate and honor the frontline healthcare workers of the great state of South Dakota.

Some of these South Dakota heroes are: Leslie Alexander St. Royal, MD, Kelly Ann Stacy, MD, Michael Stadnick, MD, Donald John Stallman, MD, Theresa Stamato, MD, Andreea Constanta Stan, MD, Matthew Brady Stanley, DO, Christopher D. Stanley, MD, Jeffrey Peterson Stanley, MD, Christopher M. Stanton, MD, David Charles Starks, MD, Cherry Elizabeth Starling, MD, Lorenzo Lee Stars, MD, Robert F. Startz, MD, Michael D. Stassen, MD, Michael J. Statz, MD, David Winfield Staub, MD, Robert Lebaron Grant Stears, MD, David Allen Steele, MD, John Wayne Steely, MD, Jeffery Lee Steers, MD, Kelly Jo Steffen, DO, Brandon Daniel Steger, MD, Christine A. Stehly, MD, Diane Carravetta Stein, MD, Maggie Jane Steinbeisser, DO, Lon Robert Steinberg, MD, Frederick Brent Steinberg, MD, Baiba Steinbrekera, MD, Nathan Christopher Steinle, MD, Robert C. Stelzle, MD, Jon R. Stenberg, MD, Danny Owen Stene, MD, Vernon H. Stensland, MD, Jeffrey Stenson, MD, Valerie D. Stephens, MD, Jill Fountain Sternquist, MD.

Nicole Lynn Stethem, MD, William Ross Stevens, MD, Philip D. Stevens, MD, Dennis Charles Stevens, MD, Kerry Anne Stevens, MD, John Edward Stewart, MD, Lorelee Stock, MD, Constance Ann Stock, MD, Darcey Jo Stockland, MD, Brady J. Stocklin, MD, Steven C. Stocks, MD, Steven J. Stokesbary, MD, Ethan Damon Stolzenberg, MD, Sandra L. Stolzy, MD, Shawn Timothy Stone, MD, Kurt A. Stone, MD, Richard H. Stone, MD, William George Stone, MD, Catherine Theresa Stoos, MD, Chad Allen Storch, DO, Jeremy Carl Storm, DO, Abe Leonard Storms, MD, Mitchell Brandon Stotland, MD, Michael Paul Stotz, DO, Kirsten Hilary Stotz, DO, Stephen Young Stout, MD, Barney Daniel Stoutamire, MD, Ray D. Strand, MD, David Allen Strand, MD, David Eric Strang, MD, Jennifer Kristi Strasburg, MD, Garry David Strauser, MD, Lawrence R. Strawbridge, MD, Michael S. Strobbe, DO, Austin Lee Strohbehn, MD.

Richard Dale Strom, MD, Kevin Strom, MD, Scott Lynn Stroming, MD, Lori A. Strong, MD, Benjamin Strong, MD, Heidi L. Strouth, MD, Roger Graham Stuart Jr, MD, Judith Marie Stucki, MD, Jeremy Arthur Stueven, MD, Tamera Lee Sturm, DO, John Robert Sty, MD,

Tomasz P. Stys, MD, Maria A. Stys, MD, Adam T. Stys, MD, Ananta Subedi, MD, Umashankar Subramaniam, MD, Wesley Lloyd Sufficool Jr., DO, Robert C. Suga, MD, Donny Won Suh, MD, Jongdae Suh, MD, Raed A. Sulaiman, MD, James H. Sullivan, MD, Brendan James Sullivan, MD, Shamim Sultana, MD, Christopher J Sumey, MD, Robert J. Summerer, DO, Allison Luanne Summers, MD, Ashwyna Sunassee, MD, Kalyana Sundaram, MD, Sabari Lakshmi Sundarraj, MD, Rael David Sundy, MD, Rachel Jan Sunne, MD, Arlene Sussman, MD, Joan Hazel Sutcliffe, MD, Willis C. Sutliff, MD, Rachelle Sutton, MD, Elizabeth Ann Sutton, MD, Jared Allan Sutton, MD, Daniel Samuel Sutton, MD, Sharad Surendrapuri Swami, MD, Arun Swaminathan, MD, Russell James Swan, MD, Jerome Allen Swanson Jr., MD, David A. Swanson, MD, Sara Kristina Swanson, MD.

Michael John Swartz, MD, Matthew Hayden Swartz, DO, Joseph Mark Swedzinski, MD, Andrew Louis Sweeny, MD, Kellie Sue Sweet Ciesielski, DO, Keri Martin Sweeten, MD, Casey Tad Swenson, MD, Don Deroy Swift II, DO, Paul L. Swisher, MD, John Thomas Swisher IV, DO, Junaid Ali Syed, MD, Faizan Ali Syed, MD, Jeffrey Sykes, MD, June Symens, MD, Grant Douglas Syverson, MD, Andras Szabo, MD, Timothy J. Szutz, MD, Gregory Antoni Szych, DO, Daniel M. Tackett, MD, Yousef Ebeid Tadros, MD, Akash Sharad Taggarse, MD, Ammar Taha, MD, Timothy Scott Talbot, MD, Nicole Talbot, DO, Melinda R. Talley, MD, Stephen Lee Tamang, MD, Jamshid Tamiry, MD, Thomas Kiyoshi Tamura, MD, Caridad C. Tan, MD, Thomas B Tan, MD, Christopher Ming Tai Tang, MD, Kunal Bhikhalal Tank, MD, Philip Edwin Tanner, MD, Hamza Hadi A Tantoush, MD, Beatriz Amalia Tapia-Centola, MD, Amilyn Mee Young Han Taplin, MD, Brandyn Ashley Tarap, MD, Kristin Jones Tarbet, MD, Connie Natalie Taylor, MD, Jonathan Bruce Taylor, DO, Prentiss Bakari Taylor, MD, William Byron Taylor III, MD, Gregory D. Taylor, MD.

Joy L. Taylor, MD, Garrett Ross Taylor, MD, John Philip Tedeschi, MD, James John Teet, DO, Jennifer Lee Tegethoff, MD, Jose M. Teixeira, MD, Jean Carlos Tejada Perez, MD, Raul M. Templonuevo, MD, Alison R. Tendler, MD, Richard Charles Tenglin, MD, Steven Oliver Tenny, MD, Jill C. Termaat, MD, Greg Terrasas, MD, Andrew Michael Terrell, MD, Margaret Jayne Terveen, MD, Daniel Christian Terveen, MD, Ovictor Leo Roldan Tesoro, MD, Larry L. Teuber, MD, Tapan Chandrasen Thacker, MD, Bradley Clark Thaemert, MD, Pankajkumar N. Thakkar, MD, Jitendra Thakkar, MD, Thavachenthan Thambipillai, MD, Fredric Thanel, MD, Sudan Thapa, MD, Chet Allen Tharpe, MD, Brett James Theeler, MD, Sreyoshi Thielen, MD, Rachel Elizabeth Thies, MD, Shanti S. Thirumalai, MD, Eric Richard Thomas, MD, Jacob Adam Thomas, MD, Vance Thompson, MD, Arliss Noonan Thompson, MD.

Jennifer Marie Thompson, MD, Eric Michael Thompson, MD, William Earl Thorell, MD, Lycia C. Thornburg, MD, Lori Lynn Thorndike, DO, Frank Thorngren, MD, Andrew Thomas Thorp Jr., MD, Dusty James Thorpe, MD, Kassy Arnette Thorpe, MD, Bobbi Rae Thuen, MD, Dennis Joseph Thum, MD, Lauren Wood Thum, MD, Daniel Elton Thum, MD, Brent Robert Thurness, MD, Chad R. Thury, DO, Wei Tian, MD, Noel Dexter Luis Tiangco, MD, Patrick Tibbles, MD, Myles Eldon Tieszen, MD, Jerel E. Tieszen, MD, Christopher L. Tillotson, MD, Nathan John Timmer, MD, Gary L. Timmerman, MD, Juk Ling Ting, DO, Jennifer Jean Tinguely, MD, Ron Tintner, MD, Karen S. Tjaden, MD, Brian Dean Tjarks, MD, Mary R. Tjarks, MD, Brian Joel Tjarks, MD, Michael D. Tobin, MD, Gregory A. Tobin, MD, Daniel W. Todd, MD, Joshua David Told, DO, Sherryl Jean Tomboulian, MD, Kevin Lee Tomsic, MD, Shayla Monique Toombs-Withers, DO, Muhammad Rizwan Toor, MD, Nicholas Scott Torbert, DO, Gerardo Rafael Torres-Feliciano, MD, Cynthia Lee Tortorelli, MD, Anita Toussi, MD, Eric Chancey Towe, MD, Kimberly Arlene Townsend-Scott, MD, Erika Toyoda, MD, Miranda Catherine Tracy, MD, Kynan Charles Trail, MD.

Arleigh Rosann Trainor, MD; Huy Quoc Tran, MD, Hoang Simon Tran, MD, Kimberly Doan Tran, MD, Henry Travers, MD, John Michael Travnicek, MD, Paul Andrew Travnicek, MD, Mark Adam Travnicek, MD, Sarah Ann Traxler, MD, Yvonne Perle Treece, MD, Joseph Tricarico, MD, Sebastian John Troia, MD, John Kenneth Tronnes, MD, Lee D. Trotter, DO, James L. Troy, MD, Angelina L. Trujillo, MD, Eric Robert Trumble, MD, Byron F. Katzur Tsang, DO, Loren K. Tschetter, MD, Matthew David Tschetter, MD, Brian Elliot Tschida, MD, Evgeny Ilych Tsimerinov, MD, Chung H. Tuan, MD, Eben Ezra Tucker, MD, Elizabeth Mary Tucker, DO, Glenn Andrew Tuckman, MD, Geoffrey T. Tufty, MD, Ralph J. Tullo, MD, Joseph L. Tuma, MD, Hassan Al Turaihi, MD, Tariq Ahmad Turfe, MD, Kevin John Turneau, MD, Gary Eugene Turner, MD, James H. Turner, MD, Michelle Turner, MD, Gerald L. Turner, MD, Edward McDaniel Turpin Jr., MD, Racheal Tushabe, MD, Sophie Two Hawk, MD, Andrew En-Lu Tyan, MD.

Natalie Christine Tymkowych, MD, Nadia Lynn Tymkowych, MD, Daniel Gerard Tynan, MD, Ravi Ramesh Ubriani, MD, Fatema Sultana Uddin, MD, David D. Udehn, MD, Nnamdi Albert Uhegwu, MD, Molly Jo Uhing, MD, Patsy A. Uken, MD, Tara Marie Ulmer, MD, Matthew Robison Ulrich, MD, Keung Ung, MD, Timothy John Ungs, MD, Margaret Upell, MD, Lalith Chrisantha Uragoda, MD, Steven Urbaniak, DO, Muhammad Umair Usman, MD, Christopher Neville Ussher, MD, Craig Joel Uthe, MD, Jennifer Senge, Joni Sengos, Alison Serck, Kathryn Severson, Becky Sharp, Sarah Sharp, Warren Shaulis, Patricia Shaver, Nelli Shchur, Kala Shepherd, Veronica Sherwood, Sandra Shumaker, Jeana Sides, Sarah Siebert, Sharon Simon, Rhonda Siver, Julia Skelton, Jessica Slaba, Jamie Slettedahl, Tammie Smart, Brandy Smith, Rochelle Smith, Angela Smith, Jennifer Sobolik, Katelin Soodsma, Jon Sorensen, Tracy Sorenson, Ashley Sorenson, Sarah Sorrell, Cathy Sowers, Carol Spangler, Samantha Speed, Lindsay Speer, Leah Sperry, Amy St Aubin, Amber Staedtler, Paul Stamp, Elizabeth Stamper.

Erin Stansbury, Kara Stapert, Elizabeth Stauss, Katie Steams, Jennifer Steiner, Ashley Stelzer, Carla Steppat, Andrea Sterkel, Pamela Stewart, Carol Stewart, Cynthia Stocks, Aaron Stoick, Deanna Stoll, Ellen Stoll, Kyla Stoops, Rebekah Storm, Kendra Storm, Tonya Struble, Gregory Studer, Steven Studzinski, Abbie Styes, Mallory Summerer, Chelsey Sundberg, Shiela Szymonski, Sarah Tacke, Holly Taschner, Kelly Taylor, Spencer Taylor, Ryan Tennant, Nancy Terveen, Christina Terveen, Karey Thieman, Loretta Thomas, Jean Thompson, Amy Thompson, Amanda Thoms, Annie Thury, Shelly Tibke, Heather Tietjen, Amanda Tilberg, Erin Tobin, Kelly Tolley, Elizabeth Toomajian, Tammy Top, Meghan Torgerson, Melissa Traub, Eric Traviss, Connie Tschetter, Melissa Tschetter, Autumn Tucker, Justin Tuntland, Kristin Turek, Hillary Turner, Katherine Turner, Katherine Turner, Marissa Turner, Jessica Tvedt, Chelsea Twamley, Macy Urrutia, Lacey Uttecht, Dawn Utzman, Taylor Vaksdal, Stephanie Van Dam, Michelle Van Demark, Betsy Van Genderen, Ashley Van Hill, Dana Van Middendorp, Shaun Van Roekel, Mallary Van Tol, Laura VanBeek, Kristin VanBuskirk, Julie Vandam.

Janelle Vande Griend, Mindi Vande Kamp, Stephenie Vanden Berge, Jessica Vanderham, Brenda VanDewater, Michelle VanHove, Miranda VanLeur, Pamila VanMeeteren, Tonya Venhuizen Matt, Candace Verdoorn, Ashley Vermeulen, Courtney Vesely, Abby Viereck, Thomas Viereck, Stacy Visker, Staci Vogel, Dorinda Vojta, Brittny Vollmer, Bunpeng Vongkaenchan, Jordan Voss-Severson, Rachel Waddell, Jill Waggoner, Ashley Wagner, Anna Waldner, Adam Walker, Jennifer Waller, Karla Walsh, Deborah Walter Laws, Brittany Wangsness, Lynn Ward, Justin Ward, Alex Warkenthien, Kelly Wasko, Chelsey Watson, Angela Waugh, Debra Webb, Nancy Webb, Kari Webber, Lindsay Weber, Courtney Weber, Lori Wegehaupt, Jacqueline Weidauer, Alyssa Welbig, Brooke Welker, Barbara Wendell-Schechter, Bryan Wermers, Kathryn Wermers, Kari Westenkirchner, Chelsea Westerman, Megan Weston, Nicole Westra, Nicole Weyer, Kasandra Wheeler, Tamber White, Melanie White.

Kylee Whitney, Brent Wiederholt, Michele Wieseler, Daylon Wigart, Elisabeth Wightman, Gail Wild, Mandy Wilde, Kirstin Williams, Elizabeth Wilson, Leslie Wilson, Catherine Wilson, Lili Wilson, Angel Wilson-Crowe, Katherine Wingate, Laura Withorne-Maloney, James Woehl, Samantha Woehl, Kristine Wolbrink, Rachel Wolkow, Lauri Wolter, Natalie Woolridge, Amanda Wortman, Janet Wright, Alicia Wright, Rachel Wurth, Nichole Yost, Nadia Yusufi, Kathleen Zambo, Afton Zediker, Lorryn Zephier, Lisa Ziegeldorf, Karron Zopp, Paula Zuccaro, Jill Zuehlke, Michelle Ahnberg, Catherine Allan, Elizabeth Bauer, Diana Berkland, Roxann Boysen, Jeanne Carol Carlsen, Karla Cazer, Janell Christenson, Michele Crissman, Roger Deraad, Carol Dreke, Michelle Eggers, Lisa Feller, Kay Foland, Kristine Gaster, Sharon Hansen, Arlene Homer, Gwenneth Jensen, Marybeth Johnson, Julie Jones.

Mary Kennedy, Pamela Koepsell, Denise Kolba, Karen Mammenga, Rebecca McDugle, Carol McGinnis, Lois McMahon, Doreen Miller, Mary Minton, Michelle Nelson, Barbara Nordquist, Mary Oyos, Martha Pap, Robin PetersonLund, Charis Poppens, Marie Rogers, Constance Schmidt, Bette Schumacher, Dawn Seeley, Dianna Sorenson, Courtney Unruh, Michelle Van Demark, Patricia Vaska, Jo Voss, Andrea Wessel, Lynn White, Charlene Williams, Sandra Young, Paula Zuccaro, Alissa Alberts, Stephen Allen, Joseph Amo, Micah Amos, Bridget Amos, Amy Andersen, Kathleen Anderson, Emily Anderson, Megan Anderson, Ryan Anderson, Carrie Anderson, Vicki Arlt, Brock Ball, Scott Ball, Glenda Balthazor, Jeffrey Bard, James Barnett, Jason Barnhard, Christopher Bartek, Richard Bartl, Katie Bates, Thomas Beare, Abbey Beck,

Nancy Behr, Travis Behrens, Chris Bender, Karen Bender, Paul Beninga, Amanda Benson, Matthew Benson, Ann Berens, Kari Berg, Michael Bevers.

Jedd Bialas, Betty Bisgard, Gina Bleyenburg, Kyle Bohling, Paul Bommersbach, Karen Bordewyk, Jody Borg, Kelly Bouma, Constance Bowar, Lance Breit, Clinton Bresee, Tiffany Brown, Thomas Bruce, Christopher Brusseau, Mary Bryant, Robert Bryant, Jason Bryce, Calley Buckley, Casey Buller, Michelle Bultje, Megan Bunker, Stephanie Bushman, Tamara Buss, Brian Callahan, Jennifer Callahan, Erin Callaway, Kristin Canfield, Richard Carlson, Sonny Carlson, Deborah Carter, Imke Casey, David Cinco, Sharise Clemens, Larry Dahlen, Mark Dahlquist, Austin Dale, Michael Damron, Deena Davis, Sydney Davis, Amy Decker, William Degen, Barry Degen, Matthew Deichert, Dustin Delaney, Tasha Delaney, Max Delaney, Kristi DeVries, Krystina Doohen, Kara Dougherty, Heather Dougherty, Randy Downey II, James Dredla, Dustin Dvoracek, David Edwards, Jason Ellingson, Mary Ellis, Alan Engebretson, David Englert, Lindsay Erenberg, Brian Erenberg, Teresa Evans, Shelly Fair, Timothy Farley, Erin Fauske, Starr Fedders, John Fernau, Joshua Feuerstein, Rodney Fieldsend, Stephen Fine.

Lisa Fink, Patricia Finley, Megan Fischer, Melissa Fischer, Sandra Fischer-Hamilton, Bradley Fishman, Timothy Fitz, Sara Fouts, Brady Foxhoven, Cody Freudenthal, Daniel Fuxa, Nona Gab, Brent Gades, Amy Gartner, J. D. Geigle, Kayla Genrich, Dean Gibson, Peter Glassbrenner, Dale Gosch, Darwin Gramstad, Jason Gray, Blake Griffin, Katherine Grode, Elizabeth Groeger, Kelli Groeneweg, Daniel Groeneweg, Robert Groenewold, Trecia Gulseth, Ronald Haan, Mark Haffey, Aubrey Hagen, Zachary Hague, Kelly Haines, Jesyca Haines, Jenna Hale, Christopher Hall, Elizabeth Halverson, Michael Hansen, Jenny Hanson, Kari Hargens, Danielle Hart, Kristi Hauck, Julie Hegg, Jessica Heinrich, Travis Heintz, David Hemmer, Cheryl Hepp, Kristin Hermsen, Kyle Hilsabeck, Rodney Hines, Nicole Hirsch, Brady Hofer, Philip Hoffman, Suzanne Hoffman, Mary Hoffman, Jean Hokana, Jeremy Holmen, Stephanie Honken, Margaret Hortness, Michael Hotvet, Garrett Houska, Preston Huber, Austin Huiskes.

Tracy Huntington, Laura Husman, Jesse Hyde, Robert Hyk, Raichatou Jackson, Shauna Jacobson, Samuel Janes, Cathleen Janitschke, Wayne Janitschke Jr., Todd Jensen, Eric Jensen, Neil Jessen, Jean Johnson, Heidi Johnson, Wayne Johnson, Kristi Johnson Eckrich, Barry Jones, Ransom Jones, Rhonda Jorgensen, Gregory Jung, Nick Jung, Christian Junk, David Kallas, Andrew Kappenman, Carla Kelley, Angela Kent, Terrence Keszler, Travis King, Christina King, Kristin Kingsbury, Cory Kirby, Megan Klentz, Joshua Klinkhammer, Alexia Klinkhammer, Kristen Klinkhammer, Cheryl Knox, Rick Koehler, Bryce Kolander, Katrina Kraus, Nathan Krell, Mary Krogh, Aaron Krueger, Mitchell Kuper, Jesse Kurtenbach, Ryan Kurtz, Brian Kvamme, Melissa LaBrie, Martin Lambert, Tyson Lange, Nicole Larsen, J Thomas Larson, Jerry LeClair, Kelly Leibel, Katie Lemier, Mollie Lems, Sydney Leonard, Daniel Lewison, Angela Liddell, Amber Lockwood, Emily London, Anna Lukens-Black, Mark Lundgren, Donna Lupien, John Lyle, William Lyle, Eloy Malsom, Kyle Mamer, David Manke, Tricia Marcuson, David Marshall, Timothy Masselink, Jessica Masselink, Timothy Matthew, Scott Matthew.

Jenna McChesney, David McFarland, Craig McKay, Kara McMachen, Beth McQuisten, Tara Mebius, Jason Meister, Jennifer Mendel, Gordon Merchen, Kenneth Meyer, Mitch Meyers, Clark Miles, Christopher Miller, Tyler Miller, Paul Moe, Aaron Mortensen, Amy Mueller, Jonette Murphy, Michael Murphy, David Mutschelknaus, Craig Nedved, Brittani Neely, Greg Neises, Andrea Nelson, Brook Newell, Jessica Newman, Teresa Ohlmacher, Christopher Olson, Scott Oswald, Jenna Ovenden, Amber Overby, Laura Parsons, Jason Peldo, James Pfeiffer, Roxanne Phipps, Michael Phipps, Laura Pollard, Kylene Ponstein, Tara Popkes, Nicholas Poppe, Matthew Poppe, Lonna Potter, Trevor Potts, Barry Powell, Allan Pudwill, Alexandra Pudwill, Scott Raabe, Lisa Raph, Sasha Rau, Jason Rausch, Taylor Rehfeldt, Thomas Reid, Darci Reinesch, Douglas Retzer, Erin Retzer, Leah Rhodes, Troy Richardson, Lynette Richardson, Lindy Rippe, Ryan Ritter, Kevin Roark, Katherine Robinson, Donald Roesler.

Sheryl Roesler, Jason Roskup, Kim Rubendall, Myra Rude, Nancy Rusch, Karen Salter Lyle, Stephani Scheurenbrand, Tanner Schilder, Teri Schlunsen, Danelle Schneider, Seth Schramm, Jennifer Schumacher, Thomas Schuster, Cynthia Schuttler, Paul Schwichtenberg, Joel Schwiesow, Peter Schwiesow, Meng Seth, Gail Sievert, Darrel Simon, Leanne Siverhus, Mark Smedsrud, Margaret Smith, Christopher Smith, Josh Smith, Kathryn Snoozy, Frank Snyder, Jon Sovell, Jeffrey Spaans, Jason Spah, Nickolaus Spain, Elaine Spitzer, Thomas Stadtfeld, Patrick Staedtler, Joel Stauss, Mark Steinborn, Jordan Steinborn, Gabriel Steinborn, Jay Steinke, Kelly Stokes, Sean Sundermann, James Sundet, Lyle Sutherland, Angala Swanson, Mark Swenson, Laura Taylor, Anne Teachout, Jennifer Thimgan, Dixie Thomas, Christopher Thorson, Tadd Thorson, Jennifer Timm, Kaitlin Travnicek, Erica Trebesch, Darcie Tveidt, Joseph Ulin, Heidi Underwood, Terri Vanheuveln, Daniel VanVeldhuizen.

Christopher VanWassenhove, Meagan Veeder, Megan Ver Steeg, Jared Veurink, Racheal Vockler, Katherine Wackel, Chase Walder, Megan Wallenberg, Suzanne Walth, Jon Waltjer, Keith Wanner, Daniel Warner, Jon Weber, Rebecca Weeman, Daniel Wegehaupt, Scott Welch, Joseph Welty, Wendy Welty, Joseph Werner, Kyle Wescott, Libby Westman, Shannon White, Jennifer Whiting, Sarah Wielenga, Kimberly Wilcox, Richard Wilkins, Catherine Wilson, Andrew Winterboer, Tammi Wittry, Micheala Wosje, Michael Wright, Kevin Yackley, Dawn Zastoupil, Kari Zeeb, Emily Zimmer, Kevin Zogg, Patrick Zoss, Jerry Zwak, Martha Aadland, Kierstin Aanenson, Tammy Aas, Kendra Aasgaard, Jamie Abbas, Amber Abernathy, Bridgett Ackman, Samantha Adair, Samuel Adams, Elizabeth Adkins, Neely Adler, Patricia Afraid of Bear, Janice Afraid of Hawk, Destiney Aga, Syreeta Ahelegbe, Therese Ahrendt, Kelsey Ahrens, Nadine Akimpaye, Loretta Akins, Debra Albers, Mary Alberts, Shirley Albrecht, Sweet Rose Alejandre, Cindy Alexander, Cindy Allard Hines, Jessica Allbee, Mia Alleman.

Michelle Allen, Chris Allen, Savannah Allen, Taylor Allison, Kabrina Althoff, Savanna Altstiel, Jennifer Alver, Tonya Amaral, Catryna Ambroz, Sherry Amburn, Patricia Amen, Rebecca Amick, Kendra Ammann, Barbara Amundson-Reiter, Heather Andersen, Sarah Andersen, Margaret Anderson, Frances Anderson, Holly Anderson, Janelle Anderson, Robin Anderson, Anne Anderson, Karlee Anderson, Kendric Anderson, Lisa Anderson, Stephanie Anderson, Stacy Anderson, Drew Anderson, Jasmine Anderson, Kirby Anderson, Katelyn Andrews, Lynnette Andru, Maggie Anfinson, Tammela Annecharico, Shandel Anson, Sage Antonsen, Claire Antonson, Elliane Antrim, Michelle Antrobus, Courtney Appel, Taylar Applegate, Erin Arbach, Megan Archer, Emma Archer, Tama Armbruster, Robin Arneson, Deidre Arrow, Lenita Arsaga, Dawn Artz, Reginald Ashes, Sandra Auch, Rebecca Auer, Amy Austreim, Payton BaanHofman, Julie Baatz, Kelli Back, Fern Backer, Janelle Baete, Lacey Bahm, Courtney Baier, Ashley Bailey, Teresa Bailly, Mary Baker, Mayme Baker, Audra Baker.

Stephanie Baker, Brent Baker, Rebecca Bakker, Miranda Bakley, Barbara Balk, Kelley Ball, Susan Balvin, Gena Bappe, Deborah Barattini, Deann Barber, Karlee Barbetta, Maria Barker, Darby Barker, April Louie Barlet, Keith Barnes, Tamera Barnes, Wendy Barse, Theresa Bartels, Jaitlyn Barthel, Mary Barton, Melissa Bassett, Christal Battle, Lois Bauer, Bridget Bauer, Brittany Bauer, Brooke Bauer, Karen Baumgarn, Jodie Baxendale, Kirsten Baxendale, Alyx Baysinger, Malinda Beach, Maria Beaner, Leola Bear Runner, Pamela Beaudoin, Susan Beaudry, Danielle Bechtold, Katie Beck, Kimberly Beck, Alexis Beck, Aleacia Becker, Ashton Becker, Kennedy Becker, Nathan Becker, Hannah Beckwith, Kylie Behrens, Katherine Beitelspacher, Joyce Bekaert, Kelsey Beld, Kristy Bell, Hailey Bell, Sandra Bender, Rosemary Bender, Amanda Benedict, Natalie Bennett, Randa Bennett, Krystal Benning, Pamela Benson, Teresa Berg, Earleen Berge, Janelle Berghult, Colleen Bergjord, Betty Berglund.

Nicolle Berkner, Jessica Bernards, Beverly Bertram, Audra Bertram, Jessica Bertsch, Judy Bestgen, Denise Beutow, Jordan Beynon, Sarah Bickett, Brenda Biel, Teresa Bieri, Debra Bierman, Terian Bierstedt, Donna Bietz, Jody Biever, Tammy Bigley, Melany Binger, Kandice Binger, Kerri Binnebose, Jessica Bird, Lynn Birk, Yavodka Bishop, Christina Bishop, Kendra Bixby, Angela Bjorklund, Michelle Black Crow, Florence Black Feather, Sharon Blair, Kara Bland, Brailyn Blaskowski, Mary Blauvelt, Mary Bledsoe, Gaylene Bleyenberg, Julie Block, Jillian Block, Lacey Block, Sara Block, Tonya Bloom, Harley Blotsky, Kelsey Blue, Stacey Bochat, Amy Boe, Madeline Boe, Sharon Boekelheide, Janna Boelke, Tiffany Boelman, Jenna Boerger, Beth Boersma, Elizabeth Boettcher, Joyce Bogatz, Elizabeth Bogue, Kelli Bohls, Jodee Boland, Fern Boll, Rachel Bolli, Lynn Bolling, Carol Bolstad, Ann Bolton, Taylor Bone, Pauline Boneshirt, Lynette Bonnema, Sheri Borchard.

Amanda Borchert, Simone Bordeaux, Tamyra Borg, Marian Borg, Anastasia Borgmann, Chrissianna Bosavanh, Amanda Boschee, Christina Bossert, Tara Bossly, Tito Bostick, Latasha Boucher, Tori Boulais, Shannon Bouwman, Jamie Bovee, Deborah Bowar, Samantha Bowar, April Bowers, Tori Bowman, Tina Boxley, Stacey Boyd, Mayra Boyd, Laura Boyer, Sheryl Bradford, Yvonne Bradley,

Sarah Bradley, Melanie Bradshaw, Lauren Brame, Krisia Bramer, Hope Brandell, Nicole Brandt, Lindsey Brandt, Abbie Bratland, Sandra Bratsveen, Gayle Braun, Tamara Braun, Kim Breece, Erica Brenner, Heidi Bretsch, Erene Briese, Stacey Briese, Maribeth Briggle, Yvette Briley, Nola Brill, Cindy Brink, Rita Briscoe, Brandon Brist, Wendy Brockel, Marla Broderson, Tabitha Broman, Lisa Brown, Marlene Brown, Teela Brown, Tricia Brown, Ester Brown, Diane Brownback, Robin Bruce, Rebecca Brugger, Sara Bruner, Jaden Brunick, Amanda Bruns, Alicia Bruns, Marielle Bucklin.

JennieKay Budd, Lynette Bue, Andrew Bueber, Jeannette Buelow, Shannon Buelow, Samantha Bullington, Darla Bult, Stephanie Bunger, Margaret Bunker, Nicole Buntrock, Marjane Burgard, Melissa Burge, Raegan Burke, Markee Burnor, Maralynn Burns, Shauntae Burns, Morgan Burns, Katrina Burns, Axanthia Bursing, Haylee Burtan, Jocelyn Burtnett, Christine Burton, Alexis Burtzlaff, Leigh Bury, Melissa Bury, Madalyn Busch, Laura Buseman, Michelle Busskohl, Ann'D Butcher, Michelle Buus, Lexi Buxcel, Lauren Buysse, Tina Bye, Svetlana Bykov, Lee Bymers, Julie Byrum, Andrea Cable, Lynelle Caldwell, Tabatha Calhoon, Christie Callaghan, Erin Calvert, Ashley Campbell, Teresa Campbell, William Campbell, Heather Caplinn, Alison Capps, Heather Capps, Gina Carda, Rebecca Carey, Jessica Carl, Joan Carlin, Angela Carlson, Toni Carlson, Tracy Carlson, Brianna Carlson, Elizabeth Carlson, Kimberly Carnes, Kathleen Caron, Courtney Carpenter, Amy Carr, Lisa Miller, Madison Anderson, Nicole Graue, Jodi Fuerst, Jay Bain, Debra Wolfe, Debra Oftedahl, Doriann Lebeau, Lisa Baldridge, and Ashley Feyereisen.

Over the past year, they have faced challenges most of us cannot even imagine. They have shown incredible resolve in the face of adversity. They have shown us all how to seek positivity and hope in each day as we weather the storms that come our way.

I couldn't be more thankful to represent the incredible people across South Dakota and all over the nation who work hard each day, not for fame, not for recognition or for money, but for the betterment of their communities. This is what makes America strong. I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize these hard-working individuals.

RECOGNIZING DETECTIVE TONYA DAVIS IN HONOR OF WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Madam Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I rise today to recognize Detective Tonya Davis, whose dedication towards protecting and serving her community has left an unforgettable mark on Southern Florida.

Born in Kentucky, Tonya moved to the Naples area with her family at a young age, and still resides there today. Wanting to serve her community, in 1999 Tonya joined the Collier County Sheriffs Office as a 9–1–1 dispatcher. For four years, she worked in the communications division and then became certified as a law enforcement officer, where, in 2003 she began serving as a road patrol deputy. In 2007, Tonya became a detective with the General Crimes Bureau and uses her expertise to support victims and investigate crimes such as arson, fraud, larceny, and burglary.

Detective Davis has a continued passion to learn and better herself. In 2009, she received her associate degree, magna cum laude, in criminal justice technology from Edison State College. In 2011, she remained at Edison State College and obtained her bachelor's degree, summa cum laude, in public safety administration. Still eager to learn, Tonya graduated summa cum laude from Barry University with her master's in administration.

Those that know her best describe Detective Davis as selfless, dedicated, and committed to serving her community. Throughout her career, Tonya has received numerous accolades, and has proven to be an officer that her community can trust and depend on. She is determined to make schools in Collier County a safer place for students, an initiative which I have also fought for throughout my time in Congress. Detective Davis has touched the lives of thousands of students and continues to find ways to give back to Collier County.

Madam Speaker, I cannot speak more highly of Detective Davis's service to Southern Florida. She has proven time and again to be a reliable and trustworthy individual, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this outstanding individual.

RECOGNIZING JESSE TOLLESON FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank Mr. Jesse Tolleson for his years of service to the United States Congress and congratulate him on his transition to commercial industry. A graduate of James Madison University, Jesse has served our country for over 22 years beginning as a Staff Assistant on the Armed Services Committee and became one of the few people in our committee's history to promote directly into a Professional Staff Member position.

Since 1999, Jesse has been responsible for evaluating and making recommendations for legislation, policy, and the authorization of appropriations across the entire spectrum of issues within the jurisdiction of the Tactical Air and Land Forces Subcommittee. This is a significant responsibility as the complexity and volume of aviation, maritime and ground-based weapon systems, equipment, and programs in the subcommittee's jurisdiction includes hundreds of items valued in the tens of billions of dollars. Committee members have always recognized and depended upon Jesse's intelligence, command of programmatic and policy details, and uncompromising insistence on the objective facts from the defense agencies and industry.

Over these years, Jesse's recommendations have contributed to the readiness and modernization of our Armed Forces. It is no overstatement to say that Jesse's determination and commitment in the early years of the wars in the Middle East, especially his work in support of congressional acceleration of the development and procurement of improved body armor and Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicles, saved the lives of many service members who served in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere. The bipartisan and bicameral success that the Armed Services Committee has enjoyed for the last 22 years is due in no small part to Jesse Tolleson's professionalism, integrity, devotion to the committee's traditions, and collegiality.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the House Armed Services Committee, we extend our deepest appreciation to Jesse for his dedicated and selfless service to the committee, the Congress, and the military and civilian personnel of the Armed Forces. We wish him and his family all the best as they start this next chapter.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

HON. MADELEINE DEAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Ms. DEAN. Madam Speaker, yesterday, I was delighted to join my colleagues in voting in favor of the American Rescue Plan.

This transformative legislation will provide: shots in arms; kids safely in schools; needed cash in pockets; support to our small businesses, including restaurants and catering that have been hit the hardest; $13 billion to my home state of Pennsylvania; and $161 million to Montgomery County and $81 million to Berks County—where my district resides.

It should not be lost on us that we passed this relief in women's history month.

With over 2.3 million women forced to leave the workforce—including 1 million mothers—the time to invest and reinvigorate our economy for everyone is now.

As the first female Secretary of the Treasury, Janet Yellen, recently said, To avoid the long-term scarring of the economy later, the smartest thing we can do is to act big and so we did.

We acted big boldly. Sending resources to the poor and working poor, we passed $1.9 trillion for the people. Help is on the way.

SUPPORT OF ARIZONA STATE HOUSE BILL 2111

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of Arizona State House Bill 2111, the "Second Amendment Firearm Freedom Act". This bill takes an originalist and strong stance on Arizonans' right to bear arms. I am grateful for the work by all members of the state legislature who introduced this legislation. I would especially like to thank State Representative Leo Biasucci for his support of the Second Amendment.

This legislation purports to allow the State of Arizona to protect the Second Amendment rights of its citizens, barring them from compliance with any restrictions or infringements that the federal government enacts as federal law.

Arizonans value sovereign state authority to the highest regard. Any infringements on their constitutionally protected rights are dangerous and federal overreach. I applaud Arizona HB 2111 and its clear purpose of refusing to allow any federal overreach into the state and its citizens.

The people of Arizona are strong supporters of the Second Amendment and the Constitution's clear permission of allowing American citizens to keep and bear arms. As such, this legislation is a great movement for the citizens of the great state of Arizona. I look forward to the day that Governor Ducey signs this legislation into official Arizona law.

Madam Speaker, Arizona's state motto is ''Ditat Deus,'' meaning ''God Enriches''. I hold this phrase dear to my heart, and I know the citizens of Arizona do also. Through God's enrichment, I'm confident the governments at the local, state, and federal level will see any infringements on constitutionally-protected rights as dangerous and un-American.

I pray for the future of this nation every day. I believe that Americans have the right to keep and bear arms. This legislation is a great step forward for the people of Arizona and their rights that are protected under the Arizona Constitution and the Constitution of the United States.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF BILLY ALEXANDER

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Billy Alexander, a dedicated public servant who worked tirelessly on behalf of childhood education in West Contra Costa County and throughout California.

Billy and his wife, Barbara, advocated for issues that affected children across our state. After Billy served in the Korean War as a member of the U.S. Army, Billy and Barbara returned to California and settled in Richmond to raise their family. Parents of eight children, the Alexanders took a direct role in the education process by first joining the Parent Teacher Association (PTA). This led to them participating in junior high and high school PTAs and School Advisory Councils, where they established themselves as a collective force for good in our community. Billy and Barbara would eventually become co-Chairs of the District Advisory Committee and spent 27 years in that role.

Billy and Barbara also displayed their knowledge of and passion for childhood education on the state and national levels. They participated in developing the California Strategic Plan for Parental Involvement in Education, and Billy served on the California Committee of Practitioners, which helped develop Title I plans for the state. He was appointed to the California Department of Education's Council of Black Affairs and to the Committee to Revise Title 5. Additionally, in 1977, the Alexanders won a California court case requiring school districts to ensure federal and state funds designated for Title I were actually used for that purpose. On a national level, Billy and Barbara served on the Board of Directors for the National Coalition of Title I/Chapter I Parents and on the National Council on Educating Black Children.

The Alexanders dedicated their lives to serving the needs of children in an effort to promote equitable educational opportunities. They touched the lives of countless families and created numerous programs benefiting the children and families of Richmond, including Vision of Hope—a weekend tutoring program that expanded to Summer of Hope, which operated as an alternative to summer school. They also created the Mother Hen/Chanticleer Awards to honor individuals who exceptionally served West Contra Costa Unified School District students. From helping parents become better advocates for their children to gifting books to students, the Alexanders worked diligently to create better and more equal opportunities for disadvantaged youth.

Billy and Barbara were married for 44 years until Barbara passed in 2001. Sadly, Billy passed away in November of 2020. Billy was a beloved resident of Richmond and a tremendous advocate for children and he will be missed. Please join me in honoring him for his many contributions to our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF DEREK MARTIN

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Derek Martin on receiving the Blair County Chamber of Commerce's Donna D. Gority Servant Leadership Award, which recognizes individuals who serve the Blair County community through their workplace.

As the COVID–19 pandemic changed life across America, Derek led Altoona Curve staff members in assisting businesses and individuals who were hardest hit in Blair County. He mentored others and offered support and encouragement to those who needed it most. Despite growing challenges, Derek continued his work to help our community weather this storm.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate Derek on this accomplishment and thank him for his service to the Blair County community.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1477–S1508

Measures Introduced: Forty-five bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 697–741, and S. Res. 105–108. **Pages S1500–01**

Measures Passed:

Pay of displaced staff: Senate agreed to S. Res. 108, to make technical corrections to the amendments made by Senate Resolution 30 (117th Congress) to Senate Resolution 458 (98th Congress). **Page S1507**

Girl Scouts of the United States: Senate agreed to S. Res. 106, recognizing Girl Scouts of the United States of America on its 109th birthday and celebrating its legacy of fostering civic action and community service among girls and creating leaders in Gold Award Girl Scouts, including the 2020 National Gold Award Girl Scouts. **Page S1507**

Women of the Aviation Workforce Week: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 96, designating March 8 through March 14, 2021, as ''Women of the Aviation Workforce Week'', and the resolution was then agreed to, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S1507**

Schumer (for Rosen) Amendment No. 1399, to amend the preamble. **Page S1507**

Appointments:

Canada-U.S. Interparliamentary Group: The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d–276g, as amended, appointed the following Senator as Vice Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the Canada-U.S. Interparliamentary Group conference during the 117th Congress: Senator Crapo. **Page S1507**

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: The Chair, on behalf of the Republican Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 99–93, as amended by Public Law 99–151, appointed the following Senators as members of the United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: Senators Grassley (Vice Chairman), Cornyn, and Risch. **Page S1507**

Canada-U.S. Interparliamentary Group: The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d–276g, as amended, appointed the following Senator as Chairman of the Senate Delegation to the Canada-U.S. Interparliamentary Group conference during the 117th Congress: Senator Klobuchar. **Page S1507**

Senate National Security Working Group: The Chair, on behalf of the Republican Leader, pursuant to the provisions of S. Res. 64, adopted March 5, 2013, appointed the following Senators as members of the Senate National Security Working Group for the 117th Congress: Senators Cornyn (Administrative Co-Chair), Fischer (Co-Chair), Sasse (Co-Chair), Rubio, Blunt, Graham, Inhofe, Risch, and Romney. **Pages S1507–08**

Motion to Discharge Becerra Nomination: By 51 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 117), Senate agreed to the motion to discharge the nomination of Xavier Becerra, of California, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, from the Committee on Finance. **Pages S1479–84**

Subsequently, the nomination was placed on the Executive Calendar pursuant to the provisions of S. Res. 27, relative to Senate procedure in the 117th Congress. **Page S1484**

Haaland Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Debra Anne Haaland, of New Mexico, to be Secretary of the Interior. **Pages S1484–96**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 54 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. EX. 118), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S1488**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, March 15, 2021; with all post-cloture time expiring at 5:30 p.m. **Page S1508**

Guzman Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Isabella Casillas

Guzman, of California, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration. **Page S1484**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Debra Anne Haaland, of New Mexico, to be Secretary of the Interior. **Page S1484**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S1484**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S1484**

Tai Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Katherine C. Tai, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador. **Page S1484**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Isabella Casillas Guzman, of California, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration. **Page S1484**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S1484**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S1484**

Nomination Discharged: The following nomination were discharged from further committee consideration and placed on the Executive Calendar:

Xavier Becerra, of California, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, which was sent to the Senate on January 20, 2021, from the Senate Committee on Finance. **Page S1484**

Messages from the House: **Page S1499**

Measures Referred: **Page S1499**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S1499**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1501–02**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S1502–06**

Additional Statements: **Page S1499**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S1506**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S1506–07**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—118) **Page S1484, S1488**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10:30 a.m. and adjourned at 4:02 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, March 15, 2021. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1508.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FARMERS AND FORESTERS

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine farmers and foresters, focusing on opportunities to lead in tackling climate change, after receiving testimony from Clay Pope, National Farmers Union, Loyal, Oklahoma; Mark Isbell, USA Rice, England, Arkansas; John Reifsteck, GROWMARK cooperative, Bloomington, Illinois, on behalf of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives; Stefanie Smallhouse, Arizona Farm Bureau Federation, Gilbert; and Cori Wittman Stitt, Environmental Defense Fund, Lapwai, Idaho.

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON MILITARY, NATIONAL, AND PUBLIC SERVICE

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the final recommendations and report of the National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service, after receiving testimony from former Representative Joseph J. Heck, Chairman, Debra S. Wada, Vice Chair, Military Service, and Alan Khazei, Commissioner, all of the National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of David Turk, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of Energy.

ELECTRIC SERVICE AND EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded 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, after receiving testimony from Mark A. Gabriel, Administrator, Western Area Power Administration, Department of Energy; James B. Robb, North American Electric Reliability Corporation, Atlanta, Georgia; Pat Wood, III, Hunt Energy Network, former Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Houston, Texas; Michael D. Shellenberger, Environmental Progress, Berkeley, California; and Manu Asthana, PJM Interconnection, Audubon, Pennsylvania.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Wendy Ruth Sherman, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary, and Brian P. McKeon, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Secretary for Management and Resources, both of the Department of State.

U.S. OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES AROUND THE WORLD

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee received a closed briefing on opportunities and challenges for the United States around the world from Antony Blinken, Secretary of State.

COMPETITION POLICY AND ANTITRUST REFORM

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights concluded a hearing to examine competition policy for the twenty-first century, focusing on the case for antitrust reform, after receiving testimony from George P. Slover, Consumer Reports, Ashley Baker, The Committee for Justice, Barry C. Lynn, Open Markets Institute, and Jan M. Rybnicek, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, all of Washington, D.C.; and Nancy L. Rose, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 84 public bills, H.R. 1783–1866; 1 private bills, H.R. 1867; and 12 resolutions, H. Res. 218–229, were introduced. **Pages H1351–56**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H1359**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2021: The House passed H.R. 8, to require a background check for every firearm sale, by a yea-and-nay vote of 227 yeas to 203 nays, Roll No. 75. Consideration began yesterday, March 10th. **Pages H1330–32**

Rejected the Jordan motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary, by a yea-and-nay vote of 207 yeas to 217 nays, Roll No. 74. **Page H1331**

H. Res. 188, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 842), (H.R. 8), and (H.R. 1446) was agreed to Monday, March 8th.

Enhanced Background Checks Act of 2021: The House passed 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 219 yeas to 210 nays, Roll No. 77. Consideration began yesterday, March 10th. **Pages H1332–34**

Rejected the Hudson motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary, by a yea-and-nay vote of 206 yeas to 212 nays, Roll No. 76. **Pages H1332–33**

H. Res. 188, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 842), (H.R. 8), and (H.R. 1446) was agreed to Monday, March 8th.

Making a technical correction to the ALS Disability Insurance Access Act of 2019: The House agreed to take from the Speaker's table and pass S. 579, to make a technical correction to the ALS Disability Insurance Access Act of 2019. **Page H1334**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1331, H1331–32, H1332–33, and H1333–34.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

Committee Meetings

A LOOK AT FOOD INSECURITY IN AMERICA

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''A Look at Food Insecurity in America''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL; GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a budget hearing on the Architect of the Capitol and the Government Publishing Office. Testimony was heard from J. Brett Blanton, Architect of the Capitol; and Hugh Halpern, Director, Government Publishing Office.

COVID–19 AND THE MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE CRISES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled ''COVID–19 and the Mental Health and Substance Use Crises''. Testimony was heard from Mark Stringer, Director, Missouri Department of Mental Health; and public witnesses.

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held an oversight hearing on the U.S. Postal Service. Testimony was heard from Louis DeJoy, United States Postmaster General, U.S. Postal Service.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Education and Labor: Full Committee held a business meeting on new subcommittee assignments. Subcommittee assignments were approved.

CLEARING THE AIR: SCIENCE–BASED STRATEGIES TO PROTECT WORKERS FROM COVID–19 INFECTIONS

Committee on Education and Labor: Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing entitled ''Clearing the Air: Science-Based Strategies to Protect Workers from COVID–19 Infections''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

KIDS ONLINE DURING COVID: CHILD SAFETY IN AN INCREASINGLY DIGITAL AGE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce held a hearing entitled ''Kids Online During COVID: Child Safety in an Increasingly Digital Age''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SLIPPING THROUGH THE CRACKS: POLICY OPTIONS TO HELP AMERICA'S CONSUMERS DURING THE PANDEMIC

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Financial Institutions held a hearing entitled ''Slipping Through the Cracks: Policy Options to Help America's Consumers During the Pandemic''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE CRISIS IN YEMEN: PART 1

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa and Global Counterterrorism held a hearing entitled ''The Crisis in Yemen: Part 1''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES: FEDERAL POLICIES AND ENFORCEMENT

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security held a hearing entitled ''Controlled Substances: Federal Policies and Enforcement''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR CONGRESS'S ABILITY TO UPHOLD STANDARDS OF MEMBER CONDUCT

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties held a hearing entitled ''The Constitutional Framework for Congress's Ability to Uphold Standards of Member Conduct''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BUILDING BACK BETTER: BUILDING RESILIENCE FOR THE ECONOMY, CLIMATE, AND ECOSYSTEMS

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held a hearing entitled ''Building Back Better: Building Resilience for the Economy, Climate, and Ecosystems''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

TAX TOOLS TO HELP LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures held a hearing entitled ''Tax Tools to Help Local Governments''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2021

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Appropriations, 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.

Committee on Armed Services, 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 Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Policy Recommendations on Haiti for the Biden Administration'', 10 a.m., Webex.

Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Committee Funding for the 117th Congress'', 12 p.m., Webex.

Committee on the Judiciary, 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, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''The Science Behind Impacts of the Climate Crisis'', 11 a.m., Webex.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

3 p.m., Monday, March 15

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Debra Anne Haaland, of New Mexico, to be Secretary of the Interior, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon on at 5:30 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10:30 a.m., Friday, March 12

House Chamber

Program for Friday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 10:30 a.m.

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