United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 167 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2021 No. 64

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. COSTA).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 14, 2021.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JIM COSTA to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

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

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

IN RECOGNITION OF RICHARD BUCHANAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the former city of Bloomington council member, mayor, and McLean County board member, Mr. Richard Buchanan. He was a clearly dedicated public servant who dedicated more than four decades of his life to serving the taxpayers. Sadly, Rich passed away on March 30.

Rich grew up in Clinton, and graduated from Northern Illinois University, where he met the love of his life, Judy. After graduation, Richard spent 6 years serving his country in the U.S. Army Reserve. Outside of public service, he had an enduring career spanning 30 years at State Farm and raised three children alongside Judy. His leadership to Bloomington and McClean County will truly be missed.

My prayers are with his wife, Judy, his children, and all those who called Richard a friend.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF PATRICIA EVERHART REESE

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Patricia Everhart Reese of Taylorville, a teacher and beloved community member, and my friend, who passed away on November 3, 2020.

Pat taught with the Taylorville School District for many years and was influential with the development of the Lincoln Land Literacy Program. She also spent time teaching at the Taylorville Correctional Center.

Pat, of course, took on many other roles in the community. One, being mentor to me, and also, she was the First Lady of Taylorville for 16 years and the Republican County chairwoman for 25 years, but her service never stopped.

Pat leaves a lasting impact on the Taylorville community and will be remembered as a great friend to so many.

My prayers are with her husband, Dan, and their entire family at this time.

RECOGNIZING PATTY HORNBUCKLE

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Patty Hornbuckle for her leadership and service to Taylorville and Christian County, Illinois.

I had the privilege to work with Patty in her role as the CEO of the Greater Taylorville Chamber of Commerce. The chamber is the driving force to attract new businesses, residents, and tourists in our hometown.

During Patty's tenure, the chamber experienced significant growth in membership and increase in revenue through fundraising and the expansion of the chamber's signature event, ''The Taylorville Chilifest.''

Patty is certainly going to be missed. While we will miss her, her leadership has set up the chamber to continue its successful service to our community for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to send my heartfelt congrats to my friend, Patty, her husband, Greg, and also her family.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JOHN CURTIN

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember John Curtin of Taylorville.

John was my neighbor, a farmer, and active community member, who was our longtime county board chair, and he passed away on March 10 of 2021.

John began farming in Christian County in 1957. He served 12 years as the cattle superintendent at the Illinois State Fair and president of the Illinois Angus Association. In 1984, he was designated master farmer by Prairie Farmer.

John was a dedicated servant and leader to his community. And as I mentioned, he served on the county board as chair, but he was on the board for 40 years. The Taylorville Chamber of Commerce awarded him with a lifetime achievement award in recognition of his community service.

John was a fellow parishioner within the Holy Trinity Catholic parish as part of St. Mary's in Stonington, in Taylorville, and his legacy will be remembered forever.

My prayers are with his brothers, six children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

HONORING TODD HANNEKEN

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Illinois

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State Trooper, Todd Hanneken, of Decatur, Illinois, who lost his life on March 25.

Todd fulfilled his lifelong dream of becoming a state trooper. He was a 20-year veteran of the Illinois State Police and always went above and beyond the call of duty.

In 2018, Todd was awarded the Illinois State Police Medal of Honor for heroic actions he took to rescue a man out of a burning car, ultimately saving that man's life.

For so many, Todd was more than a state trooper. He was a husband, father, son, brother, and beloved friend. Those that knew Todd will remember him for his kindness and compassion. Todd cared deeply about his community, always wanting to help others in need.

A tragic accident took Todd's life, and my prayers are with his friends and family, both at home and with the State Police, and particularly his wife, Shelley; and sons, Ben and Nick. Todd was a hero in every sense of the word and will truly be missed.

RECOGNIZING U.S. CAPITOL POLICE FORCE

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, in March, the House passed legislation to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the men and women of the U.S. Capitol Police for their heroism on January 6 and for their daily efforts to protect the institutions of our democracy.

On April 3, once again, we saw an example, of not only the dangers in which they place themselves through their service, but also the courage they bring to that service.

In the short span of fewer than 100 days, the U.S. Capitol force lost three members as a result of attacks on the Capitol complex. Yesterday, we honored one of those Capitol policemen, Billy Evans. But in a real sense, we honored every member of the United States Capitol Police.

Some years ago, I lost a member of the Capitol Police who lived in my district, J.J. Chestnut. Wendy, his wife, was at the ceremony yesterday for Billy Evans. That was in 1998. He and Officer Gibson lost their lives in defending this Capitol on that date. And while a Congressional Gold Medal is a very fitting tribute, it can neither lessen the grief felt by their fellow officers nor reduce the sense of unease that so many of them must still be feeling today.

Mr. Speaker, this has been a challenging time for the Congress and for all of us, but it certainly has been a time of challenge for the Capitol Police force. And surely the force will be going through a period of change and adaptation for some time to come, as will all of us who serve here in the Capitol complex.

Mr. Speaker, I want to talk a moment on this floor to say thank you for those who still stand watch at the doors and the vehicle barriers, who patrol the neighborhoods and the office buildings, who sit ready to respond quickly and courageously to any emergency, never knowing what the next alarm might bring.

Mr. Speaker, in particular, I thank the men and women who have served on the security detail that the Capitol Police have assigned to me in my role as majority leader. You get to know them as friends, as protectors, and as family.

Since being elected to House leadership, I have been privileged to know some of the best of the force. They are representative of an extraordinary group of people. In order to protect their safety and privacy, I will not share their names, but they know who they are. Each and every one of them not only have my immense gratitude and respect, but they have the admiration of my entire staff, whom they have gotten to know very well.

Mr. Speaker, again, as I know them, I know that they are representative of an extraordinary group of people that we call the United States Capitol Police.

On January 6, when the rioters first breached the Capitol's defenses, these officers acted without delay, according to their training, to get me quickly to a safe location, but they couldn't get everybody. And so many were still in this Chamber as the insurrectionists cried for the lives of Members of Congress.

Capitol Police checked in with staff and did their best to get us information in a situation that was chaotic and rapidly changing for us, but more importantly, for them on the front lines. My security detail until the last Congress had been led by an officer, who now serves in the force in a more senior capacity. He was by my side almost every day for nearly two decades. I came to know him and his family well, just as I have other members of my detail. As I said, they are like family to all of us in the majority leader's office. I know that is true of the minority leader's office and the whip's office and the Speaker's office and the Democratic whip's office, and our Senate counterparts.

The senior officer on my detail formerly was present at the Capitol on January 6, and he acted heroically, and he was the one that tried to save the life of the woman who was shot—who was an insurrectionist—because he stood next to her, unarmed, when that incident occurred. He acted heroically in trying to keep the rioters away from the House Chamber and in responding when one of them was shot in the hallway, as I just pointed out.

I know that the events of that day still weigh very heavily on him and on each of us—on his colleagues, on all of us. And I hope that he and his colleagues know that their grief weighs heavily on all of us whom they protect and serve.

President Joseph Biden, in speaking yesterday to the family of Officer Evans, showed empathy. He showed that he felt their pain, their concerns, their trauma. And I would urge all my colleagues, when you see members of the United States Capitol Police, uniformed or in plain clothes, that you thank them.

Mr. Speaker, I talked about Officer Chestnut. Wendy, his wife, as I said, was here yesterday. He was shot in the back by the assailant, who then shot Officer Gibson in the office that I now occupy. It was Tom DeLay's office at that point in time.

Mr. Speaker, we thank them, we honor them, but the way we really need to respond to them is to make sure they have the resources, the training, the equipment, and the authority to respond to those who confront them with violence and fatal force.

We lost Officer Sicknick. This Capitol was invaded because there were restraints, frankly, on the United States Capitol Police. We need to make sure that they have the authority to respond, to protect this Capitol, this democracy, our Members, our staff, the visitors to this Capitol, but also, importantly, themselves.

We know that this is a difficult moment and the Capitol Police force is facing challenges like never before in its 193-year history.

In the early 1960s, I worked here as an intern in a United States Senator's office, and I had a number of friends who also were in law school or some other school, who were ''Capitol cops'' we called them. Thankfully, the risks were minimal. That is not true today. And as the risks are great, we must respond robustly to ensure that we have the capacity and the will to meet those risks.

Mr. Speaker, may God bless and protect our U.S. Capitol Police officers.

□ 1015

PROTECTING AMERICANS' CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, the Second Amendment is a fundamental piece of the U.S. Constitution. The right to keep and bear arms is one of Americans' inalienable freedoms. This has been true for centuries, and despite what the White House would like you to think, this is still true.

Right now, the left is advancing unprecedented threats to Americans' Second Amendment rights. Just last week, the President rolled out two executive orders that would restrict the rights of law-abiding citizens. The President proudly announced that he is willing to undercut our core constitutional liberties. With his pen and, I might add, without Congress, the President can singlehandedly unravel our rights.

Mr. Speaker, I fear that we are embarking on a perilous path. Now, more than ever, we must recommit to protecting this vital freedom.

Instead of stripping away Americans' constitutional rights, the U.S. Government should be focused on enforcing law and order. Instead of stripping away Americans' constitutional rights, the U.S. Government should be focused on securing our southern border. Instead of stripping away Americans' constitutional rights, the U.S. Government should be focused on protecting our citizens from gang violence, stopping human trafficking, and stopping the illicit drugs that cross our porous southern border.

The President is correct that we have a public health crisis. We have a public health crisis on the southern border. While the Commander in Chief spends time plotting ways to subvert the U.S. Constitution, the brave men and women of U.S. Customs and Border Protection are encountering record numbers of migrants attempting to cross the border unlawfully.

Last month alone, border agents encountered more than 170,000 migrants, a colossal 400 percent increase from the same time last year. Yes, this is indeed a crisis. But the problem is not with the law-abiding citizens. The problem is not with the Second Amendment.

Here in Washington, our leaders need to get their priorities in order. We need to uphold our oath to defend the U.S. Constitution. We need to defend the American people from foreign threats. And we need to protect our fundamental freedoms.

COMMITTING TO RECONCILIATION

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise because I love my country.

And, Mr. Speaker, I rise today understanding that we are in mourning. Our country is grieving. There are many reasons for this, but we still haven't acknowledged that there is something we can do to eliminate some of the mourning and grieving.

We are mourning because police officers are being murdered. Many have been murdered across the length and breadth of the country. We are mourning because persons are losing their lives at the hand of the police. Many have lost their lives. We are in a state of mourning, but it goes back far beyond George Floyd, Breanna Taylor, Sandra Bland. It goes back to really the founding of the country because we have not atoned for some of our transgressions. Literally, we have committed crimes against humanity for which we have not atoned.

Slavery was a crime against humanity; we have not atoned. What we did to the indigenous population was a crime against humanity; we have not atoned. The internment of the Japanese, based upon our xenophobia, we have not atoned. Banning Chinese from the country, we have not atoned. What we did to Muslims, banning them from the country, we have not atoned.

There must be atonement. We have to reconcile. We did not do so in 1868, as it relates to slavery. We should have, but we had a President who was antithetical to it, Andrew Johnson.

So, I am going to offer a resolution, a resolution to create a department of reconciliation such that we can accomplish our atonement, get out of this grieving, and bring our country together.

When we had a systemic need for dealing with agriculture, we created a Department of Agriculture. When commerce was in need of some help, we created a Department of Commerce. We have a Department of Labor because labor needs the kinds of legislation and the kinds of benefits that a Congress can accord labor, the persons who actually work for a living. When we needed defense, we created a Department of Defense and a Department of Homeland Security.

So, I am proposing that we have a department of reconciliation so we can deal with the issues that have haunted this country for centuries. A department of reconciliation with a secretary of reconciliation, a department of reconciliation with a budget, a department of reconciliation with under secretaries so that we can accomplish our atonement with a department of reconciliation. It can be done.

I am not asking for a commission. This is about a commitment. A department indicates that you are committed to a cause. We were committed to labor; that is why we have a Department of Labor. We were committed to education; that is why we have a Department of Education. We now need a department of reconciliation, a commitment to ending this long, sorrowful grieving that we have suffered over the years so that we can understand each other better and work together better with each other.

If we fail to do this, if we fail to reconcile, Dr. King's words will become our greatest nightmare. He indicated that we must learn to live together as brothers and, I would add, sisters, or we will perish together as fools. We need a department of reconciliation. I will introduce a resolution for such.

KEEPING FOOD ON AMERICANS' TABLES

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, last month, the House Agriculture Committee hosted its first, or at least more fulsome, attempt at publicly reviewing the pandemic and Congress' response.

This pandemic has infiltrated our lives in every sense possible. Unfortunately, the brunt of it was borne by our communities and, in particular, families already living paycheck to paycheck. In too many instances, arrogant career politicians issued statewide, indiscriminate edicts, forcing businesses and schools to shut their doors, plummeting our communities into a deep recession.

As the end of the pandemic nears, I hope we can use what we learned in that hearing to provide these families with more holistic services, particularly as they engage in a postpandemic economy that will look wildly different.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, currently provides nutrition assistance to 43 million individuals, with an average individual benefit of $183. Total SNAP-related spending in fiscal year 2020 was $78.9 billion, which includes benefits, administration, nutrition education, employment and training, and program integrity. Of that $78.9 billion, $74.2 billion was solely for benefits.

By way of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, and the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, more than $37.8 billion has been appropriated to respond to the supplemental nutrition assistance needs of our communities.

This monumental response is in addition to the more than $7.7 billion per month in standard SNAP benefits. Beyond direct funding from Congress, the former and current administrations have issued more than 4,000 administrative waivers to States. These waivers impact operations related to program eligibility, distribution of benefits, employment and training, and more.

These facts are startling. Combined with myriad social service policies, including those found in the shortsighted, outrageously naive American Rescue Plan, we are in the midst of our Nation's second-largest expansion of entitlements.

Unsurprisingly, leading economists and Wall Street analysts have said key parts of that bill are poorly targeted to the specific needs of the crisis. As a friend in southwest Missouri recently said, unnecessary rescue diminishes a person's dignity and, if repeated enough, gives way to debilitating dependency.

The witnesses who joined us for the hearing are our everyday heroes. They are the folks who responded without hesitation to the needs of their communities infested by a pandemic that took the lives of hundreds of thousands of our friends, neighbors, and family members. Whether it be the farmer who chose to donate their crop or the food bank that opened additional sites to be more accommodating, the witnesses who testified deserve our thanks.

I must also applaud the Department, particularly the former administration. Like it or lump it, the bulk of the

response originated in the last Congress under President Trump. Quick-thinking folks implemented Pandemic-EBT and the Farmers to Families Food Box Program, two projects that remain remarkably beneficial to families in need.

The latter, apparently terminating this morning, as I found out through the press, fell victim to inconceivable criticism. There is always room for more solutions to the needs of our Nation.

The Farmers to Families Food Box Program had open eligibility, making certain anyone and everyone in need, regardless of status, income, or household size, has supplementary access to meat, dairy, and produce in an unprecedented time of crisis. This program provided more than 156 million boxes to households across the United States. With this program, farmers were able to redirect their products, and American workers were able to sustain their employment or join new ventures, all to ensure fresh foods found their way into the homes of millions in need.

Regardless of the cherry-picked hiccups this committee and USDA's listening sessions were made aware of, the program worked exactly as intended. Shamefully, and because this was the brainchild of President Trump, the Biden administration has decided again to ignore rural America and continue to fund programs that favor billion-dollar organizations in the cities that they serve.

CALLING FOR RECOGNITION OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GREEN of Texas). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. COSTA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 106th anniversary of the Armenian genocide.

The first genocide of the 20th century, the atrocity saw the massacre of more than 1.5 million men, women, and children at the hands of the Ottoman Empire.

As a young boy in Fresno, my Armenian friends told me the stories of the horrors that their parents and grandparents witnessed. They never forgot the tragedy, and neither will I.

After decades of inaction, both the House and the Senate passed resolutions in 2019, calling for the recognition of the Armenian genocide. It is my hope that the Biden administration will officially recognize these crimes against humanity.

□ 1030

Just this past year, we witnessed another atrocity against the Armenian people in Artsakh. There is no denying the attacks made by Azerbaijan and Turkey were premeditated and coordinated in an effort to eliminate the indigenous Armenian population of Artsakh.

No words on our part can undo the terror and brutality suffered by Armenians, but actions can. We can learn from these atrocities and commit ourselves to ensuring that something like this never happens again, for starters, by requiring that Azerbaijan and Turkey comply with their agreement to release prisoners of war and civilians held captive by Azerbaijan.

It is time the United States reestablish its presence in this part of the world by standing up for human rights.

CRITICAL NEED FOR INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address also a critical need for infrastructure in America. It is time that we build new transportation systems and rehabilitate structures to support a modern economy and a way of life in the 21st century. President Biden's American jobs plan is an attempt to do just that with historic investments in improving infrastructure and putting millions of people to work. We need that.

The goals of this plan is to help all Americans. I urge my Republican colleagues to help forge a bipartisan package to invest in America.

When it comes to transportation, California is leading the way by building the Nation's first sustainable, true state-of-the-art high-speed rail project. It will deliver a fast, reliable, and eco-friendly way to connect to Los Angeles, to the bay area, and ultimately 80 percent of the State's population, getting cars off the roads and cleaning our air.

It will spur an investment in the economy that will deal with the economic fallout of the pandemic, creating reliable, good paying jobs; supporting small businesses; and investing in socially disadvantaged communities. In my home of California's San Joaquin Valley, we are already seeing the benefits of high-speed rail.

My legislation, the High Speed Rail Corridor Development Act of 2021, will help fund this forward-thinking project and other rail corridors across the Nation.

Big projects we know are hard. They always have been. So bold action, if we are serious about improving our future, is necessary. Since I first came to Congress, it has been one of my highest priorities to invest in America's infrastructure.

What do I mean by this?

Investing in our Nation's water infrastructure, a 21st century system of transportation, nationwide broadband, and our schools are all investments that the majority of Americans want to see us make.

The debate we are engaged in now is how we define and what we can agree on in terms of infrastructure and how we pay for it because we must.

So let's show the American people that their government can work together and make important investments that are long overdue that will benefit America and regain our lead. Today, we rank 13th in the world in terms of infrastructure. That is not the place America ought to be. We need to make these investments in our people and in our country, which are good investments that will pay dividends for future Americans and future generations to come.

HONORING MATTHEW GRUDA

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Matt Gruda, my senior adviser and someone who has become both a friend and a confidant.

Matt will be departing our team and beginning a new and exciting chapter in his home State of Florida, and I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Matt and the remarkable work he has done for our team over the past 2 years.

Matt joined our team in 2019, and quickly became an asset to both our team and our district. His expertise, sincerity, thoughtfulness, quick wit, and always pleasant demeanor made him fast friends with so many in our community with a wide range of personalities for sure. He has touched so many lives, and he has made more of an impact than he realizes.

Mr. Speaker, I could rattle off a list of wins and crucial behind-the-scenes tasks attributed to Matt, but we would be standing here for quite a while. So to be brief, I want to thank him from the bottom of my heart for his many incredible efforts not just for Team FITZPATRICK, but for so many organizations, schools, businesses, local government officials, municipalities, and the people across Pennsylvania's First Congressional District.

Matt does all things with passion, and he has given so much of his heart to our community. So much of what has been accomplished over the past 2 years would not have been possible without Matt's contributions.

Matt's drive, determination, positivity, and compassion are a winning combination and truly a rarity in this world. I believe this is why he has been and will continue to be so successful in all walks of life. He recognizes the importance and value in differing opinions and how we can learn from those who think differently from us; and to produce success, we often need to think outside the box; and to best serve our community and our country, we must give everything we have and never give up. He has led our team for over 2 years in this manner, inspiring creativity, collaboration, and passion throughout the ranks.

Matt's most admirable quality is his resiliency. I have spoken to Matt's mom, Zena, who talked about the fact that his road to get here was full of challenges, bumps, twists, and turns; yet he faces each one of them with an open mind and looks at them as an opportunity to learn and to improve and grow better.

From an early age, Matt's love of baseball was apparent. He would spend hours and hours practicing and throwing a ball against a wall; and once on the field, his eyes and smile reflected his unbridled enthusiasm and deep-rooted passion for the game. On the field, he was in complete control and nothing else mattered. Simply to be there in uniform along with his teammates was a great feeling for him.

Then, in seventh grade, he developed a tumor on his spine. After three extensive surgeries, Mr. Speaker, he was told he could not play the game anymore. For most kids, that heart-wrenching gut punch would be a pivotal moment in their life, one in which they would give up in defeat. But not Matt Gruda. Faced with a challenge and the unknown, he decided to seize on the opportunity, becoming the youngest assistant coach and umpire in the history of the league. He confronted his adversity, not viewing it as a stumbling block, but as a stepping stone to success. He has continued to build stepping stones to success with every challenge he has faced.

In speaking with the people who know Matt best, they described him as someone who does not hold a grudge; someone who is always looking on the bright side of things; someone who is kind, considerate, and is always eager to make you smile; someone who is a good friend, a caring brother, and a wonderful son; and someone whom you would always want on your team.

I know that I am grateful to have had Matt on our team for the past 2 years. He will always have an honorary spot on our bench. As a mentor, Mr. Speaker, I stand here today very proud of what Matt has accomplished and so excited for him to take this next chapter by storm. He is a bright, talented, and determined young man, and I look forward to seeing all that he will accomplish in life.

On behalf of our entire team and our entire community, we thank Matt.

INFRASTRUCTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COSTA). The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) for 5 minutes.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, during times of crisis and upheaval, societies have a unique opportunity to reimagine themselves, to fix wrongs, and to make themselves better than they were previously. The pandemic of 1917 created the Roaring Twenties. The aftermath of the Civil War brought railroads, canals, and bridges to connect us. The Great Depression gave us the New Deal.

After the devastation of the COVID pandemic and the truth reveal of our systemic problems of racism, economic inequality, wealth and healthcare disparities, we must use this time and this opportunity to not only forge forward, but to correct wrongs. While the American Rescue Plan is changing the course of the pandemic and delivering relief for working families, this is not the time to build back the way things were. This is a moment to reimagine and rebuild a new economy.

The American jobs plan is an investment in America that will create millions of good jobs, rebuild our country's infrastructure, and position this United States to outcompete China and other nations. The American jobs plan will invest in America in a way that we have not invested since we built the interstate highways and won the space race.

The United States of America is the wealthiest country in the world, yet we rank 13th when it comes to overall quality of our infrastructure. Public domestic investment as a share of the economy has fallen more than 40 percent since the 1960s. After decades of disinvestment, our roads, bridges, and water systems are crumbling. Our electric grid is vulnerable to catastrophic outages. Too many lack access to affordable high-speed internet and to quality housing.

The past year has led to job losses and threatened economic security, eroding more than 30 years of progress in women's labor force participation. It has unmasked the fragility of our caregivers' infrastructure. It has never been more important for us to invest in strengthening our infrastructure and our competitiveness, and in creating good paying union jobs of the future.

This must include a 21st century infrastructure—deployment of broadband and closing the digital divide in this country—creating the modern bridge that will unite and create more economic and opportunity equity in our country.

Unlike past major investments, President Biden's plan also prioritizes addressing longstanding and persistent racial injustice. The plan targets 40 percent of the benefit of climate and clean infrastructure investments to disadvantaged communities. The investment of $100 billion in broadband internet will be the component that will make America a leader, an innovator, once again.

Broadband internet is the new electricity. It is necessary for Americans to do their jobs; to create jobs; to participate equally in school learning, healthcare, and to stay connected. It is estimated, however, that 10 percent—over 30 million Americans—live in areas where there is inadequate or no broadband infrastructure. Americans living in rural areas, on Tribal lands, and in the territories particularly lack adequate access. Even in our urban areas, many have stark differences in access to internet and to jobs.

President Biden's American jobs plan is visionary and exactly what people across this country have been asking from our Nation's leaders for years, even decades. Representing the Virgin Islands, I am especially excited about his focus on building infrastructure that is resilient to our changing climate, electrifying our highway system, investing heavily in transit and other cleaner mobility options, and working to eliminate the digital divide.

In announcing his plan, the President has taken our voices—the voices in Congress—and has put those words into action. The American jobs plan will not only make bold transformational investment in our Nation's transportation infrastructure, it will do so with an emphasis on creating good paying jobs, supporting American manufacturing, and investing in rural and urban communities alike.

Earlier this year, the New Democrat Coalition unveiled our agenda for the first 100 days of the 117th Congress. The New Dems share the Biden-Harris administration's vision to build back better, and we will work together to move our country forward.

We must rebuild our communities and our economy better than before with the American jobs plan. Now is the time to think boldly with a once-in-a-century investment to create millions of good–paying jobs.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF RC–135S CRASH IN ALASKA 2020

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

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the anniversary of the tragic loss of a 55th Wing RC–135 Cobra Ball aircraft on the remote island of Shemya, Alaska.

Forty years ago last month, Cobra Ball tail number 2664 crashed on approach to Shemya Air Force Base, a rugged outpost on the far western tip of the Aleutian Islands. Six brave American airmen perished in the fiery crash that day, an eternal reminder of the cost of the Cold War and the price of vigilance we too often take for granted.

The RC–135 reconnaissance aircraft—designated Cobra Ball—is designed to rapidly collect telemetry and special intelligence on ballistic missiles in flight. Throughout the Cold War and to the present day, reconnaissance crews from the 55th Wing are dispatched on short notice around the world to fly the RC–135 to gather technical intelligence on weapons tests that cannot be obtained by any other method. This information is used to verify treaty compliance and to support the continuous development of America's strategic and theater missile defense capabilities.

Throughout the Cold War, the Strategic Air Command kept the Cobra Ball on a continuous 24-hour alert status on Shemya Island in the northern Pacific, affectionately known as The Rock. Their job was to launch at a moment's notice to keep a watchful eye on Soviet ballistic missile tests conducted from the Kamchatka Peninsula.

On March 15, 1981, the 24 crewmembers on board the RC–135 tail number 61–2664 were en route to Shemya

from Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska, where they had been waiting for the weather at Shemya to clear. Blizzard conditions and extreme crosswinds were ravaging the small exposed island. This weather was not uncommon, just another day at the office for 55th Wing aircrew. However, after receiving clearance to land, weather conditions deteriorated rapidly.

□ 1045

Firsthand accounts from crewmembers onboard describe the violent buffeting they experienced on descent as like being on the end of a yo-yo. The belly of the aircraft struck the edge of a cliff on the approach end of the runway, shearing off the landing gear. As the damaged aircraft slammed into the runway, engines three and four exploded and the fuselage broke in half. Flames engulfed the crew compartment as the disintegrating aircraft slid 2,000 feet, eventually careening off the runway and down a hill.

The scene was chaotic as crewmembers worked to free themselves and their teammates from the burning wreckage while the blizzard raged. Miraculously, 18 crewmembers escaped from the flames that day. Their bodies burned and broken, they worked feverishly to extract their fellow airmen from the fiery wreckage.

In the end, six men died on that lonely airfield that day. Their names were:

Major William Bennett,
Captain Larry Mayfield,
First Lieutenant Loren Ginter,
Master Sergeant Stephen Kish,
Staff Sergeant Steven Balcer, and
Staff Sergeant Harry Parsons, III.

We honor their service and their sacrifice and commend their spirit to the Creator. We pray for their families and loved ones who cherish their memory. We also honor the survivors of this tragic crash who will forever bear the scars of their service and the memory of that day. May we never forget what they gave to the cause of freedom, and that it was the dedication of warriors like these that won the Cold War. And may we pledge to honor their sacrifice by recommitting ourselves to eternal vigilance in the defense of freedom.

PROTECTING QUALITY OF LIFE OF VETERANS IS A TOP PRIORITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. LURIA) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. LURIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2368, the COVENANT Act, legislation to ensure our Nation's veterans can receive the benefits they deserve after being exposed to toxic substances in the course of their service.

Mr. Speaker, protecting the quality of life of our veterans is a top priority of this Congress, and particularly for my colleagues on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, where I chair the Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Subcommittee.

One such veteran I have the privilege of representing, Master Sergeant Brian Graves of Virginia Beach, flew missions over the Middle East for the United States Air Force. Today, he lives with breathing problems after inhaling jet fumes and being exposed to other toxins during his time of service.

The COVENANT Act will dramatically streamline the VA benefits process for thousands of veterans like Master Sergeant Graves.

Between June 2007 and February 2021, we know that 13,900 veterans filed a disability benefit claim related to toxic exposure. Mr. Speaker, of those nearly 14,000 veterans, only 4,000 claims were granted. That is simply unacceptable. We cannot allow history to repeat itself. Veterans like myself watched our peers who served in Vietnam wait decades for the benefits they deserve.

The recent veterans who served in the Middle East, southwest Asia, east Africa, and the Philippines need our help today. Mr. Speaker, they are hurting and, in some cases, dying. Congress must not neglect them in their time of need.

That is why I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the COVENANT Act, a comprehensive approach to securing benefits for veterans exposed to toxic substances overseas.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF CORPUS CHRISTI POLICE CHIEF MIKE MARKLE

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

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Corpus Christi, Texas Police Chief Mike Markle on his career of public service, and to congratulate him on his upcoming retirement.

From his service in the United States Navy as a hospital corpsman to his 31-year career service at the Corpus Christi Police Department, Chief Markle has consistently placed the needs of others before himself. Enlisting in the police academy in 1989, he protected the streets for many years with courage and determination. He has served as a field training officer, on the Honor Guard, and on the SWAT team.

Corpus Christi turned to him to lead during the Police Department's transition in 2015. As head of the Corpus Christi PD, he pursued excellence in leadership and a commitment to learning. His priority was to improve community outreach and address the modern challenges of policing.

His legacy of helping others stretches beyond his police work, as he currently serves on the board of directors for the Wesley Community Center. There is no question that Chief Markle left a lasting impact on the Coastal Bend region, and he will be sorely missed.

I thank him for his commitment to protecting the citizens of Corpus Christi, and I wish him well in his future endeavors.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 50 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

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

Gracious God, we earnestly pray today to walk in Your presence. With You beside us, may Your nearness both inspire and compel us to take steps in response to Your divine mercy, in obedience to Your divine guidance, and in gratitude for Your divine compassion for us.

May each thought that comes to our minds be of Your will.

May each aspiration our souls conjure be worthy of Your blessing.

May every action we take reveal Your love to those who need it so desperately.

May every word we speak give honor to You.

It is our humble prayer that in everything we do today, we would be instruments of Your transcendent love in this place, of Your sacrificial love for all of creation, and of Your redeeming love for this world and for each of Your children.

We offer ourselves to You in the hope of Your mercy and in the strength of Your name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. FEENSTRA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. FEENSTRA 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.

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION FOR THE HONORABLE JULIA LETLOW FROM THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

STATE OF LOUISIANA

Executive Department

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION

To the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives:

I, John Bel Edwards, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby certify that, in accordance with the provisions of the Louisiana Election Code, on the 20th day of March, 2021, Julia Letlow was elected by the qualified electors of the Fifth Congressional District of the State of Louisiana as a Member of the United States House of Representatives to represent the State of Louisiana in the 117th Congress for the unexpired, remaining term of office. The votes cast, 67,203 for Julia Letlow; 28,255 for Sandra ''Candy'' Christophe; 5,497 for Chad Conerly; 929 for Robert Lansden; 464 for Allen Guillory; 402 for ''Jim'' Davis; 334 for Sancha Smith; 236 for M.V. ''Vinny'' Mendoza; 131 for Jaycee Magnuson; 67 for Richard H. Pannell; 62 for Horace Melton III; and 36 for Errol Victor, Sr., are on file and of record in the Office of the Secretary of State of Louisiana.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge on this 31st day of March, 2021.

JOHN BEL EDWARDS,
Governor of Louisiana.

Attest by the Secretary of State
KYLE ARDOIN,
Secretary of State.

[State Seal Affixed]

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE JULIA LETLOW, OF LOUISIANA, AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER. Will the Representative-elect and the members of the Louisiana delegation present themselves in the well.

All Members will rise and the Representative-elect will please raise her right hand.

Ms. LETLOW appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter, so help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations, you are now a Member of the 117th Congress.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE JULIA LETLOW TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that on behalf of the entire Louisiana delegation and on behalf of all of my colleagues, we welcome JULIA LETLOW to Congress.

It has been quite a journey, and it is not a journey that she walks alone. This has been JULIA and Luke LETLOW's journey for over a year, and we all still grieve for the loss of Luke, who tragically died just days before he would have been sworn into Congress. But JULIA never backed down, never looked back. She moved forward, and she said we are going to continue this journey with her beautiful family.

Madam Speaker, up in the balcony, we have her 3-year-old son, Jeremiah, and her 1-year-old daughter, Jacqueline. We welcome them, as well as both JULIA's and Luke's families, who are in the balcony.

There are so many great attributes that JULIA is going to bring to this Congress. She graduated from the University of Louisiana Monroe. She has been in higher education her entire life and truly dedicated her life to serving others. She will be serving on the Education and Labor Committee, as well as on the Agriculture Committee, two important committees that enrich this country, as well as her district.

She has a great record of service. We are so excited to have her in our delegation. We are especially proud that JULIA becomes, today, the first Republican woman ever elected to Congress from Louisiana.

Madam Speaker, let me welcome our newest Member of Congress, JULIA LETLOW.

Ms. LETLOW. Madam Speaker, it is an honor and a privilege to stand here today as the first Republican woman elected to Congress from Louisiana.

Representing the people of the Fifth Congressional District is a great responsibility, and I pledge to work hard for you in Congress.

My district is blessed with some of the best resources in the Nation, and no one knew that better than my husband, Luke, who was elected to this very seat but who we lost to COVID just days before he was set to take office.

Luke and I were a team with a goal to better our State and our country. I want to thank him for paving the way for me. I am here today to carry that torch forward, to be a voice for our farmers, to champion education, to help bring broadband to our rural communities, and to ensure our economy is thriving again.

The last year has not been easy for our country. Too many families, like mine, have experienced tragedy because of this pandemic. To those families, I see you, I hear you, and most importantly, I pray with you.

I want to thank my family, both the Letlows and the Barnhills, for being the rock-solid, godly people you are in my life.

I also cannot thank my staff, the Louisiana delegation, and my congressional colleagues enough for guiding me and welcoming me so fully. And I thank everyone who has reached out and prayed for my family these past few months.

Today, as I start my journey in Congress, I choose hope. I want to be part of a revival of honesty, integrity, and hard work within these hallowed Halls. I will stand up for what is right and true, bringing hope of a better tomorrow for my children and for yours.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d)of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentlewoman from Louisiana, the whole number of the House is 430.

ELECTING A CERTAIN MEMBER TO A CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. AGUILAR. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 310

Resolved, That the following named Member be, and is hereby, elected to the following standing committee of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM: Mr. Quigley.

Mr. AGUILAR (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ELECTING A MEMBER TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Republican Conference, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 311

Resolved, That the following named Member be, and is hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR: Ms. Letlow

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE: Ms. Letlow

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

CONGRATULATING JAMES BISH, CONGRESSIONAL APP CHALLENGE WINNER

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the winner of the Ohio Ninth Congressional District's second annual Congressional App Challenge, James Bish, of Bay High School in Bay Village, Ohio.

James' app, called Anonymous FRQ Grading, is an impressive tool for teachers and students to submit responses to essay questions free of bias in evaluation. James' application received strong scores in each phase, from concept to design to the skills shown to produce it.

The judges for this year's competition included computer science professionals and scholars from across the district, such as Max Herzog from the Cleveland Water Alliance and Kelly Zelesnik from Lorain County Community College.

I am amazed by the strong showing of submissions and participation from across the district that we received this year. Developing STEM education must be a priority not only within our community but across our Nation as well, and the Congressional App Challenge is an opportunity to foster such critical skills.

I offer my sincerest congratulations to James Bish on his win and thank him for the impressive and important work that went into creating this app. And I thank James' teacher at Bay High, Rob Grossman, who provided guidance and mentorship to James during this challenge.

PROTECTING INFANTS WHO SURVIVE ABORTIONS

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

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to implore my colleagues to join me in the fight to protect the most vulnerable in our society, infants who survive abortions.

Again and again, more than 75 times, Democrats have refused to even allow a vote on my legislation, the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act. This, Mr. Speaker, is shameful.

Every child should be welcomed with joy and wonder, no matter the circumstances of their birth. I will not stop working until this legislation is passed and signed into law, so all newborns have a chance at life.

Just 2 hours ago, Representative KAT CAMMACK filed a discharge petition so that Democrats can't continue to block the Born-Alive Act. It is my sincerest hope that every Member of Congress, Democrat or Republican, finds the courage to add their name to this petition. This is the simplest decision that any of us can make. Do you support babies receiving lifesaving care after they are born, or would you deny these children that care and murder them or leave them to die in front of you?

I am challenging Congress to stand up and do the right thing. I urge my colleagues to sign the discharge petition to ensure no American child is denied medical care.

HUMANITARIAN CRISIS AT OUR SOUTHERN BORDER

(Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last week, some of my Doctors Caucus colleagues and I took a trip to the southern border to observe the ongoing humanitarian crisis. What we saw was nothing short of tragic.

The bottom line is that the situation stems from several key Biden policies that have created an incentive for migrants to cross the border illegally. President Biden abolished the Remain in Mexico policy despite the fact that it helped migrants avoid numerous dangers. The policy was accompanied by his administration's moratorium on deportations, not abiding by title 42's expressed purpose.

Let there be no mistake, no one gets into this country without the expressed permission of drug cartels at our southern border. Not only are illegal immigrants coming in, but drugs, weapons, and human trafficking are coming now in record numbers.

Even worse, this crisis falls on terrified unaccompanied children. I will never forget seeing a 4-year-old with nothing on her back except her clothes and a telephone number written in Sharpie upon her chest.

Only securing our border will end this crisis. I ask the Biden administration to return to the previous administration's border policies.

□ 1215

HOUSE CHINA TASK FORCE

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

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, last year, I was proud to serve on the House China Task Force with a number of my Republican colleagues. Over six months through engagement and consultation with national security and trade officials, foreign policy experts, the business community, and government officials, we compiled and unveiled a comprehensive report with more than 400 policy recommendations for how to address the existential challenges posed by China.

Addressing the challenges posed by China will be one of the greatest issues Congress and our country face in the decades to come. As we confront these issues, bipartisan work is needed. The China Task Force report provides a roadmap with specific policy ideas and goals regarding how the U.S. can better combat the threat of the Chinese Communist Party. Two-thirds of the legislative recommendations are bipartisan; and, overall, more than one-quarter of the recommendations have already become law or have been implemented by the prior Trump administration.

As members of the Ways and Means Committee, we authored important provisions of the report that will help return American intellectual property and critical supply chains to the United States. We also included legislation to reform and strengthen the World Trade Organization to level the playing field for American trade.

Mr. Speaker, to preserve and grow national economic security, we need to act. I ask everyone to read the report and work with us to get this done in a bipartisan way.

CELEBRATING 100TH BIRTHDAY OF RALPH JOHNSON FROM CHEROKEE, IOWA

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

Mr. FEENSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the birthday of Ralph Johnson from Cherokee, Iowa, who turned 100 years old on Monday.

Ralph is a member of the Greatest Generation, serving in the Navy during World War II. He truly embodies the bravery, courage, and selfless sacrifice of an American patriot, working as a head mechanic in the Pacific theater.

If you talk with Ralph, he will tell you harrowing stories about his service, like the time the Japanese flew so low over his ship, he could see the pilot's face.

On behalf of a grateful nation, we thank Ralph for his service and sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to take a moment to recognize Linda Sommerfeld and David Scott, who made Ralph's special day great.

Happy birthday, Ralph. We wish you many blessings.

DEMPSEY WAGNER IS KEEPING LEE COUNTY, IOWA, SAFE

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

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank a young girl in my district for her charitable actions this year.

For their birthday, most 6-year-olds ask their parents for gifts—a dollhouse, a puppy, or a trip to Disney World. But Dempsey Wagner of Lee County has decided to use her special day to raise funds to help keep Iowans safe.

Dempsey, who tragically lost two relatives to drowning in 2017, is using her sixth birthday to help raise money for the Lee County Rescue Boat. The rescue boat, along with a trained dive

team, have the capability to save many lives on the Mississippi and Des Moines Rivers and surrounding Lee County lakes.

Last year, Dempsey used her fifth birthday to raise $3,000 for Lee County Crime Stoppers Police Puppies. But this year, Dempsey has used her sixth birthday to more than double her record, raising over $13,610 for the Lee County Rescue Boat. My husband, Curt, and I were proud to contribute to this worthy cause.

It is ''Iowa nice'' stories like this that make me more proud to represent Iowa and the Second District.

Keep up the good work, Dempsey, and thank you for making both Lee County and Iowa safer.

BORDER CZAR KAMALA

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, weeks ago, the Biden administration made Vice President KAMALA HARRIS the border czar.

The question I have is: Which border?

We learned today that Czar Kamala is traveling to Guatemala. While we do need cooperation from Guatemala in halting the flow of illegal entrants from Central America, it defies logic that weeks after her appointment, Czar KAMALA HARRIS has not visited the very border—our border—with Mexico that she has been tasked with protecting.

It seems as if the Biden-Harris administration has gone out of its way to ignore the seriousness of the border crisis it has created. Even as the number of illegal border crossers and unaccompanied minors shatter records, Democrats have declared that everything under the sun is infrastructure except a border wall. In fact, a wall protecting our border might be the only thing Democrats do not want to throw money at right now.

To the Biden administration and Czar Kamala: Border security is national security, and the American people are pleading for you to take steps to end this crisis you created. It is time to answer their call.

SOUTHERN BORDER CRISIS

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

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, over the last few months, the situation at our border has evolved into a serious crisis caused by policy changes from the Biden administration that have incentivized illegal immigration. This is not my opinion; this is the information I received firsthand on my recent trip to the border.

These policy changes include: ending the ''Remain in Mexico'' policy; implementing catch and release; and suspension of the portion of title 42, which allowed for expelling unaccompanied minors. I witnessed massively overcrowded rooms, or pods, where many children are being held for weeks at a time.

The enormous influx of illegals has given the drug cartels the insidious opportunity to ship drugs into our country, leading to an increase in fentanyl smuggling by more than 2,000 percent and illegal weapons by more than 100 percent.

Of grave concern to those I spoke with is the rumor that title 42 will be fully rescinded by the White House, which would lead, Mr. Speaker, to an unmitigated disaster at our border.

We ask President Biden and Vice President Harris to actually visit the border, speak with the agents on the ground, and learn what is going on. This is not a Republican or a Democrat issue; this is a humanitarian and national security crisis that can be solved.

HONORING DOROTHY WILLIAMS MOORE ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

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

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor Dorothy Williams Moore on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

Dorothy was born in Hamptonville, North Carolina. She graduated from Catawba College, class of 1942, majoring in home economics. On March 20, 1946, she married Thomas Moore and moved to Charlotte. Dorothy and Thomas had four children: Luther, Louanna, Neil, and Cynthia.

Dorothy has proudly served as a mother, homemaker, and substitute teacher. She also taught Sunday school.

Thomas passed away in 1986, after nearly 40 years of marriage.

Dorothy still lives in Charlotte. She has five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. A double cancer survivor, she loves music and sang in her church's choir until the onset of COVID–19. She also enjoys sweets, especially chocolate ice cream.

It is an honor to pay tribute to Dorothy on her 100th birthday. She has led an amazing life, and her family is overjoyed to celebrate with her.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SERGEANT JIM SMITH

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

Mrs. HINSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Sergeant Jim Smith, who died tragically in the line of duty this past Friday night in Iowa.

Sergeant Smith honorably served as an Iowa State trooper for 27 years. He was an incredible man who loved his family, his State, God, his fellow troopers, and his community in Independence, Iowa.

My heart goes out to his wife, Kathy, and their two children. I hope that the family can find some comfort in knowing that he died a hero protecting his community, as he did every day for well over two decades.

Sergeant Smith and his service and sacrifice for Iowans will never be forgotten.

BE THE MATCH PROGRAM

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

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, many families, including my own, have been impacted by cancer. For more than 178,000 Americans diagnosed with a blood cancer like leukemia, lymphoma, or myeloma, the Be The Match program represents hope.

Founded in Minnesota, Be The Match runs the world's largest registry designed to connect patients in need of lifesaving blood or marrow transplants with a donor. In 2019, Be The Match facilitated over 6,500 transplants, giving hope to countless families around the world. Minnesota has long been a hub for this kind of medical innovation.

As a co-chair of the Personalized Medicine Caucus, I urge all of my colleagues today to support the TRANSPLANT Act and reauthorize Federal partnerships like Be The Match, which have impacted the lives of millions. Connecting patients with donors and developing the next generation of regenerative medicine truly represents the best of who we are as a society.

I thank Representative MATSUI and the other sponsors of this legislation for their hard work. I encourage everyone to help keep hope alive by supporting this bill.

REMOVAL OF NAMES OF MEMBERS AS COSPONSORS OF H.RES. 157

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove Representatives BILL HUIZENGA, JAY OBERNOLTE, and VICENTE GONZALEZ as cosponsors of H. Res. 157.

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

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 14, 2021.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II

of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on April 14, 2021, at 11:24 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed Relative to the death of United States Capitol Police Officer William Francis ''Billy'' Evans S. Res. 152.

Appointments:

Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bill was signed by the Speaker on Tuesday, April 13, 2021:

H.R. 1868, to prevent across-the-board spending cuts, and for other purposes.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

UNITED STATES ANTI-DOPING AGENCY REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 172) to reauthorize the United States Anti-Doping Agency, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 172

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''United States Anti-Doping Agency Reauthorization Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The United States Anti-Doping Agency—

(A) is the independent national anti-doping organization of the United States; and

(B) manages the anti-doping program, results management processes, drug reference resources, and athlete education for all United States Olympic Committee-recognized national governing bodies and the athletes and events of such national governing bodies.

(2) The United States Anti-Doping Agency contributes to the advancement of clean sport through scientific research, anti-doping education, and outreach programs, and the mission of the United States Anti-Doping Agency is to preserve the integrity of competition and protect the rights of athletes.

(3) Participation in youth sports has the potential to equip young athletes with important skills and values necessary for success in life, and it is essential that the culture of youth sports emphasizes such skills and values.

(4) The TrueSport program of the United States Anti-Doping Agency partners with youth sport organizations across the United States to promote sportsmanship, character building, and healthy performance through the use of targeted educational materials designed to promote a positive youth sport experience.

(5) In modifying the authority of the United States Anti-Doping Agency to include the promotion of the positive values of youth sport, Congress sends a strong signal that the goals of youth sport should include instilling in young athletes the values of integrity, respect, teamwork, courage, and responsibility.

(6) Due to the unique leadership position of the United States in the global community, adequate funding of the anti-doping and clean sport programs of the United States Anti-Doping Agency is imperative to the preparation for the 2028 Summer Olympic Games, which will be held in Los Angeles, California.

(7) Increased appropriations for fiscal years 2022 through 2030 would enable the United States Anti-Doping Agency to directly affect the integrity and well-being of sport, both domestically and internationally.

SEC. 3. MODIFICATIONS OF AUTHORITY.

Section 701 of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (21 U.S.C. 2001) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

''(1)(A) serve as the independent anti-doping organization for the amateur athletic competitions recognized by the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee;

''(B) be responsible for certifying in advance any testing conducted by international organizations under the World Anti-Doping Code for international amateur athletes and athletic competitions occurring within the jurisdiction of the United States; and

''(C) be recognized worldwide as the independent national anti-doping organization for the United States;'';

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(5) promote a positive youth sport experience by using a portion of the funding of the United States Anti-Doping Agency to provide educational materials on sportsmanship, character building, and healthy performance for the athletes, parents, and coaches who participate in youth sports.''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(c) DUE PROCESS IN ARBITRATION PROCEEDINGS.—Any action taken by the United States Anti-Doping Agency to enforce a policy, procedure, or requirement of the United States Anti-Doping Agency against a person with respect to a violation of Federal law, including an investigation, a disciplinary action, a sanction, or any other administrative action, shall be carried out in a manner that provides due process protection to the person.''.

SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 703 of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (21 U.S.C. 2003) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 703. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

''There are authorized to be appropriated to the United States Anti-Doping Agency—

''(1) for fiscal year 2022, $15,500,000;

''(2) for fiscal year 2023, $16,200,000;

''(3) for fiscal year 2024, $16,900,000;

''(4) for fiscal year 2025, $17,700,000;

''(5) for fiscal year 2026, $18,500,000;

''(6) for fiscal year 2027, $19,800,000;

''(7) for fiscal year 2028, $22,100,000;

''(8) for fiscal year 2029, $24,900,000; and

''(9) for fiscal year 2030, $23,700,000.''.

SEC. 5. INFORMATION SHARING.

Except as otherwise prohibited by law and except in cases in which the integrity of a criminal investigation would be affected, pursuant to the obligation of the United States under Article 7 of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization International Convention Against Doping in Sport done at Paris October 19, 2005, and ratified by the United States in 2008, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Commissioner of Food and Drugs shall provide to the United States Anti-Doping Agency any relevant information relating to the prevention of the use of performance-enhancing drugs or the prohibition of performance-enhancing methods.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 172.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1230

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 172, the United States Anti-Doping Agency Reauthorization Act of 2021.

For two decades, Mr. Speaker, the United States Anti-Doping Agency, or USADA, has worked to ensure integrity in our American Olympic and Paralympic sporting activities through the promotion and support of drug-free competition.

Recommended by an Olympic committee task force, this independent organization was established to manage a comprehensive anti-doping program in the United States. And since its authorization in 2000, USADA has helped to advance clean sports through scientific research, anti-doping education, and outreach programs.

To ensure USADA can continue this good work, H.R. 172 would extend and increase the authorization level through fiscal year 2030. Further, this bill would empower USADA to encourage a positive sporting environment for young athletes by providing educational materials on sportsmanship, character building, and healthy performance.

The bill also improves anti-doping efforts in the U.S. by encouraging Federal agencies to coordinate and share information with USADA to prevent the use of performance-enhancing drugs and methods.

Taken together, these actions will make positive improvements to the good work that USADA is already doing and provide critical support as

we lead up to the 2028 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games in Los Angeles.

I want to thank my colleagues, Representatives MIKE THOMPSON, DIANA DEGETTE, and BILL JOHNSON for leading this important bipartisan legislation. I would also like to thank Ranking Member RODGERS and all the members and staff of our committee for their efforts to move this legislation forward in a bipartisan manner.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to speak in support of H.R. 172, the United States Anti-Doping Agency Reauthorization Act, sponsored by Representatives MIKE THOMPSON, BILL JOHNSON, and DIANA DEGETTE.

This bill will reauthorize the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, USADA, which is the national entity charged with administering anti-doping programs in the United States for Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American, and Parapan American sports.

The U.S. Anti-Doping Agency handles in-competition and out-of-competition testing, results management processes, drug reference resources, and athlete education for all U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee-recognized sport national governing bodies, their athletes, and events.

USADA is also the administrator for the Ultimate Fighting Championship Anti-Doping Program.

Reauthorizing this important agency will further the advancement of clean sports, fair games, and positive sportsmanship.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill. We will be hearing from one of my colleagues here in a moment, a colleague on the committee, BILL JOHNSON.

I also want to thank the chairman for working together to get this done today.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON) who is the lead sponsor of the legislation.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 172, bipartisan legislation reauthorizing the United States Anti-Doping Agency, USADA.

Since 2001, USADA has been recognized by Congress as the official anti-doping agency for Olympic, Paralympic, and other sporting competitions in the United States.

The organization conducts drug testing for athletes, manages test results, and pursues bad actors who seek to undermine the principles of clean and fair support through the use of illicit or banned substances.

This important legislation reauthorizes USADA through fiscal year 2030 and provides a slight funding boost to allow USADA to prepare for the 2028 Olympics in Los Angeles, California.

In addition, this legislation requires USADA to devote a portion of its funding to clean sport initiatives for young athletes and authorizes the Department of Justice and other Federal agencies to cooperate with USADA in the course of its investigations.

I am grateful to my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee for advancing this legislation to the floor, and I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes.''

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOHNSON), a colleague and leader on the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency Reauthorization Act.

I thank my colleague, Representative THOMPSON, for his hard work to get this important legislation across the finish line; and I thank Ranking Member MCMORRIS RODGERS for yielding time.

The United States Anti-Doping Agency, or USADA, has worked hard to ensure that our athletic programs are the best in the world, and also the cleanest. Critical to maintaining that success is ensuring our athletes are competing fairly, without the use of performance-enhancing drugs, which is why I have introduced the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency Reauthorization Act.

USADA must have the resources it needs to ensure the integrity of its programs and advance the American values of sportsmanship and playing by the rules on the global stage.

In addition to funding the agency, this legislation adds a special focus on clean sport training for young athletes and their coaches, and enables USADA to better coordinate with Federal law enforcement.

With the Olympics and other international sporting events just around the corner, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers. I urge support for the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers. I urge support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 172.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. 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.

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

FOOD ALLERGY SAFETY, TREATMENT, EDUCATION, AND RESEARCH ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 578) to improve the health and safety of Americans living with food allergies and related disorders, including potentially life-threatening anaphylaxis, food protein-induced enterocolitis syndrome, and eosinophilic gastrointestinal diseases, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 578

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Food Allergy Safety, Treatment, Education, and Research Act of 2021'' or the ''FASTER Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. FOOD ALLERGY SAFETY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 201(qq)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321(qq)(1)) is amended by striking ''and soybeans'' and inserting ''soybeans, and sesame''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to any food that is introduced or delivered for introduction into interstate commerce on or after January 1, 2023.

SEC. 3. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (referred to in this section as the ''Secretary'') shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that includes—

(1) descriptions of ongoing Federal activities related to—

(A) the surveillance and collection of data on the prevalence of food allergies and severity of allergic reactions for specific food or food ingredients, including the identification of any gaps in such activities;

(B) the development of effective food allergy diagnostics;

(C) the prevention of the onset of food allergies;

(D) the reduction of risks related to living with food allergies; and

(E) the development of new therapeutics to prevent, treat, cure, and manage food allergies; and

(2) specific recommendations and strategies to expand, enhance, or improve activities described in paragraph (1), including—

(A) strategies to improve the accuracy of food allergy prevalence data by expanding and intensifying current collection methods, including support for research that includes the identification of biomarkers and tests to validate survey data and the investigation of the use of identified biomarkers and tests in national surveys;

(B) strategies to overcome gaps in surveillance and data collection activities related to food allergies and specific food allergens; and

(C) recommendations for the development and implementation of a regulatory process and framework that would allow for the timely, transparent, and evidence-based modification of the definition of ''major food allergen'' included in section 201(qq) of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321(qq)), including with respect to—

(i) the scientific criteria for defining a food or food ingredient as a ''major food allergen'' pursuant to such process, including recommendations pertaining to evidence of the prevalence and severity of allergic reactions to a food or food ingredient that would be required in order to establish that such food or food ingredient is an allergen of public health concern appropriate for such process; and

(ii) opportunities for stakeholder engagement and comment, as appropriate, in considering any such modification to such definition.

(b) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall make the report under subsection (a) available on the internet website of the Department of Health and Human Services.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 578.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Food Allergy Safety, Treatment, Education, and Research Act, also known as the FASTER Act.

An estimated 32 million Americans, including approximately one in every 13 children, are affected by food allergies. These allergies can pose significant risks, particularly when inaccurate food labels fail to warn consumers about the presence of some of these allergens.

Under current law, eight allergens are considered major food allergens. These allergens include milk, eggs, shellfish, tree nuts, wheat, peanuts, and soybeans. Due to their status as major food allergens, manufacturers must clearly state the presence of any of these ingredients on labels.

Notably missing from this list of allergens is sesame. Sesame is considered an allergen of growing concern. While its prevalence has more than doubled over the last decade, it is not required to be listed as an allergen on food packaging. In fact, in some cases, a food may contain sesame, but the ingredient won't be listed at all on the labels, instead being referred to through nonspecific terms such as ''spices'' or words that may not be easily recognized by consumers as containing sesame, such as tahini.

While many may not recognize the significance of a simple ingredients label, for many families, a lack of clarity on ingredients could mean life or death for those who are allergic to sesame. Clearly, this information should be prominently featured on all packaged food labels.

This is an issue we have been working on for quite some time. I previously introduced a bill several years ago that would list sesame as a major food allergen, and although the Food and Drug Administration opened a docket to solicit feedback about sesame labeling, the agency has not been able to require the listing of sesame due to overly long regulatory processes.

So today, Mr. Speaker, we are bypassing these regulatory delays and taking action. The appropriately-named FASTER Act would quickly move this process along by recognizing sesame as a major food allergen and requiring its listing on new food labels after a phase-in process.

The bill will also require FDA to report recommendations on how we can make additional improvements to protect individuals with food allergies, including ways to add additional major food allergens.

So I want to thank Representative MATSUI for her tireless work on this bill. She is the prime sponsor. We came so close to getting this over the finish line in the last Congress, and I am glad that today we are sending this bill to President Biden for his signature. I am proud to support the legislation. I encourage all Members to vote for it.

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

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 578, the Food Allergy Safety, Treatment, Education, and Research Act. This legislation is bipartisan, a companion of H.R. 1202, that was led by Representatives MCHENRY, GONZALEZ, and MATSUI.

S. 578 will designate sesame as a major food allergen. This means that, with the enactment of this legislation, manufacturers would have to list this ingredient on the food packaging label of products containing sesame.

Recent studies indicate that sesame allergies are of growing concern in the United States, with a prevalence rate on par with allergies to soy and fish, which are both listed as major allergens under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

This commonsense legislation will provide consumers with the information they need to protect themselves and their families from certain dangerous and life-threatening allergic reactions.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MATSUI) who is the House sponsor of the legislation.

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of two of my bills being considered under suspension today, the FASTER Act and the TRANSPLANT Act.

The Food Allergy Safety, Treatment, Education, and Research Act, FASTER—which wasn't as fast as I wanted it to be, but this act will help to improve the safety of more than 32 million Americans, including 5.6 million children, living with potentially life-threatening food allergies.

Under current law, mandatory labeling is required for major food allergens recognized by the FDA like milk, eggs, and peanuts.

My grandson, Robby, has a peanut allergy, and for families like mine, accurate food ingredient labels are vital to making safe and healthy choices. The time we have spent reading the labels and having discussions about whether he can go to a birthday party or not, or go to camp or not, and having friends over, it was just heartbreaking. We need to have those labels be clear.

Critically, the FASTER Act extends these labeling protections to nearly 1.6 million Americans allergic to sesame by requiring sesame to be included as an ingredient on a packaged food label.

The bill also expands the research necessary to find new treatments and is an important step in the right direction to finding an eventual cure for food allergies.

Today is a testament to the hard work of thousands of grassroots advocates who sent emails, made calls, and visited Members of Congress and staff to build support and make sesame the ninth allergen to be labeled under law.

The outpouring of support was incredible. The FASTER Act will truly make a difference for those living with potentially life-threatening food allergies, and we are proud that it can now be sent to President Biden's desk.

□ 1245

I also rise today in support of H.R. 941, the TRANSPLANT Act, my legislation to reauthorize the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program and the National Cord Blood Inventory for another 5 years.

Every 3 minutes, someone is diagnosed with blood cancer. For patients and families facing these fatal diseases, a bone marrow or cord blood transplant may be the best treatment or only potential for a cure.

Congress has long recognized the need to coordinate lifesaving transplants between patients and unrelated donors at the national level and has shown strong bipartisan support over the years for the program.

We must continue to encourage donors and give these patients with otherwise fatal blood cancers a second chance at life. That is why I joined with Representative BILIRAKIS to introduce the TRANSPLANT Act.

This past year, there has been a new sense of urgency for this timely reauthorization. We have seen how Be The Match's status, as the designated operator of the national program, has helped bone marrow couriers continue to facilitate transplants during the pandemic.

We must act swiftly to preserve this critical designation and ensure patients with otherwise fatal blood cancers continue to have access to transplants, both during and after the current public health crisis.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation today so we may further prevent any lapse in funding. I support both bills.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY), one of the leaders of this legislation and the leader of the Financial Services Committee.

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mrs. RODGERS, my classmate and a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee for yielding. It is an amazing thing to be with you here today, and it is an amazing thing to be here today to talk about this important bill.

As the lead Republican cosponsor of the House companion to S. 578, I rise in support of the FASTER Act.

Millions of Americans suffer from life-threatening food allergies. More than 1.5 million Americans are allergic to sesame, in particular, yet there is no current requirement to include the ingredient on product labels. This legislation would declare it the ninth major allergen to be recognized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and update laws to require the labeling of sesame.

This bill would also require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to regularly review promising food allergy treatments and research. This is a major bipartisan priority. These efforts will help slow this rapidly growing disease and ultimately find and fund a cure.

Finally, the FASTER Act establishes a scientific process and framework for establishing additional allergens covered by the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

I am proud to serve as cofounder and co-chair of the newly formed Congressional Food Allergy Research Caucus, along with Congresswoman DORIS MATSUI. We recognize there is more we can do to help those 32 million Americans, including many who are children who suffer from food allergies.

We can and we should do more to increase funding into research, therapies, and treatments for food allergies. Sending this legislation to the President's desk would be a major first step to achieving our goal of improving treatment opportunities.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote ''yes'' on this bill.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, S. 578, the FASTER Act, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 578.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. 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.

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

JOHN LEWIS NIMHD RESEARCH ENDOWMENT REVITALIZATION ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 189) to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide that the authority of the Director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities to make certain research endowments applies with respect to both current and former centers of excellence, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 189

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''John Lewis NIMHD Research Endowment Revitalization Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. RESEARCH ENDOWMENTS AT BOTH CURRENT AND FORMER CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.

Paragraph (1) (beginning with ''(1) IN GENERAL'') of section 464z–3(h) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 285t(h)) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Institute may carry out a program to facilitate minority health disparities research and other health disparities research by providing for research endowments—

''(A) at current or former centers of excellence under section 736; and

''(B) at current or former centers of excellence under section 464z–4.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 189.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 189, the John Lewis National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Endowment Revitalization Act of 2021. This legislation would resume grants to minority academic institutions that fell out of eligibility for funding through the NIMHD Research Endowment Program.

By allowing those schools to resume eligibility, we will once again help these institutions conduct critical research into minority health disparities.

COVID–19, Mr. Speaker, has further exacerbated many of the inequities that minority communities experience when interacting with the healthcare system, inequities that we know existed long before the pandemic. In order to address the inequities in our healthcare system and in our society, we must confront them head-on and work together to eliminate them.

By supporting NIMHD and the academic institutions funded through it, we are helping to advance minority health disparity research and strengthen the diversity of the scientific workforce by recruiting and retaining individuals underrepresented in these fields.

This bill is a step toward progress and an equitable public health system. This bill is named after our former colleague, the late and great Congressman John Lewis from Georgia, who introduced this legislation last Congress. He was a dear friend and a longtime champion of eliminating disparities across the board, and he is certainly missed.

I want to thank my colleagues, the two sponsors, Representatives Barragan and Carter, for leading the effort on this legislation this year. This is truly bipartisan.

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

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 189, the John Lewis NIMHD Research Endowment Revitalization Act, which was introduced by my colleagues, Representatives Barragan, Carter, and Taylor.

This bill will authorize the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities to award research grants to current and former centers of excellence that conduct research on minority health disparities.

Health inequities are disproportionately experienced by minority populations, and these disparities can have adverse impacts on health outcomes, economic opportunities, and overall quality of life. The current COVID–19 pandemic has only underscored these disparities, which is why this bill is so important.

Continued support of these centers of excellence is critical in advancing minority health, addressing health inequities, and expanding educational and training opportunities for those interested in further advancing research in this space.

I would like to thank my colleagues and especially my colleague on the Energy and Commerce Committee on the

Republican side, Representative BUDDY CARTER, for leading this initiative.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BARRAGÁN), a member of our committee and the lead sponsor of the bill.

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 189, the John Lewis National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Endowment Revitalization Act. This is a bipartisan bill that I introduced with my colleague from Georgia, Congressman CARTER.

It is fitting that this bill comes before us during National Minority Health Month because this legislation moves us closer to ending the public health disparities facing communities of color. We need to understand why people of color are more likely to get certain illnesses.

It is a tragic reality, but solutions are out there. H.R. 189 will fund the research that will help us find solutions and save lives.

This bill would, once again, allow for current and former NIMHD or Health Resources and Services Administration centers of excellence to receive research endowment funding, money that is critical in the fight to reduce minority health disparities.

The Research Endowment Program at the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities provides funding to the endowments of academic institutions across the country, such as Charles R. Drew University in my district, Morehouse School of Medicine, University of Puerto Rico School of Dental Medicine, University of New Mexico School of Medicine, Howard University College of Pharmacy, and so many others.

The goal of the program includes promoting minority health and health disparities research capacity and infrastructure, increasing the diversity and strength of the scientific workforce, and enhancing the recruitment and retention of individuals from health disparity populations that are underrepresented in the scientific workforce.

This is critical legislation that is going to play a huge role in addressing and researching disparities.

During the COVID–19 health emergency, communities of color were once again disproportionately affected. Research into health disparities is more crucial than ever.

I want to thank my cosponsors, and I want to thank Chairman PALLONE for working to help me get this important bill to the floor. I urge my colleagues to support this bill. Let's get this done and across the finish line.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER), an important leader on this legislation as well as on the committee.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, thank you to Congresswoman BARRAGÁN for being a champion of this issue, and she truly is a champion of this issue.

The coronavirus has wreaked havoc on our communities, especially minority communities. Now more than ever, we must support minority academic institutions and the critical research they conduct.

Minority academic institutions can play a big role in helping to address the systemic health disparities minority communities are feeling.

We must ensure schools, including Morehouse College in my home State of Georgia, are able to conduct their research without disruption. Without a reauthorization of this program, health research will have to be paused or abandoned altogether. We must not let this happen. The efforts of these researchers will help better prepare all of us to respond to the coronavirus and other health inequities more effectively.

I urge passage of this very important legislation.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 189.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1300

TIMELY REAUTHORIZATION OF NECESSARY STEM-CELL PROGRAMS LENDS ACCESS TO NEEDED THERAPIES ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 941) to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 941

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Timely Re-Authorization of Necessary Stem-cell Programs Lends Access to Needed Therapies Act of 2021'' or the ''TRANSPLANT Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF THE C.W. BILL YOUNG CELL TRANSPLANTATION PROGRAM.

(a) ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS.—Subsection (a) of section 379 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274k) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(7) The Secretary shall convene the Advisory Council at least two times each calendar year.''.

(b) INCREASING COLLECTION.—

(1) TECHNICAL CLARIFICATION.—Effective as if included in the enactment of Public Law 114–104 (the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act of 2015), the amendment to section 379(d)(2)(B) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274k(d)(2)(B)) in section 2(a)(2) of Public Law 114–104 is amended by inserting ''goal of increasing collections of high quality'' before ''cord blood units,''.

(2) ELIMINATING DEADWOOD.—Subparagraph (B) of section 379(d)(2) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274k(d)(2)) is amended by striking the second and third sentences in such subparagraph.

(c) PERIODIC REVIEW OF STATE OF SCIENCE.—Section 379 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274k) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(o) PERIODIC REVIEW OF STATE OF SCIENCE.—

''(1) REVIEW.—Not less frequently than every 2 years, the Secretary, in consultation with the Director of the National Institutes of Health, the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, the Advisory Council, and other stakeholders, where appropriate given relevant expertise, shall conduct a review of the state of the science of using adult stem cells and birthing tissues to develop new types of therapies for patients, for the purpose of considering the potential inclusion of such new types of therapies in the Program.

''(2) RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than June 30, 2025, the Secretary shall—

''(A) complete the second review required by paragraph (1); and

''(B) informed by such review, submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives recommendations on the appropriateness of the inclusion of new types of therapies in the Program.''.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 379B of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274m) is amended by striking ''$33,000,000 for fiscal year 2015 and $30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2020'' and inserting ''$31,009,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026''.

SEC. 3. CORD BLOOD INVENTORY.

Subsection (g) of section 2 of the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 274k note) is amended to read as follows:

''(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated $23,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.''.

SEC. 4. ADVANCING THE FIELD OF REGENERATIVE MEDICINE.

Section 402 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 282) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(o) REGENERATIVE MEDICINE.—The Director of NIH shall, as appropriate, continue to consult with the directors of relevant institutes and centers of the National Institutes of Health, other relevant experts from such institutes and centers, and relevant experts within the Food and Drug Administration, to further the field of regenerative medicine using adult stem cells, including autologous stem cells, therapeutic tissue engineering products, human cell and tissue products, human gene therapies, and genetically modified cells.''.

SEC. 5. GAO REPORT ON REGENERATIVE MEDICINE WORKFORCE.

Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and

Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that assesses a specialized health care workforce in the field of regenerative medicine. The report shall include—

(1) an overview of the current employment levels, in both commercial and academic settings, for—

(A) positions necessary for the collection and transplantation of stem cell therapeutics, including bone marrow and cord blood; and

(B) positions in the field of regenerative medicine using adult stem cells and related to product development;

(2) the identification of gaps, if any, in the projected workforce capacity for—

(A) positions described in paragraph (1)(A); and

(B) the field of regenerative medicine using adult stem cells, including workforce gaps related to the development of new cellular therapies using adult stem cells;

(3) an overview of the availability of training programs related to the development, refinement, and utilization of adult stem cells, including training on good manufacturing practices for such activities, and the performance of such programs; and

(4) recommendations, if any, for improving the workforce capacity related to—

(A) the positions described in paragraph (1)(A); or

(B) the field of regenerative medicine using adult stem cells.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 941.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, the C.W. Bill Young Transplant Program and the National Cord Blood Inventory Program facilitate lifesaving bone marrow and umbilical cord blood donations to help patients suffering from blood cancers, disorders, and diseases.

These critical programs assist transplant patients by providing additional information about bone marrow and cord blood transplants, maintaining an efficient process for identifying donor matches, and increasing the number of unrelated donors available for transplant. The programs also collect data and expand research to improve patient outcomes.

I thank my colleagues—Representatives MATSUI, BILIRAKIS, and PINGREE—for their bipartisan leadership on this bill, and I would urge my colleagues to support H.R. 941.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 941, the Timely Reauthorization of Necessary Stem-Cell Programs Lends Access to Needed Therapies Act, or the TRANSPLANT Act.

As co-chair of the Blood Cancers Caucus, I urge my colleagues to support the TRANSPLANT Act. This bill is about providing hope to those who are struggling with life-threatening illnesses. The TRANSPLANT Act reauthorizes the C.W. Bill Young Transplant Program, in addition to the National Cord Blood Inventory Program.

I remember Bill Young, Chairman Young, a great friend of ours, and he said that this was one of his greatest accomplishments. I also know that CHRIS SMITH, who will be speaking later, was also involved in this. He has been a champion on this issue, Mr. Speaker. So I appreciate both of them.

This Federal program provides critical support in the advancement of research for better treatments and the infrastructure necessary to organize registries, which will help ensure transplant patients have access to lifesaving procedures. Simply put, its continued reauthorization is vital for patients with diseases like blood cancer, sickle cell anemia, and inherited metabolic or immune system disorders.

I sincerely appreciate the work of my friend and colleague and fellow Blood Cancers Caucus co-chair, Congresswoman MATSUI, in addition to the legacy of bipartisan leadership and support of these programs by Members like, as I said, CHRIS SMITH.

I thank the chairman, as well and the ranking member, for placing this particular bill on the agenda. I know it will get through the Senate this time.

Additionally, I appreciate the critical daily work of the National Marrow Donor Program, operating the Be the Match national registry, connecting patients in search of a cure with lifesaving bone marrow donors, even in the midst of this historic pandemic.

I would also like to take a moment to recognize the great work of Dr. Joanne Kurtzberg, the president of the Cord Blood Association. She also serves in multiple roles at Duke University, including the director of Carolinas Cord Blood Bank. Dr. Kurtzberg has dedicated her professional career to cord blood research, banking, and transplantation; and she is an internationally recognized umbilical cord blood transplanter. She advised Congress on the creation of the public cord blood banking program, which was part of the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005. Dr. Kurtzberg continues to be a trusted adviser to Congress on this important program.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to join us in expediting passage of this lifesaving bipartisan bill.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, but I think my colleague does, so I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, today, the House of Representatives will vote to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act, a law that I authored in 2005. This was an original idea of mine 20 years ago.

My good friend from Florida just mentioned Dr. Kurtzberg. Dr. Kurtzberg was in the meetings that we held in drafting this legislation, and she provided incredible insights as to what we should do, what path we should follow. So I appreciate him recognizing her.

I also thank Artur Davis, who was my Democratic colleague and the principal Democratic cosponsor of the bill during those several years. It took 5 long years of hard work and numerous setbacks, but the bill was finally signed into law on December 20, 2005.

The new law created a nationwide umbilical cord blood stem cell program designed to collect, derive, type, and freeze cord blood units for transplantation into patients to mitigate and even cure serious disease. Pursuant to the law, it also provided stem cells for research. The new cord blood program was combined with an expanded bone marrow initiative, which was crafted over several years by our distinguished colleague, Congressman Bill Young.

Umbilical cord blood stem cells, Mr. Speaker, obtained after the birth of a child have proved to be highly efficacious in treating some 70 diseases, including sickle cell disease, lymphoma, leukemia, and in treating metabolic and immune deficiencies. Scientists are continuing to study and better understand the regenerative effects of cord blood cell therapies for other diseases and disabilities, including autism. I would say in like manner, bone marrow donations are also providing lifesaving transplants for some of those very same diseases. So we have great regenerative initiatives that will be continued.

The National Cord Blood Inventory, NCBI, provides funding to public cord blood banks participating in the program to allow them to expand the national inventory of cord blood units available for transplant. These units are then listed on the registry by the Be the Match program. The funds appropriated thus far have led to an important increase in the overall number of high-quality cord blood units available through the national registry, now totaling 111,000 NCBI units. Within the Be the Match Registry, there are now more than 800,000 worldwide.

The program registry, Mr. Speaker, allows patients and physicians to locate matching cord blood units, as well as adult donors for marrow and peripheral blood stem cells. The program is the world's largest, most diverse donor registry, with more than 23 million volunteers. To date, the National Marrow Donor Program/Be the Match, through its operation of the program, has facilitated more than 105,000 transplants.

According to Be the Match, more than 40,000 patients have received cord blood transplants.

The reauthorization before us authorizes $23 million each year for 5 years for the cord blood side and, again, some $30 million each year for the bone marrow program.

Mr. Speaker, each year, nearly 4 million babies are born in America. In the past, virtually every placenta and umbilical cord was tossed as medical waste. Today, doctors have turned this medical waste into medical miracles.

Not only has God, in His wisdom and goodness, created a placenta and an umbilical cord to nurture and protect the precious life of an unborn child, but now we know that another gift awaits immediately after birth. Something very special is left behind: Cord blood that is teeming with lifesaving stem cells.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, this is a very important bill and needs to pass as soon as possible. I really appreciate the chairman placing the bill on the agenda. I urge the Senate to pass it as soon as possible, and, of course, my colleagues today, if we can pass this bill immediately so we can get it to the Senate.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I also urge support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 941.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. CLINE. 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.

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

ADVANCING EDUCATION ON BIOSIMILARS ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 164) to educate health care providers and the public on biosimilar biological products, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 164

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Advancing Education on Biosimilars Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. EDUCATION ON BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS.

Subpart 1 of part F of title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 262 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 352A. EDUCATION ON BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS.

''(a) INTERNET WEBSITE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may maintain and operate an internet website to provide educational materials for health care providers, patients, and caregivers, regarding the meaning of the terms, and the standards for review and licensing of, biological products, including biosimilar biological products and interchangeable biosimilar biological products.

''(2) CONTENT.—Educational materials provided under paragraph (1) may include—

''(A) explanations of key statutory and regulatory terms, including 'biosimilar' and 'interchangeable', and clarification regarding the use of interchangeable biosimilar biological products;

''(B) information related to development programs for biological products, including biosimilar biological products and interchangeable biosimilar biological products and relevant clinical considerations for prescribers, which may include, as appropriate and applicable, information related to the comparability of such biological products;

''(C) an explanation of the process for reporting adverse events for biological products, including biosimilar biological products and interchangeable biosimilar biological products; and

''(D) an explanation of the relationship between biosimilar biological products and interchangeable biosimilar biological products licensed under section 351(k) and reference products (as defined in section 351(i)), including the standards for review and licensing of each such type of biological product.

''(3) FORMAT.—The educational materials provided under paragraph (1) may be—

''(A) in formats such as webinars, continuing education modules, videos, fact sheets, infographics, stakeholder toolkits, or other formats as appropriate and applicable; and

''(B) tailored for the unique needs of health care providers, patients, caregivers, and other audiences, as the Secretary determines appropriate.

''(4) OTHER INFORMATION.—In addition to the information described in paragraph (2), the Secretary shall continue to publish—

''(A) the action package of each biological product licensed under subsection (a) or (k) of section 351; or

''(B) the summary review of each biological product licensed under subsection (a) or (k) of section 351.

''(5) CONFIDENTIAL AND TRADE SECRET INFORMATION.—This subsection does not authorize the disclosure of any trade secret, confidential commercial or financial information, or other matter described in section 552(b) of title 5.

''(b) CONTINUING EDUCATION.—The Secretary shall advance education and awareness among health care providers regarding biological products, including biosimilar biological products and interchangeable biosimilar biological products, as appropriate, including by developing or improving continuing education programs that advance the education of such providers on the prescribing of, and relevant clinical considerations with respect to, biological products, including biosimilar biological products and interchangeable biosimilar biological products.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 164.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, the rising cost of prescription drugs continues to be a major issue for families all across the country. These costs are particularly daunting at a time when we are facing a severe economic downturn and the ongoing pandemic.

We are committed to continuing to find solutions to make prescription drugs more affordable for the American people. One important way to help families out is to ensure they are aware of more affordable options, like biosimilars and generics. These are both cheaper options, but, unfortunately, utilization of these products continues to be too low here in the United States.

The Advancing Education on Biosimilars Act of 2021 is commonsense legislation that will help provide patients and healthcare providers with greater information about biologics and biosimilars. To do this, the bill requires the FDA to establish a public website with educational materials, including what products are interchangeable, as well as how to report any adverse events.

In addition, the bill would support the development of continuing education programs for healthcare providers about biologics. It is critical that healthcare providers and patients are aware of all of their options, and this legislation will certainly help do that.

I am pleased to work with my colleagues in the Senate on this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 164, the Advancing Education on Biosimilars Act.

This bill is a bipartisan companion to H.R. 1873, championed in the House by Dr. BUCSHON and Congressman PETERS.

This bill would require the FDA to maintain and operate an internet website to provide educational materials for healthcare providers, patients, and caregivers on biological products, including biosimilar products and interchangeable biosimilar products.

It also would require the Department of Health and Human Services, HHS, to develop continuing education programs or to improve existing programs for healthcare providers, such as doctors and nurses, to promote a better understanding of biosimilar interchangeable products.

By increasing awareness about available biosimilar products and providing educational resources for physicians

and patients about their benefits, we can increase adoption of these lower cost alternative therapies when appropriate and drive down drug costs for Americans across the country.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this bipartisan effort to lower drug costs through the uptake of biosimilar products, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUCSHON), a great member of the Energy and Commerce Committee and a great resource for us nonphysicians.

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak in support of S. 164, the Advancing Education on Biosimilars Act of 2021, which is the Senate companion of H.R. 1873, a bill that I introduced with my friend and colleague, Congressman SCOTT PETERS from California.

This bipartisan, bicameral bill will require FDA to create a public website to educate patients and providers about biological and biosimilar products.

As new biological and biosimilar products become available, it is important that physicians have current information on these therapies in order to choose the best treatment for their patients.

Availability of information and education on these new and complex treatments for providers and patients will lead to healthy competition in the biologic and biosimilar product space and ultimately help to lower the cost of these important drugs for patients.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I look forward to the President signing it into law.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I urge everyone to vote to pass this bill so we can quickly make this law and get it to the President.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I also urge support for this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 164.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. CLINE. 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.

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

AMENDING FEDERAL FOOD, DRUG, AND COSMETIC ACT WITH RESPECT TO SCOPE OF NEW CHEMICAL EXCLUSIVITY

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 415) to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the scope of new chemical exclusivity.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 415

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

SECTION 1. CLARIFYING THE MEANING OF NEW CHEMICAL ENTITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter V of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act is amended—

(1) in section 505 (21 U.S.C. 355)—

(A) in subsection (c)(3)(E), by striking ''active ingredient (including any ester or salt of the active ingredient)'' each place it appears and inserting ''active moiety (as defined by the Secretary in section 314.3 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations))'';

(B) in subsection (j)(5)(F), by striking ''active ingredient (including any ester or salt of the active ingredient)'' each place it appears and inserting ''active moiety (as defined by the Secretary in section 314.3 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations))'';

(C) in subsection (l)(2)(A)—

(i) by amending clause (i) to read as follows:

''(i) not later than 30 days after the date of approval of such applications—

''(I) for a drug, no active moiety (as defined by the Secretary in section 314.3 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations)) of which has been approved in any other application under this section; or

''(II) for a biological product, no active ingredient of which has been approved in any other application under section 351 of the Public Health Service Act; and''; and

(ii) in clause (ii), by inserting ''or biological product'' before the period;

(D) by amending subsection (s) to read as follows:

''(s) REFERRAL TO ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The Secretary shall—

''(1) refer a drug or biological product to a Food and Drug Administration advisory committee for review at a meeting of such advisory committee prior to the approval of such drug or biological if it is—

''(A) a drug, no active moiety (as defined by the Secretary in section 314.3 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations)) of which has been approved in any other application under this section; or

''(B) a biological product, no active ingredient of which has been approved in any other application under section 351 of the Public Health Service Act; or

''(2) if the Secretary does not refer a drug or biological product described in paragraph (1) to a Food and Drug Administration advisory committee prior to such approval, provide in the action letter on the application for the drug or biological product a summary of the reasons why the Secretary did not refer the drug or biological product to an advisory committee prior to approval.''; and

(E) in subsection (u)(1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking ''active ingredient (including any ester or salt of the active ingredient)'' and inserting ''active moiety (as defined by the Secretary in section 314.3 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations))''; and

(ii) by striking ''same active ingredient'' and inserting ''same active moiety'';

(2) in section 512(c)(2)(F) (21 U.S.C. 360b(c)(2)(F)), by striking ''active ingredient (including any ester or salt of the active ingredient)'' each place it appears and inserting ''active moiety (as defined by the Secretary in section 314.3 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations))'';

(3) in section 524(a)(4) (21 U.S.C. 360n(a)(4)), by amending subparagraph (C) to read as follows:

''(C) is for—

''(i) a human drug, no active moiety (as defined by the Secretary in section 314.3 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations)) of which has been approved in any other application under section 505(b)(1); or

''(ii) a biological product, no active ingredient of which has been approved in any other application under section 351 of the Public Health Service Act.'';

(4) in section 529(a)(4) (21 U.S.C. 360ff(a)(4)), by striking subparagraphs (A) and (B) and inserting the following:

''(A) is for a drug or biological product that is for the prevention or treatment of a rare pediatric disease;

''(B)(i) is for such a drug—

''(I) that contains no active moiety (as defined by the Secretary in section 314.3 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations)) that has been previously approved in any other application under subsection (b)(1), (b)(2), or (j) of section 505; and

''(II) that is the subject of an application submitted under section 505(b)(1); or

''(ii) is for such a biological product—

''(I) that contains no active ingredient that has been previously approved in any other application under section 351(a) or 351(k) of the Public Health Service Act; and

''(II) that is the subject of an application submitted under section 351(a) of the Public Health Service Act;''; and

(5) in section 565A(a)(4) (21 U.S.C. 360bbb–4a(a)(4)), by amending subparagraph (D) to read as follows:

''(D) is for—

''(i) a human drug, no active moiety (as defined by the Secretary in section 314.3 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations)) of which has been approved in any other application under section 505(b)(1); or

''(ii) a biological product, no active ingredient of which has been approved in any other application under section 351 of the Public Health Service Act.''.

(b) TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.—Chapter V of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 351 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 505 (21 U.S.C. 355)—

(A) in subsection (c)(3)(E), by repealing clause (i); and

(B) in subsection (j)(5)(F), by repealing clause (i); and

(2) in section 505A(c)(1)(A)(i)(II) (21 U.S.C. 355a(c)(1)(A)(i)(II)), by striking ''(c)(3)(D)'' and inserting ''(c)(3)(E)''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to

revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 415.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, rising prescription drug costs are a concern for so many Americans. Skyrocketing costs can result in some people postponing or altering treatment because the necessary drugs are simply priced out of reach.

One way to help reduce drug costs is to provide early access to generic drugs. This legislation we are considering today will help to do that by ensuring that exclusivity, which can delay generics from entering the market, is only made available to truly innovative products. This will ensure that drug manufacturers cannot game the system by simply making small tweaks to old drugs as a way to block or delay competition. The legislation will also codify the Food and Drug Administration's current approach to awarding exclusivity.

I thank Representatives SCHRADER and GUTHRIE for their bipartisan work on this legislation with Senators CASSIDY, SMITH, and MARSHALL.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 415, the Ensuring Innovation Act. This legislation is the bipartisan companion to H.R. 1857 led by Representatives GUTHRIE and SCHRADER.

This legislation would ensure that only the most innovative products are eligible for certain market exclusivities and would increase the availability of lower-cost generic drugs. Great work by these Representatives.

Currently, the FDA grants 5 years of marketing exclusivity to drug products determined to be a new chemical entity. Clarifying what qualifies as a new chemical entity will prevent drug manufacturers from receiving exclusivity by making minor changes to existing drugs, which would block generic competition from the market.

This important bipartisan legislation will help lower prescription drug prices while preserving incentives to innovate.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. SCHRADER), a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. SCHRADER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of S. 415, a bill that has the same policy as my own and Mr. GUTHRIE's here in the House, H.R. 1857, the Protecting Access to Safe and Effective Medicines Act.

This bill is a simple fix, providing clarity around the drug approval process by increasing the specificity of the language companies may use when submitting these complex and often lengthy applications. Simply put, utilizing the term ''active ingredient'' opens the unintended opportunity for pharmaceutical companies to make minor, relatively nonpharmacological changes to the same chemical and prevent generic alternatives from coming to the marketplace. By changing this language, as this bill does, to ''active moiety,'' we will be able to close another loophole that can be exploited by companies to inappropriately obtain exclusivity and hold back competition in the marketplace, the key mechanism for lowering drug prices.

While this is good policy, it is one small piece of the larger drug-pricing conversation that we need to have. It demonstrates, yet again, that the policies to lower drug prices are bipartisan and bicameral. In fact, there are many such policies that did not get done in the last Congress that offer a starting point for a comprehensive approach addressing drug pricing, and now is the time to continue this important work.

I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for the help in supporting this important bill before us today, and I urge its passage.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass this great bill. I commend my colleagues for focusing on this particular issue, which is just so important to our constituents. Again, let's pass this bill as soon as possible and get it to the President.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I also urge support for this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 415.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FRAUD AND SCAM REDUCTION ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1215) to establish an office within the Federal Trade Commission and an outside advisory group to prevent fraud targeting seniors and to direct the Commission to include additional information in an annual report to Congress on fraud targeting seniors, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1215

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Fraud and Scam Reduction Act''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—PREVENTING CONSUMER SCAMS DIRECTED AT SENIORS

Sec. 101. Short title.
Sec. 102. Senior Scams Prevention Advisory Group.

TITLE II—SENIOR FRAUD ADVISORY OFFICE

Sec. 201. Short title.
Sec. 202. Office for the Prevention of Fraud Targeting Seniors.

TITLE III—BUDGETARY EFFECTS

Sec. 301. Budgetary effects.

TITLE I—PREVENTING CONSUMER SCAMS DIRECTED AT SENIORS

SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Stop Senior Scams Act''.

SEC. 102. SENIOR SCAMS PREVENTION ADVISORY GROUP.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a Senior Scams Prevention Advisory Group (referred to in this title as the ''Advisory Group'').

(b) MEMBERS.—The Advisory Group shall be composed of stakeholders such as the following individuals or the designees of those individuals:

(1) The Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission.

(2) The Secretary of the Treasury.

(3) The Attorney General.

(4) The Director of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

(5) Representatives from each of the following sectors, including trade associations, to be selected by the Federal Trade Commission:

(A) Retail.

(B) Gift cards.

(C) Telecommunications.

(D) Wire-transfer services.

(E) Senior peer advocates.

(F) Consumer advocacy organizations with efforts focused on preventing seniors from becoming the victims of scams.

(G) Financial services, including institutions that engage in digital currency.

(H) Prepaid cards.

(6) A member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

(7) A prudential regulator, as defined in section 1002 of the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 (12 U.S.C. 5481).

(8) The Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network.

(9) Any other Federal, State, or local agency, industry representative, consumer advocate, or entity, as determined by the Federal Trade Commission.

(c) NO COMPENSATION FOR MEMBERS.—A member of the Advisory Group shall serve without compensation in addition to any compensation received for the service of the member as an officer or employee of the United States, if applicable.

(d) DUTIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Group shall—

(A) collect information on the existence, use, and success of educational materials and programs for retailers, financial services, and wire-transfer companies, which—

(i) may be used as a guide to educate employees on how to identify and prevent scams that affect seniors; and

(ii) include—

(I) useful information for retailers, financial services, and wire transfer companies for the purpose described in clause (i);

(II) training for employees on ways to identify and prevent senior scams;

(III) best practices for keeping employees up to date on current scams;

(IV) the most effective signage and placement in retail locations to warn seniors about scammers' use of gift cards, prepaid cards, and wire transfer services;

(V) suggestions on effective collaborative community education campaigns;

(VI) available technology to assist in identifying possible scams at the point of sale; and

(VII) other information that would be helpful to retailers, wire transfer companies, financial institutions, and their employees as they work to prevent fraud affecting seniors; and

(B) based on the findings in subparagraph (A)—

(i) identify inadequacies, omissions, or deficiencies in those educational materials and programs for the categories listed in subparagraph (A) and their execution in reaching employees to protect older adults; and

(ii) create model materials, best practices guidance, or recommendations to fill those inadequacies, omissions, or deficiencies that may be used by industry and others to help protect older adults from scams.

(2) ENCOURAGED USE.—The Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission shall—

(A) make the materials or guidance created by the Federal Trade Commission described in paragraph (1) publicly available; and

(B) encourage the use and distribution of the materials created under this subsection to prevent scams affecting seniors by governmental agencies and the private sector.

(e) REPORTS.—Section 101(c)(2) of the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act (34 U.S.C. 21711(c)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)(iv), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) with respect to the report by the Federal Trade Commission, in relevant years, including information on—

''(i) the newly created materials, guidance, or recommendations of the Senior Scams Prevention Advisory Group established under section 102 of the Stop Senior Scams Act and any relevant views or considerations made by members of the Advisory Group that were not included in the Advisory Group's model materials or considered an official recommendation by the Advisory Group;

''(ii) the Senior Scams Prevention Advisory Group's findings about senior scams and industry educational materials and programs; and

''(iii) any recommendations on ways stakeholders can continue to work together to reduce scams affecting seniors.''.

(f) TERMINATION.—This title, and the amendments made by this title, ceases to be effective on the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

TITLE II—SENIOR FRAUD ADVISORY OFFICE

SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Seniors Fraud Prevention Act of 2021''.

SEC. 202. OFFICE FOR THE PREVENTION OF FRAUD TARGETING SENIORS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY OFFICE.—The Federal Trade Commission shall establish an office within the Bureau of Consumer Protection for the purpose of advising the Commission on the prevention of fraud targeting seniors and to assist the Commission with the following:

(1) OVERSIGHT.—The advisory office shall monitor the market for mail, television, internet, telemarketing, and recorded message telephone call (hereinafter referred to as ''robocall'') fraud targeting seniors and shall coordinate with other relevant agencies regarding the requirements of this section.

(2) CONSUMER EDUCATION.—The Commission through the advisory office shall, in consultation with the Attorney General, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Postmaster General, the Chief Postal Inspector for the United States Postal Inspection Service, and other relevant agencies—

(A) disseminate to seniors and families and caregivers of seniors general information on mail, television, internet, telemarketing, and robocall fraud targeting seniors, including descriptions of the most common fraud schemes;

(B) disseminate to seniors and families and caregivers of seniors information on reporting complaints of fraud targeting seniors either to the national toll-free telephone number established by the Commission for reporting such complaints, or to the Consumer Sentinel Network, operated by the Commission, where such complaints will become immediately available to appropriate law enforcement agencies, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the attorneys general of the States;

(C) in response to a specific request about a particular entity or individual, provide publically available information of enforcement action taken by the Commission for mail, television, internet, telemarketing, and robocall fraud against such entity; and

(D) maintain a website to serve as a resource for information for seniors and families and caregivers of seniors regarding mail, television, internet, telemarketing, robocall, and other identified fraud targeting seniors.

(3) COMPLAINTS.—The Commission through the advisory office shall, in consultation with the Attorney General, establish procedures to—

(A) log and acknowledge the receipt of complaints by individuals who believe they have been a victim of mail, television, internet, telemarketing, and robocall fraud in the Consumer Sentinel Network, and shall make those complaints immediately available to Federal, State, and local law enforcement authorities; and

(B) provide to individuals described in subparagraph (A), and to any other persons, specific and general information on mail, television, internet, telemarketing, and robocall fraud, including descriptions of the most common schemes using such methods of communication.

(b) COMMENCEMENT.—The Commission shall commence carrying out the requirements of this section not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

TITLE III—BUDGETARY EFFECTS

SEC. 301. BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled ''Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation'' for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1215.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 1215, the Fraud and Scam Reduction Act. This bipartisan bill was introduced by Representatives BLUNT ROCHESTER and WALBERG with strong bipartisan support of 16 other Members. It also incorporates a bill originally introduced by Representatives DEUTCH, BUCHANAN, and WELCH.

Reducing scams and fraud is an issue of utmost importance in every community and especially so during these uncertain and unprecedented times. Right now, we are seeing the best of humanity, but unscrupulous scammers and fraudsters still abound, seeking to capitalize on the confusion and fear that is out there.

Seniors are especially vulnerable. According to the most recent report from the Federal Trade Commission, older adults reported nearly $400 million in losses from fraud in 2018. It is rare to recover these losses. We all need to work together to protect senior citizens from scams before they fall victim and suffer monetary losses.

Mr. Speaker, this bill establishes a new senior scams prevention advisory group composed of relevant government agencies and industry representatives to collect and implement best practices that stop scammers before they can cause harm. It will also establish new programs to prevent fraud that targets seniors. The legislation will also improve educational materials on senior scams and make sure that they are publicly available.

This legislation also establishes an office at the FTC dedicated to preventing fraud targeting seniors and monitoring the market for such fraud. This office will also assist the FTC in monitoring the market for mail, television, internet, and telemarketing fraud targeting seniors. The office will also help with consumer education on fraud targeting seniors.

The bill will help reinforce the efforts of the FTC to prevent fraud and mitigate the massive losses from fraud targeting seniors.

I urge my colleagues to support this important measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1215, the Fraud and Scam Reduction Act. I want to thank Representative BLUNT ROCHESTER, my good friend Representative WALBERG, and the other members of the Energy and Commerce Committee for their tireless work on this important bill.

H.R. 1215 would establish a senior scams prevention advisory council, which will create model educational materials to inform employees of retail companies and financial institutions on how to identify and prevent scams.

This bill would work in concert with other recently enacted legislation to provide Americans with the tools they need to educate and protect themselves against these bad actors. It is a very good bill, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER), who is also a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman PALLONE for his tireless work to advance this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 1215, the Fraud and Scam Reduction Act. Bad actors preying on older Americans is unfortunately nothing new, but in the midst of a global pandemic, cracking down on those scams must be a priority of the Federal Government.

That is why I proudly introduced the bipartisan Fraud and Scam Reduction Act with my colleagues Mr. WALBERG, DEUTCH, BUCHANAN, and WELCH.

The bill, as its name suggests, was aimed at cracking down on these scams by doing two main things. It would create an advisory group under the Federal Trade Commission made up of government agencies, consumer advocates, and industry representatives, such as financial services and retail, to help identify potential sources of fraud and create educational materials for our Nation's seniors to protect them from these dangerous schemes. It would also establish the senior fraud advisory office, which would give seniors hope in recovering their assets stolen by fraudsters and improve our understanding of senior fraud by encouraging seniors to report this activity.

We are proud to say that the bill has broad support, including AARP, the Retail Industry Leaders Association, Target, Best Buy, Walmart, and Western Union, as well as many more.

Mr. Speaker, one of the most fundamental obligations of government is to protect our citizens. The least we can do is protect already vulnerable seniors from being taken advantage of by bad actors.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues, Democrats and Republicans, for their work in strengthening the bill, and I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of the measure.

□ 1330

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from the great State of Michigan (Mr. WALBERG), my good friend.

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Florida for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1215, Fraud and Scam Reduction Act, and thank my colleague and friend, Representative BLUNT ROCHESTER, as well as the Committee on Energy and Commerce staff for their hard work in bringing the bill to the floor today.

Sadly, in today's digital age, scams targeting seniors and their hard-earned money are growing in number and sophistication.

Every year, scammers steal billions of dollars from unsuspecting consumers. The effect on victims can be financially and emotionally devastating, and the COVID–19 pandemic has only made things worse. Safeguarding seniors in Michigan and across the country needs to be a top priority.

Retailers have diligently worked to combat these crimes. Their ability to educate their employees with best practices and training to recognize the signs of a scam can make a huge difference in stopping criminals.

Our bipartisan bill builds upon the work retailers are doing by creating a Federal advisory council at the FTC to create a unified front against criminals who target our most vulnerable citizens and stop this fraud before it is too late.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the House to pass H.R. 1215 so we can help stop scammers from perpetrating a fraud and taking advantage of our loved ones and our neighbors.

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I urge Congress to pass this bill and get it to the President—actually, before that, we have to get it to the Senate and pass it immediately to protect our seniors, particularly during this very difficult time.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I also urge support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1215, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. HARRIS. 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.

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

NICHOLAS AND ZACHARY BURT MEMORIAL CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING PREVENTION ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1460) to encourage States to require the installation of residential carbon monoxide detectors in homes, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1460

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Nicholas and Zachary Burt Memorial Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas produced by burning any fuel. Exposure to unhealthy levels of carbon monoxide can lead to carbon monoxide poisoning, a serious health condition that could result in death.

(2) Unintentional carbon monoxide poisoning from motor vehicles and improper operation of fuel-burning appliances, such as furnaces, water heaters, portable generators, and stoves, annually kills more than 400 individuals and sends approximately 15,000 individuals to hospital emergency rooms for treatment.

(3) Research shows that installing carbon monoxide alarms close to the sleeping areas in residential homes and other dwelling units can help avoid fatalities.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that Congress should promote the installation of carbon monoxide alarms in residential homes and dwelling units across the United States in order to promote the health and public safety of citizens throughout the United States.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM.—The term ''carbon monoxide alarm'' means a device or system that—

(A) detects carbon monoxide; and

(B) is intended to sound an alarm at a carbon monoxide concentration below a concentration that could cause a loss of the ability to react to the dangers of carbon monoxide exposure.

(2) COMMISSION.—The term ''Commission'' means the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

(3) COMPLIANT CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM.—The term ''compliant carbon monoxide alarm'' means a carbon monoxide alarm that complies with the most current version of—

(A) the Standard for Single and Multiple Station Carbon Monoxide Alarms of the American National Standards Institute and UL (ANSI/UL 2034), or any successor standard; and

(B) the Standard for Gas and Vapor Detectors and Sensors of the American National Standards Institute and UL (ANSI/UL 2075), or any successor standard.

(4) DWELLING UNIT.—The term ''dwelling unit''—

(A) means a room or suite of rooms used for human habitation; and

(B) includes—

(i) a single family residence;

(ii) each living unit of a multiple family residence, including an apartment building; and

(iii) each living unit in a mixed use building.

(5) FIRE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS.—The term ''fire code enforcement officials'' means officials of the fire safety code enforcement agency of a State or local government or a Tribal organization.

(6) INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE.—The term ''IFC'' means—

(A) the 2015 or 2018 edition of the International Fire Code published by the International Code Council; or

(B) any amended or similar successor code pertaining to the proper installation of carbon monoxide alarms in dwelling units.

(7) INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE.—The term ''IRC'' means—

(A) the 2015 or 2018 edition of the International Residential Code published by the International Code Council; or

(B) any amended or similar successor code pertaining to the proper installation of carbon monoxide alarms in dwelling units.

(8) NFPA 720.—The term ''NFPA 720'' means—

(A) the Standard for the Installation of Carbon Monoxide Detection and Warning Equipment issued by the National Fire Protection Association in 2012; and

(B) any amended or similar successor standard relating to the proper installation of carbon monoxide alarms in dwelling units.

(9) STATE.—The term ''State''—

(A) has the meaning given the term in section 3(a) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2052(a)); and

(B) includes—

(i) the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and

(ii) any political subdivision of a State.

(10) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term ''Tribal organization'' has the meaning given the term in section 4(l) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304(l)).

SEC. 4. GRANT PROGRAM FOR CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING PREVENTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations authorized under subsection (f), the Commission shall establish a grant program to provide assistance to States and Tribal organizations that are eligible under subsection (b) to carry out the carbon monoxide poisoning prevention activities described in subsection (e).

(b) ELIGIBILITY.—For the purposes of this section, an eligible State or Tribal organization is any State or Tribal organization that—

(1) demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Commission that the State or Tribal organization has adopted a statute or a rule, regulation, or similar measure with the force and effect of law, requiring compliant carbon monoxide alarms to be installed in dwelling units in accordance with NFPA 72, the IFC, or the IRC; and

(2) submits an application—

(A) to the Commission at such time, in such form, and containing such additional information as the Commission may require; and

(B) that may be filed on behalf of the State or Tribal organization by the fire safety code enforcement agency of that State or Tribal organization.

(c) GRANT AMOUNT.—The Commission shall determine the amount of each grant awarded under this section.

(d) SELECTION OF GRANT RECIPIENTS.—In selecting eligible States and Tribal organizations for the award of grants under this section, the Commission shall give favorable consideration to an eligible State or Tribal organization that demonstrates a reasonable need for funding under this section and that—

(1) requires the installation of a one or more compliant carbon monoxide alarms in a new or existing educational facility, childcare facility, health care facility, adult dependent care facility, government building, restaurant, theater, lodging establishment, or dwelling unit—

(A) within which a fuel-burning appliance, including a furnace, boiler, water heater, fireplace, or any other apparatus, appliance, or device that burns fuel, is installed; or

(B) that has an attached garage; and

(2) has developed a strategy to protect vulnerable populations, such as children, the elderly, or low-income households, from exposure to unhealthy levels of carbon monoxide.

(e) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), an eligible State or Tribal organization to which a grant is awarded under this section may use the grant—

(A) to purchase and install compliant carbon monoxide alarms in the dwelling units of low-income families or elderly individuals, facilities that commonly serve children or the elderly (including childcare facilities, public schools, and senior centers);

(B) for the development and dissemination of training materials, instructors, and any other costs relating to the training sessions authorized under this subsection; or

(C) to educate the public about—

(i) the risk associated with carbon monoxide as a poison; and

(ii) the importance of proper carbon monoxide alarm use.

(2) LIMITATIONS.—

(A) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—An eligible State or Tribal organization to which a grant is awarded under this section may use not more than 5 percent of the grant amount to cover administrative costs that are not directly related to training described in paragraph (1)(B).

(B) PUBLIC OUTREACH.—An eligible State or Tribal organization to which a grant is awarded under this section may use not more than 25 percent of the grant amount to cover the costs of activities described in paragraph (1)(D).

(C) STATE CONTRIBUTIONS.—An eligible State to which a grant is awarded under this section shall, with respect to the costs incurred by the State in carrying out activities under the grant, provide non-Federal contributions in an amount equal to not less than 25 percent of amount of Federal funds provided under the grant to administer the program. This subparagraph shall not apply to Tribal organizations.

(f) FUNDING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall carry out this Act using amounts appropriated to the Commission for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025, to extent such funds are available.

(2) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—In a fiscal year, not more than 10 percent of the amounts appropriated or otherwise made available to carry out this Act may be used for administrative expenses.

(g) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the last day of each fiscal year in which grants are awarded under this section, the Commission shall submit to Congress a report that evaluates the implementation of the grant program required under this section.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1460.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1460, the Nicholas and Zachary Burt Memorial Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2021.

This important bipartisan bill was introduced again this Congress by Representatives ANN KUSTER and BUDDY CARTER.

Mr. Speaker, carbon monoxide—colorless, odorless, tasteless—is a silent killer. More than 400 people die, and approximately 50,000 people visit emergency rooms each year in the U.S. from carbon monoxide poisoning.

The tragedy is that these deaths and injuries are preventable with the installation of carbon monoxide detectors. However, many people are unaware of the importance of carbon monoxide detectors or don't know how to install or maintain them properly.

This bill will change that. It will assist States in educating the public on the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning and the proper use of carbon monoxide detectors. It will also provide States with grants so they can purchase and install carbon monoxide detectors in the homes of the elderly and low-income citizens, as well as in educational facilities.

Mr. Speaker, I call on my colleagues to support this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1460, the Nicholas and Zachary Burt Memorial Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2021.

I thank Representatives CARTER and KUSTER, two great members of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. I thank them for their work on this important piece of legislation and for the many years they have served and worked to protect consumers.

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas produced by burning fuel, and most people know that. Exposure to unhealthy levels of carbon monoxide can lead to carbon monoxide poisoning, a serious health condition that could result in death, unfortunately.

Mr. Speaker, unintentional carbon monoxide poisoning from motor vehicles and the abnormal operation of fuel-burning appliances, such as furnaces, water heaters, portable generators, and stoves kills more than 400 people each year and sends more than 15,000 to hospital emergency rooms for treatment.

This legislation would protect Americans from an otherwise undetectable harm. This bipartisan bill represents a longstanding commitment of the Committee on Energy and Commerce to protect America's consumers, families, and children.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass this particular bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New Hampshire (Ms. KUSTER), who is the lead sponsor of the bill.

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, as a mother and aunt—and now a great aunt—to a dozen little

ones, I know there is nothing more important than keeping our children and loved ones safe. From a young age, we tell our children to wear their seatbelts in the car, a helmet while riding a bike or skiing, and to handle sharp objects with care. We go to great lengths to protect our children from the dangers we can see, but there are threats to our children's and loved ones' well-being that oftentimes go undetected.

Among the most dangerous of these is carbon monoxide. Carbon monoxide is a stealthy killer. You cannot see it, hear it, taste it, or smell it. This deadly gas claims the lives of over 400 Americans every year and results in over 20,000 emergency room visits.

Two of my constituents, John and April Courtney in Lyman, New Hampshire, tragically lost their lives to carbon monoxide poisoning just this past year. If people know about the dangers of carbon monoxide and have alarms properly installed in their homes, tragedies like the one in my district, can be prevented.

Mr. Speaker, that is why I am so proud to join my good friend, Representative CARTER, in introducing in the House, H.R. 1460, the Nicholas and Zachary Burt Memorial Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act that we will be voting on this evening.

This legislation provides funding for States to prevent future carbon monoxide-related deaths by educating the public about the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning and installing detectors in housing for the elderly and low-income individuals and high-traffic public buildings like schools. This bipartisan legislation will save lives.

At a time when Congress so often seems divided, this legislation is proof that we can work together to find common ground and get things done to help our constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. CARTER, and I thank our chairman, and I encourage all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER), my good friend.

Mr. Speaker, I really appreciate his perspective on the Committee on Energy and Commerce as the only pharmacist on the committee. I thank him for sponsoring this legislation.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1460. The bill, the Nicholas and Zachary Burt Memorial Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act is a piece of legislation that can save lives.

It would direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to award grants to install carbon monoxide alarms in buildings and facilities that house vulnerable members of the population.

According to the CDC, at least 430 people die in the United States from accidental CO poisoning every year. On top of that, nearly 50,000 people visit the ER every year because of accidental CO poisoning. On a higher note, we can curb this statistic.

Better monitoring systems will ensure that people can prepare and protect themselves. This bipartisan legislation, which I was proud to cosponsor with my good friend, Representative KUSTER from New Hampshire, helps us move the needle on this important subject. Many of us have heard stories of families being impacted by this tragic and preventable outcome. Whether it is seniors or children, this bill can help save lives.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for her hard work on this bill, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass this bill. It is a great bill, a good consumer protection bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I also urge support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1460.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. HARRIS. 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.

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

PROTECTING SENIORS FROM EMERGENCY SCAMS ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 446) to require the Federal Trade Commission to submit a report to Congress on scams targeting seniors, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 446

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Protecting Seniors from Emergency Scams Act''.

SEC. 2. FTC REPORT ON SCAMS TARGETING SENIORS DURING EMERGENCIES.

Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal Trade Commission (referred to in this Act as the ''Commission'') shall submit a report to Congress including—

(1) a description of the number and types of scams identified by the Commission as being targeted at senior citizens; and

(2) policy recommendations to prevent such scams, especially as such scams relate to future national emergencies.

SEC. 3. INCREASING AWARENESS OF SCAMS TARGETING SENIORS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall update its web portal to include the latest information, searchable by region and type of scam, on scams targeting seniors, including contacts for relevant law enforcement and adult protective service agencies.

(b) COORDINATION WITH MEDIA OUTLETS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT.—The Commission shall work with media outlets and law enforcement to distribute the information included in the web portal of the Commission pursuant to subsection (a) to senior citizens and their families and caregivers.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 446.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 446, the Protecting Seniors from Emergency Scams Act. Representatives KELLY and BALDERSON introduced this bipartisan legislation to further efforts by the FTC to stop fraud targeting seniors.

This bill streamlines efforts to protect seniors from falling prey to scams during national emergencies, such as the COVID–19 pandemic, by establishing a searchable database of scams targeting seniors.

In the Committee on Energy and Commerce, we have held multiple hearings exploring the rise in fraud and scams that have come with the COVID–19 pandemic.

Unfortunately, scammers often take advantage of the fear and uncertainty that results from emergency situations. And since the beginning of the COVID pandemic, consumers have reported losing more than $300 million in just pandemic-related fraud.

After Hurricane Sandy ravaged the East Coast, including my own district in New Jersey, scammers preyed on people who lost their homes and livelihoods. We saw contracting scammers promising to rebuild people's homes but who took the money and ran. One man was in prison for using fake titles to sell Sandy-damaged cars.

Unfortunately, older Americans are targeted disproportionately and affected by this fraud. Older Americans reported significantly bigger monetary losses from fraud than younger adults.

According to a recent FTC report, phone scams result in the highest reported losses by older adults, particularly adults over 80. Phone-based scams can be especially problematic in emergency situations like the pandemic when people are spending more time at home and seniors may be more isolated.

Representatives KELLY and BALDERSON's bill will help address these scams. It directs the FTC to issue a report on fraud targeting seniors during the pandemic and how to improve efforts against senior scams during future emergencies.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1345

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 446, the Protecting Seniors from Emergency Scams Act. I would like to thank Representative ROBIN KELLY of the Energy and Commerce Committee for her bipartisan work with Representative TROY BALDERSON to protect our constituents.

The COVID–19 pandemic has turned the lives of millions of Americans upside down, unfortunately. We were all forced to isolate, sometimes even away from our families and friends, to stay safe. Unfortunately, it is during these times when bad actors aim to exploit the most vulnerable. Promising fake lifesaving medication and stimulus checks, scammers will stop at nothing to take advantage of others.

H.R. 446 would protect Americans, especially seniors, from malicious and deceptive scams by augmenting the tools included in other recently enacted legislation. As they have worked on legislation to fight scammers, I have supported my colleagues' efforts to incorporate provisions that encourage cooperation with law enforcement. I am pleased to see such efforts continue in this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, of course, I urge my colleagues to pass this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. KELLY), the lead sponsor of the bill who has worked so hard, particularly during the pandemic, to address disparities in healthcare.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, the past year has been tough for many of us but especially difficult for seniors. Many have lost friends and loved ones from the COVID–19 pandemic.

Increased isolation and dependence on digital resources have put extra burdens on millions of Americans.

From frantic calls of, ''Grandma, I am in the hospital sick with COVID. Please wire money right away,'' to calls from supposed Good Samaritans offering to run errands and then pocketing the money, scammers are using the pandemic to take advantage of vulnerable populations. They are preying on fear and uncertainty to steal money and personal information or sell fraudulent services or products.

One of the best ways to prevent seniors from falling victim to scams is to supply them with the information they need. That is why H.R. 446 requires the FTC to report on the number and type of scams that target older adults. It also will have the Commission's web portal updated with current information about such scams and coordination with media outlets and law enforcement to disseminate scam information. Seniors need to know what scams are happening in their areas so they can protect themselves.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative BALDERSON for joining me in leading this legislation and Chairman PALLONE for his support in advancing legislation to protect our seniors.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BALDERSON), the cosponsor of the legislation.

Mr. BALDERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 446, legislation aimed that at protecting older Americans from falling victim to scammers.

Throughout the pandemic, uncertainty has led to many Americans falling victim to scam callers, especially vulnerable populations like seniors. We have a responsibility to stop bad actors like these scam artists in their tracks. That starts with empowering the American people with information to better protect themselves and their loved ones from falling victim.

H.R. 446 would direct the Federal Trade Commission to identify scammers and make such information publicly available. This legislation also equips the FTC to more proactively alert the public about known scams, specifically in their region.

Mr. Speaker, our seniors have suffered enough. It is time to better supply them and their loved ones with the information needed to protect themselves against scammers who shamelessly prey on the most vulnerable. That is why I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 446, the Protecting Seniors from Emergency Scams Act.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I support this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to vote for it.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I also urge support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 446.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. HARRIS. 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.

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

PROTECTING INDIAN TRIBES FROM SCAMS ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1762) to direct the Federal Trade Commission to submit to Congress a report on unfair or deceptive acts or practices targeted at Indian Tribes or members of Indian Tribes, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1762

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Protecting Indian Tribes from Scams Act''.

SEC. 2. PROTECTING INDIAN TRIBES FROM UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES.

(a) FTC REPORT ON UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES TARGETING INDIAN TRIBES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and after consultation with Indian Tribes, the Commission shall make publicly available on the website of the Commission and submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report on unfair or deceptive acts or practices targeted at Indian Tribes or members of Indian Tribes, including—

(1) a description of the types of unfair or deceptive acts or practices identified by the Commission as being targeted at Indian Tribes or members of Indian Tribes;

(2) a description of the consumer education activities of the Commission with respect to such acts or practices;

(3) a description of the efforts of the Commission to collaborate with Indian Tribes to prevent such acts or practices or to pursue persons using such acts or practices;

(4) a summary of the enforcement actions taken by the Commission related to such acts or practices; and

(5) any recommendations for legislation to prevent such acts or practices.

(b) INCREASING AWARENESS OF UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES TARGETING INDIAN TRIBES.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the submission of the report required by subsection (a), the Commission shall update the website of the Commission to include information for consumers and businesses on identifying and avoiding unfair or deceptive acts or practices targeted at Indian Tribes or members of Indian Tribes.

(c) COMMISSION DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''Commission'' means the Federal Trade Commission.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1762.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 1762, the Protecting Indian Tribes from Scams Act. The often-overlooked area in Federal fraud prevention efforts is scams targeting Indian Tribes and Tribal members. The scope and scale of scams affecting Indian Tribes have not been well documented, hindering efforts to prevent them.

This bipartisan bill, reintroduced this Congress by Representatives MULLIN and O'HALLERAN, will help get the needed information about fraud and scams targeting Tribes and members of Tribes. This bill directs the FTC to consult with Indian Tribes about these scams and then issue a report to Congress that will be made public. It also requires the FTC to update its website to include information on these scams.

Mr. Speaker, as this pandemic continues, scammers are taking advantage of people's fear and uncertainty to steal people's money and commit fraud. American Indians are not exempt from these unfair and deceptive practices and may even be specifically targeted with certain kinds of scams. But there is not much information about it.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Representatives MULLIN and O'HALLERAN for introducing this bill, an important step in helping prevent fraud and scams targeting Tribes and members of Tribes. I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1762, the Protecting Indian Tribes from Scams Act. I want to thank Representative MULLIN and Representative O'HALLERAN for their work on this particular issue. This bipartisan piece of legislation will help our Native nations.

One area that can be overlooked in Federal fraud prevention efforts, Mr. Speaker, is scams targeting Indian Tribal members. The scope and scale of scams that target Indian Tribes have not been well documented, hindering efforts to prevent them.

This legislation would direct the FTC, the Federal Trade Commission, to submit to Congress a report on unfair or deceptive acts or practices targeting Indian Tribes.

Simply put, these scammers ruin lives, unfortunately. To address these scams properly, we must educate all Americans on how to avoid malicious scammers.

This legislation passed the House last Congress, and I am hopeful we can again pass it today and get this legislation to become law as soon as possible. I can't think of a better person to sponsor this than my good friend, Mr. MULLIN.

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

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN).

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in full support of my bill, H.R. 1762, the Protecting Indian Tribes from Scams Act. The bill will help protect our Tribes and Tribal members from predatorial scams.

Tribal communities have long been targets of fraud. Scammers often target vulnerable communities who receive trust or settlement payments, like many Tribes do. FTC data says that Tribe members are more likely to be the victims of scams and are less likely to report scams than any other group.

H.R. 1762 will direct the FTC to study the types of scams that target Tribes and find the best ways to combat them.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Arizona for working with me on these issues, as well as many other issues important to Indian County. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I also urge support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1762.

The question was taken.

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

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. 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.

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

FTC COLLABORATION ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1766) to enhance cooperation between the Federal Trade Commission and State Attorneys General to combat unfair and deceptive practices, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1766

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''FTC Collaboration Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE PRACTICES COOPERATION STUDY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) STUDY REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Trade Commission shall conduct a study on facilitating and refining existing efforts with State Attorneys General to prevent, publicize, and penalize frauds and scams being perpetrated on individuals in the United States.

(2) REQUIREMENTS OF STUDY.—In conducting the study, the Commission shall examine the following:

(A) The roles and responsibilities of the Commission and State Attorneys General that best advance collaboration and consumer protection.

(B) The policies, procedures, and mechanisms that facilitate cooperation and communications across the Commission.

(C) How resources should be dedicated to best advance such collaboration and consumer protection.

(D) The accountability mechanisms that should be implemented to promote collaboration and consumer protection.

(3) CONSULTATION AND PUBLIC COMMENT.—In producing the study required in paragraph (1), the Commission shall—

(A) consult with—

(i) the National Association of State Attorneys General;

(ii) public interest organizations dedicated to consumer protection;

(iii) relevant private sector entities; and

(iv) any other Federal or State agency that the Federal Trade Commission considers necessary; and

(B) provide opportunity for public comment and advice relevant to the production of the study.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 6 months after the completion of the study required pursuant to subsection (a), the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make publicly available on the website of the Commission, a report that contains the following:

(1) The results of the study.

(2) Recommended best practices to enhance collaboration efforts between the Commission and State Attorneys General with respect to preventing, publicizing, and penalizing fraud and scams.

(3) Quantifiable metrics by which enhanced collaboration can be measured.

(4) Legislative recommendations, if any, to enhance collaboration efforts between the Commission and State Attorneys General to prevent, publicize, and penalize fraud and scams.

(c) COMMISSION DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''Commission'' means the Federal Trade Commission.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1766.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 1766, the FTC Collaboration Act of 2021. This bipartisan bill was introduced again this year by Representatives O'HALLERAN and HUDSON.

The bill will help reinforce the important relationship between the FTC and State attorneys general.

Our State attorneys general play a critical role in enforcing and complementing Federal consumer protection laws. The FTC is a relatively small law enforcement agency charged with protecting consumers across the country. By partnering with State attorneys general, the reach of Federal consumer protection efforts is expanded. Stronger enforcement actions can be taken against unscrupulous companies and those engaging in unfair and deceptive practices hurting consumers.

When Americans are harmed by fraud and scams, they often turn to their State attorneys general for help, but these scammers may be targeting people across the country. By working together, State AGs and the FTC can pool their resources and protect consumers across the country.

This bill will help the FTC optimize its collaboration with State attorneys general by studying the matter and issuing a report on how to further promote collaboration.

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

□ 1400

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1766, the FTC Collaboration Act.

As bad actors and scammers continue their efforts to take advantage of American consumers, we must not back down when it comes to ensuring the safety of our constituents and authenticity of consumer products. The FTC Collaboration Act directs the Federal Trade Commission to examine how it can work better with State attorneys general to prevent, publicize, and penalize scams in the United States.

This legislation would require the FTC to submit a report to Congress on how to enhance collaboration with State law enforcement. I remain confident this can help in other agenda items we can work together on in this particular session. It is so important that we work together with our colleagues on the State level.

I am proud of the important steps this bill takes to keep consumers safe and, importantly, prioritize our most vulnerable during COVID–19.

Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers. In closing, I ask my colleagues to support this very important bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I have no additional speakers. I urge support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. PINGREE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1766.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DEBARMENT ENFORCEMENT OF BAD ACTOR REGISTRANTS ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1002) to amend the Controlled Substances Act to authorize the debarment of certain registrants, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1002

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Debarment Enforcement of Bad Actor Registrants Act of 2021'' or the ''DEBAR Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. DEBARMENT OF CERTAIN REGISTRANTS.

Section 304 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 824) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(h) The Attorney General may issue an order to prohibit, conditionally or unconditionally, and permanently or for such period as the Attorney General may determine, any person from being registered under this title to manufacture, distribute, or dispense a controlled substance or a list I chemical, if the Attorney General finds that—

''(1) such person meets or has met any of the conditions for suspension or revocation of registration under subsection (a); and

''(2) such person has a history of prior suspensions or revocations of registration.''.

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled ''Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation'' for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1002.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1002, the Debarment Enforcement of Bad Actor Registrants Act of 2021, or the DEBAR Act of 2021.

One of the critical missions of the Drug Enforcement Administration is enforcing and implementing the Controlled Substances Act in order to prevent drug diversion and limit access to substances that may pose a risk if used incorrectly.

One important lever the DEA has at its disposal to manage diversion or noncompliance with the law is the ability to revoke or surrender an individual's controlled substance registration, which is needed to handle controlled substances.

A recent report by the Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General found weaknesses in the DEA's current registration processes and instances where the agency did not fully utilize its regulatory authorities to address noncompliance. Specifically, the inspector general found cases where entities whose registration were revoked were later able to obtain a new license.

For example, the report included one case where a doctor who had their registration revoked for serious misconduct then moved to another State under the authority of a different DEA field division and was granted a controlled substances registration after reapplying.

Another example in the report included a dentist who had voluntarily surrendered his medical license and DEA registration on two separate occasions. The dentist had also been convicted of a felony, which is grounds for suspension or revocation of an individual's registration under the Controlled Substances Act. However, this dentist was still able to obtain another DEA registration.

Amid rising substance abuse and tragic drug overdoses, errors like these can be tragic and simply should not be happening. H.R. 1002 would address these errors by authorizing the debarment of any registrant who either meets the criteria for temporary or permanent suspension or revocation or has a history of prior suspensions or revocations.

I thank my committee colleagues—Representative LATTA, in particular—for leading this legislation, and also Ranking Member RODGERS for her work on this legislation.

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

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1002, the Debarment Enforcement of Bad Actor Registrants, or the DEBAR Act, which was introduced by my very good friend, Mr. LATTA.

This provision would give the Drug Enforcement Administration, DEA, debarment authority to prohibit a person who has repeatedly violated the Controlled Substances Act from receiving a registration to manufacture, distribute, or dispense a controlled substance.

It makes a lot of sense. A recent Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General report found that when

certain bad actor registrants have their registration revoked, they can reapply for registration the very next day. Registrants who pose a significant risk of diverting drugs could be given the opportunity to do so once again.

We have to stop this. That is why this legislation is so vital.

Repeat offenders should not be allowed to get a new registration from the DEA just days after their previous registration was revoked because they broke the law. Limited debarment authority is a commonsense and effective administrative tool to address diversion, fraud, and misconduct.

I strongly support this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA).

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, I appreciate my good friend from Florida for yielding. I also thank the chairman of the committee for bringing this bill before us today on the floor.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1002, the Debarment Enforcement of Bad Actor Registrants Act of 2021, or the DEBAR Act.

In the 116th Congress, we worked vigorously to tackle the coronavirus and address the needs of those who were suffering. One of the hardest issues facing Americans during this time was substance abuse, which, on average, takes nearly 130 lives each day in our Nation.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that more than 88,000 drug overdoses occurred in a 1-year period ending in August of 2020, making it the deadliest year for U.S. overdoses.

In Ohio alone, opioid overdoses reached record levels, rising 16 percent in the second quarter of 2020. Prior to the pandemic, these rates were, thankfully, declining over a 24-month period.

We need to act immediately to put an end to this crisis. The DEBAR Act provides the Drug Enforcement Administration, DEA, debarment authority to permanently prohibit a person or entity that has violated the Controlled Substances Act from being able to receive a registration to manufacture, distribute or dispense a controlled substance.

This legislation would also close loopholes and reduce the circulation of illegal substances across our Nation and keep bad actors from reapplying for new licenses once revoked. There is no silver bullet when it comes to fighting the opioid epidemic; however, the DEBAR Act will help address what is needed to combat this crisis, save lives, and stop bad actors from contributing to addiction.

Again, I thank the chairman, my friend from New Jersey, for bringing the bill to the floor. I also thank our ranking member from Washington for her help on this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I urge passage of this good bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I also urge support for the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1002, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. 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.

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

ENSURING COMPLIANCE AGAINST DRUG DIVERSION ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1899) to amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide for the modification, transfer, and termination of a registration to manufacture, distribute, or dispense controlled substances or list I chemicals, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1899

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Ensuring Compliance Against Drug Diversion Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. MODIFICATION, TRANSFER, AND TERMINATION OF REGISTRATION TO MANUFACTURE, DISTRIBUTE, OR DISPENSE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

Subsection (a) of section 302 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 822) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (C), the registration of any registrant under this title to manufacture, distribute, or dispense controlled substances or list I chemicals terminates if and when such registrant—

''(i) dies;

''(ii) ceases legal existence;

''(iii) discontinues business or professional practice; or

''(iv) surrenders such registration.

''(B) In the case of such a registrant who ceases legal existence or discontinues business or professional practice, such registrant shall promptly notify the Attorney General in writing of such fact.

''(C) No registration under this title to manufacture, distribute, or dispense controlled substances or list I chemicals, and no authority conferred thereby, may be assigned or otherwise transferred except upon such conditions as the Attorney General may specify and then only pursuant to written consent. A registrant to whom a registration is assigned or transferred pursuant to the preceding sentence may not manufacture, distribute, or dispense controlled substances or list I chemicals pursuant to such registration until the Attorney General receives such written consent.

''(D) In the case of a registrant under this title to manufacture, distribute, or dispense controlled substances or list I chemicals desiring to discontinue business or professional practice altogether or with respect to controlled substances and list I chemicals (without assigning or transferring such business or professional practice to another entity), such registrant shall return to the Attorney General for cancellation—

''(i) the registrant's certificate of registration;

''(ii) any unexecuted order forms in the registrant's possession; and

''(iii) any other documentation that the Attorney General may require.''.

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled ''Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation'' for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1899.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1899, the Ensuring Compliance Against Drug Diversion Act.

The Drug Enforcement Administration is charged with regulating controlled substances and manages access to these substances through a registration system. This system is meant to identify entities that manufacture, distribute, and dispense controlled substances, such as opioids; as well as to prevent diversion of these substances. We rely on the DEA to maintain the integrity of this system as one way to stop illicit diversion before it starts.

However, a 2018 Government Accountability Office report found over 700 registrants in the DEA's system may have been ineligible for registration under the Controlled Substances Act. In fact, the GAO found that some of these registrants were reportedly deceased, did not possess State-level authority, or were incarcerated for offenses related to controlled substances.

If we are to curb rising substance abuse in the U.S., we must ensure, Madam Speaker, that bad actors are prevented from having access to these substances. The legislation we are considering today would terminate the

controlled substance registration of any registrant if the registrant dies, ceases legal existence, discontinues business or professional practice, or surrenders their registration. This bill also codifies DEA authority to ensure accuracy of registrations and limit the transfer of such registrations.

I thank the lead sponsor of this bill, Representative GRIFFITH, for his leadership on this issue.

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

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of this legislation, which was introduced by Representative GRIFFITH.

In order to prevent people who have not been vetted by authorities in dispensing controlled substances, this bill would clarify that the transfer of any controlled substance registration without written consent from the Drug Enforcement Administration, DEA, is prohibited.

A 2018 Energy and Commerce Committee report, which summarized the committee's bipartisan investigation into the distribution of prescription opioids by wholesale drug distributors, and the DEA's subsequent enforcement practices found that an opioid distributor and its pharmacy customer did not go through the appropriate process of transferring a registration to a new pharmacy owner.

Failing to contact the DEA appropriately and to verify whether the agency approved the transfer of a registration to dispense controlled substances creates a serious risk that could lead to drug diversion.

Madam Speaker, of course, I urge a ''yes'' vote on this.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH).

□ 1415

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1899, the Ensuring Compliance Against Drug Diversion Act. This is a small but very important step that could play a key role in helping contain the opioid epidemic.

License to distribute opioids is not a commodity to be freely bought and sold. We must ensure that those who wish to engage in opioid distribution earn the ability to do so.

An investigation, as the Speaker has heard, published by the Energy and Commerce Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee in 2018 found that the current procedures for transferring the licenses to distribute controlled substances lacked sufficient accountability.

In one instance, a distributor and its pharmacy customer did not go through the appropriate process of transferring registration to a new pharmacy owner, but the mistake wasn't caught until long, long afterward. As a result, there was a period of time during which the DEA was unaware that a particular pharmacy was distributing controlled substances.

Failing to properly verify whether a transfer has been approved creates a serious risk of drug diversion. This bill amends the Controlled Substances Act to prohibit the transfer of any DEA registration without consent from the agency.

By requiring written approval from the DEA before the transfer of registration, we decrease the risk of controlled substances falling into the hands of those who have not been vetted by appropriate regulatory authorities.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I urge passage of this very good bill. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I also urge support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1899.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. WEBER of Texas. 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.

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

MICROLOAN IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2021

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1502) to amend the Small Business Act to optimize the operations of the microloan program, lower costs for small business concerns and intermediary participants in the program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1502

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Microloan Improvement Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. INTEREST RATE FOR CERTAIN INTERMEDIARIES.

Section 7(m)(3)(F)(iii) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(3)(F)(iii)) is amended by striking ''$7,500'' and inserting ''$10,000''.

SEC. 3. LINES OF CREDIT AUTHORIZED.

Section 7(m)(6)(A) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(6)(A)) is amended by inserting ''(including lines of credit)'' after ''fixed rate loans''.

SEC. 4. EXTENDED REPAYMENT TERMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7(m)(6) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(6)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(F) REPAYMENT TERMS.—

''(i) LIMITATION ON REPAYMENTS TERM.—The repayment term for a loan made under this paragraph shall not be more than—

''(I) in the case of a loan made by an intermediary of $10,000 or less, 7 years; and

''(II) in the case of a loan made by an intermediary of greater than $10,000, 10 years.

''(ii) NO ADDITIONAL LIMITATIONS.—The Administrator may not impose any additional limitation on the term for repayment of a loan made by an intermediary under this paragraph.''.

(b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Section 329(c) of the Economic Aid to Hard-Hit Small Businesses, Nonprofits, and Venues Act (Public Law 116–260; 134 Stat. 2042 15 U.S.C. 636 note) is repealed.

SEC. 5. PROGRAM FUNDING FOR MICROLOANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7(m) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (7)(B)—

(A) by amending clause (i) to read as follows:

''(i) ALLOCATION.—Subject to the availability of appropriations and for the first 2 quarters of a fiscal year, of the total amount of new loan funds made available for award under this subsection in such fiscal year, the Administrator shall—

''(I) reserve 15 percent of such funds for award to designated underutilized States; and

''(II) make the remaining 85 percent of such funds available for award in any State.''; and

(B) in clause (ii), by striking ''to carry out'' and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting the following: ''under clause (i)(I) remains unexpended, the Administrator may make that portion available for award in any State or designated underutilized State.''; and

(2) in paragraph (11)—

(A) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(E) the term 'State' means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa.''.

(b) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall issue regulations to define the term ''designated underutilized State'', as used in section 7(m)(7)(B) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(7)(B)), as added by this section.

SEC. 6. CREDIT REPORTING INFORMATION.

The Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall issue rules establishing a process under which an intermediary that makes a loan to a borrower under section 7(m) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)) shall be required to provide the major credit reporting agencies with information about the borrower relevant to credit reporting, such as the borrower's payment activity on the loan.

SEC. 7. REPORT REGARDING EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION.

Section 7(m)(8) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(8)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''In approving'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In approving''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Administrator shall include in the report submitted under paragraph (10), and make publicly available on the website of the Administration, information on how the Administration has met the requirements of subparagraph (A).''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from

Minnesota (Ms. CRAIG) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Minnesota.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the bill before us today, H.R. 1502, the Microloan Improvement Act of 2021.

Today, we are considering four bipartisan bills that were approved by the Small Business Committee and the full House of Representatives last year. I am proud of the committee's work on behalf of small businesses and pleased that we worked together to get things done. Our small businesses deserve nothing less.

I would like to thank the chairwoman, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, for giving me the opportunity to manage time today on these four important small business bills.

I would also like to thank the ranking member, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, who will be handling the floor proceedings today with me.

Prior to the COVID–19 pandemic, the Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Tax, and Capital Access, under the leadership of Mr. KIM, held a hearing on the microloan program, where we heard from a panel of intermediaries who reported that many of the program's rules, largely unchanged since 1991, are outdated and restrict them from meeting today's demand for start-up financing and providing more technical assistance.

In response, Mr. KIM crafted the Microloan Improvement Act of 2020, a series of proposals designed to update the program's rules and, ultimately, help microloan intermediaries extend more affordable capital to first-time entrepreneurs.

I was proud to support the Microloan Improvement Act last Congress and was pleased to see some of its provisions become law as part of the Economic Aid Act last December.

Today's bill, the Microloan Improvement Act of 2021, is virtually the same as last Congress' version without the policies we have already enacted into law.

Madam Speaker, we have heard time and again many entrepreneurs lack the experience needed to demonstrate their creditworthiness to conventional lenders. The COVID–19 pandemic has highlighted these gaps in financing, showing the smallest of small businesses, especially those owned by women and minorities, struggle the most to afford access to capital.

The microloan program is uniquely suited to address this problem, and today's bill strengthens the program and is long overdue.

I encourage my colleagues to support the bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in support of H.R. 1502, the Microloan Improvement Act of 2021.

Before I begin, I would like to thank the chairwoman for working in a bipartisan manner on behalf of our Nation's small businesses.

The bills before us today were developed in the 116th Congress and have been updated and reintroduced in this Congress. They focus on the Small Business Administration's existing government guaranteed loan programs. These programs are important resources and tools for the Nation's smallest businesses as they seek out financing.

Now, more than ever, these programs need to be ready for small businesses as they begin and continue to recover from the COVID–19 pandemic. As ranking member of the Committee on Small Business, I want to make sure we focus, or continue to focus on these programs that assist the Nation's small businesses, entrepreneurs, and start-ups.

The first bill is the Microloan Improvement Act. This legislation enhances and expands SBA's microloan program which provides loans of $50,000 or less. This program, which is delivered to small businesses through a partnership with microloan intermediaries, concentrates on low-dollar loans and technical assistance.

When a small business is starting out, counseling and capital assistance are true drivers of continued and prolonged success. H.R. 1502 further enhances the program for micro-borrowers by expanding the repayment terms of the program and providing additional tools in their toolbox.

Additionally, the bill removes the burdensome 1/55th rule that delays dollars from flowing to microloan intermediaries within the first two fiscal quarters of the year and replaces it with an allocation mechanism that will provide more equitable access to all States across the Nation.

I would like to thank Mr. KIM, Mr. GARBARINO, Ms. NEWMAN, and Mr. BURCHETT for concentrating their efforts on this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1502, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. NEWMAN).

Ms. NEWMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today, excitedly, on behalf of the millions of small businesses across our Nation that are truly suffering from the pandemic and struggling to keep their doors open because support is simply not reaching them.

As a former small business owner, I know firsthand how loans can make an absolutely life-changing difference for an entrepreneur.

However, the reality is that too many small businesses, especially those led by women, or minorities, or those in rural communities, don't have access to the primary lending programs offered by the Small Business Administration or private sector.

Microloans are designed to help start-ups and new small businesses that don't have banking relationships with access to larger capital. But for too many businesses, these microloans have been unreachable.

That is why I am proud to co-lead the Microloan Improvement Act to ensure that, regardless of background or location, every business has equitable access to capital.

With this legislation, we are expanding the number of community-based lenders eligible for the lowest interest rates on loans. That means these lenders can offer lines of credit to more small businesses.

Now more than ever, we have an obligation to remove barriers that prevent small businesses from receiving microloans. With this legislation, we are cutting bureaucratic red tape that has restricted growth and job creation.

From mom-and-pop shops, to family-owned stores, to every small business, they will all benefit. That is why this legislation is supported by Democrats and Republicans, and I am so glad to partner today with my Republican colleagues. I am happy to work in a bipartisan fashion to help our intermediaries provide assistance to our local entrepreneurs.

Let's pass this legislation so we can support the smallest of the small businesses in all of our communities.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT), who has been a leader in small business issues.

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding.

I rise in support of Representative KIM's Microloan Improvement Act. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this important legislation.

Access to financial capital is essential to the success of America's small businesses and their entrepreneurs. This bipartisan bill is straightforward and effective. It increases the number of nonprofit community-based lenders that can offer loans through the SBA's microloan program.

Representative KIM's bill works in tandem with the Microloan Transparency and Accountability Act, my small business legislation that we will debate shortly, to expand access to financial resources that will help our aspiring small business owners and entrepreneurs chase down the American Dream.

I encourage my colleagues to support this important bipartisan legislation.

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

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

Madam Speaker, 2020 was a difficult year for small businesses. The COVID–19 pandemic hit small businesses hard. This is especially true for small businesses that were just starting out.

As our country continues to recover, the SBA's programs and resources must be ready to assist the Nation's job creators along the way.

The microloan program is a key tool for many small business owners. The reforms in H.R. 1502 are commonsense improvements that will continue to provide assistance and resources to America's Main Street businesses.

Madam Speaker, I urge and recommend my colleagues to support H.R. 1502, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1430

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

As the small business economy starts to recover from the COVID–19 pandemic, entrepreneurs will need as many affordable capital options as possible. That is why the Economic Aid Act included PPP updates, grants for hard-hit venues, and other enhancements to SBA's business loan programs, including the microloan program.

Today's bill takes the next step after that relief effort toward fully modernizing and optimizing SBA's microloan program. For nearly 30 years, this program has had a strong track record of success and has helped to launch many successful small businesses, especially those owned by women and minority entrepreneurs. The record is full of success stories as the program has grown from a simple pilot program to a vital lending tool with strong stakeholder and congressional support.

The legislation before us today renews our commitment to startups by easing access to the program for even more aspiring entrepreneurs and making the program nimbler for intermediaries and borrowers alike.

Passing this bill will be another step to help lead our Nation out of this pandemic and build back the economy by embracing America's entrepreneurial spirit.

I applaud the work by Mr. KIM and Mr. GARBARINO for their bipartisan work on the microloan program. I encourage all of my colleagues to vote ''yes,'' and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. CRAIG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1502.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. WEBER of Texas. 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.

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

MICROLOAN TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2021

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1487) to amend the Small Business Act to increase transparency, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1487

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Microloan Transparency and Accountability Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. PORTFOLIO RISK ANALYSIS OF MICROLOANS.

Section 7(m)(10) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(10)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (F) as clauses (i) through (vi), respectively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(2) by amending clause (iv), as so redesignated, to read as follows:

''(vi) the number, amount, and percentage of microloans made by intermediaries to small business concerns—

''(I) that went into default in the previous year; and

''(II) that were charged off in the previous year by such intermediaries;'';

(3) in clause (vi), as so redesignated, by striking ''and'' at the end;

(4) by redesignating subparagraph (G) as clause (xviii), and adjusting the margin accordingly;

(5) by striking ''On November 1, 1995,'' and all that follows through ''the following:'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on February 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives, and make available to the public on the website of the Administration, a report on the effectiveness of the microloan program during the fiscal year preceding the date of the report. Such report shall include—'';

(6) in subparagraph (A), as so designated, by inserting after clause (vi) the following new clauses:

''(vii) the number and type of enforcement actions taken by the Administrator against noncompliant intermediaries;

''(viii) an analysis of compliance by intermediaries with the credit availability requirements of paragraph (3)(E) for loans in an amount greater than $20,000;

''(ix) the extent to which microloans are provided to small business concerns in rural areas;

''(x) the number of underserved borrowers, as defined by the Administration, participating in the microloan program;

''(xi) the average rate of interest for each microloan;

''(xii) the average amount of fees charged for each microloan;

''(xiii) the average size of each microloan, including—

''(I) the number of loans made in an amount greater than $20,000; and

''(II) the average size and charge-off rate of such loans;

''(xiv) the subsidy cost to the Administration;

''(xv) the number and percentage of microloans that were made to refinance other loans;

''(xvi) the number and percentage of microloans made to new program participants and the number and percentage of microloans made to previous program participants;

''(xvii) the average amount of technical assistance grant monies spent on each loan; and''; and

(7) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) PRIVACY.—Each report submitted under subparagraph (A) shall not contain any personally identifiable information of any borrower.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. CRAIG) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Minnesota.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the bill before us today, H.R. 1487, the Microloan Transparency and Accountability Act, which will improve SBA's data reporting with respect to the microloan program.

Specifically, the bill would have SBA and microlenders report on the number, amount, and percentage of microloans that went into default in the previous year; the extent to which microloans are provided to small businesses in rural areas; and the average size, interest rate, and amount of fees charged for each microloan.

These metrics will help Congress and the public better evaluate the program and its impact on underserved communities and make improvements as needed.

This program is vital in helping women and minorities obtain much-needed capital. In fiscal year 2020, 47 percent of microloans were made to women-owned small businesses, and more than 51 percent of microloans were made to minority-owned small businesses.

This language was approved unanimously last Congress by both the Small Business Committee and the full House, and I look forward to a similar vote here today.

The version of the bill from last Congress also included a provision that would increase the amount of technical assistance grant funding a rural-serving microlender would receive. I am

pleased that language was included as part of the Economic Aid Act and is now law.

However, our work on the microloan program is not done. H.R. 1487 continues the work to keep strengthening the program, and I encourage all of my colleagues to support it.

I applaud the bipartisanship shown by the sponsors of these bills, especially the leads, Mr. BURCHETT and Mr. KIM.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote ''yes.''

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1487, the Microloan Transparency and Accountability Act of 2021.

I thank the chair for moving these bills quickly to the House floor. I also want to commend the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT), the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. FITZGERALD), the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. KIM), and the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. NEWMAN) for working diligently and in a bipartisan fashion on behalf of America's small businesses.

It is important to note that once Congress creates a Federal Government program, tool, or resource, the work is not done. Members of Congress must examine and determine the effectiveness and efficiency of the programs in practice to ensure that they are meeting congressional intent.

H.R. 1487 does just this for the microloan program, which delivers capital assistance and counseling to our Nation's smallest businesses. Oftentimes, businesses that are just starting out and taking their first steps as a company are participants in the microloan program.

On an annual basis, the Small Business Administration will be required to report to Congress on the microloan program's default rates, an analysis of credit requirements, the extent and reach of the program in rural areas, and so on.

H.R. 1487 will also increase transparency and provide Congress with tools to ensure it is working on behalf of small businesses across the Nation.

I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense and straightforward legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT), a distinguished gentleman who has worked hard on a lot of small business issues.

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, the Microloan Transparency and Accountability Act is important bipartisan legislation that gives all entrepreneurs fair access to the Small Business Administration's microloan program.

As a former small business owner, I know accessible financial resources are important for growth, innovation, and success. Working folks have to jump on the first horse that comes down the pike, as my dad used to say, or need to dip into personal savings, like I did. Wealthy folks have family assets. Inner cities and rural Appalachia don't have those same opportunities, Madam Speaker. These are hardworking Americans just looking to get their foot in the door and to have a fair shot.

This legislation aims to boost rural small business participation in the SBA microloan program by requiring the Small Business Administration to submit to Congress a financial analysis of the microloan program. This ensures Federal microloans are targeted toward rural areas, not just large urban centers, and creates important oversight that reduces fraud and government waste.

These fixes will allow America's entrepreneurs, regardless of background or location, to have easier access to capital that helps them reach their goals.

I am proud to partner with Representatives ANDY KIM, SCOTT FITZGERALD, and MARIE NEWMAN on this legislation that will make a difference for east Tennessee's mom-and-pop shops and small businesses across our great country.

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. FITZGERALD), a huge supporter of small businesses and all their issues.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1487.

Unlike large businesses with access to debt and equity markets, small businesses rely on commercial banking to fund their operations. Should a creditworthy small business be unable to obtain a conventional business loan, the Small Business Administration can help the small business by offering access to capital through the microloan program. The microloan program allows nonprofit intermediaries to make loans of up to $50,000 to small businesses, along with technical assistance.

The program has grown from approving $52 million in loans in 2015 to over $80 million in 2019. Despite this growth, the SBA produces minimal statistics that are needed to evaluate a government guarantee loan program.

This commonsense legislation will require the SBA to produce an annual report detailing additional information about microloans that have defaulted and the number of loans provided to rural areas.

We owe it to Americans to conduct basic oversight to protect their taxpayer dollars while expanding opportunities for rural small businesses to grow and innovate.

I urge a ''yes'' vote on this bill to ensure small businesses hit hard by the pandemic have robust access to capital, regardless of their size and location.

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

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

The microloan program, which delivers capital assistance to the Nation's smallest businesses, is an important lending tool at the SBA. H.R. 1487, the Microloan Transparency and Accountability Act of 2021, will deliver comprehensive data and information on the effectiveness of the program.

I applaud all of the Members working on this important legislation in an effort to shine more light on how well the program is working.

From my State of Missouri to both of the Nation's coasts, accessing capital remains a top challenge facing all small businesses. Tools and resources like the microloan program can make a huge difference to small business owners in the early stages of their businesses. We must ensure these programs and tools are operating at a high level and delivering on the goals that Congress set for them. That is why this bill is so important.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1487, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

It is often said that information is power. H.R. 1487 will greatly increase the information publicly available about the microloan program's performance and impact.

If we intend to continue to support the smallest of small businesses, we need to make sure the programs targeting them are operating at their best. That starts with improving the data and information available about where the loans are going, how affordable they are, and where the gaps in coverage are.

With more data, the public can assess the impact these loans have in our communities, and Congress will be able to monitor the program and identify areas for improvement.

I thank the gentlemen from Tennessee and New Jersey for their hard work and collaboration in bringing this bill to the floor today.

I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes,'' and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. CRAIG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1487.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. WEBER of Texas. 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.

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

504 MODERNIZATION AND SMALL MANUFACTURER ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2021

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1490) to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to improve the loan guaranty program, enhance the ability of small manufacturers to access affordable capital, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1490

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''504 Modernization and Small Manufacturer Enhancement Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. ADDITIONS TO POLICY GOALS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY PROGRAM.

Section 501(d)(3) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695(d)(3)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (L) as subparagraphs (B) through (M), respectively;

(2) by inserting before subparagraph (B) (as so redesignated) the following:

''(A) workforce development through work-based or work-integrated training, which shall be satisfied by demonstrating that a small business concern that is a subject of the project has—

''(i) a documented in-house training program, the duration of which is not shorter than 12 weeks; or

''(ii) entered into a contract with an entity—

''(I) to provide trained applicants for any open position of employment at the small business concern; and

''(II) that ensures that any applicant provided to the small business concern under subclause (I) has undergone not fewer than 12 weeks of training that is relevant to the open position described in that subclause,'';

(3) by amending subparagraph (D) (as so redesignated) to read as follows:

''(D) expansion of minority-owned, employee-owned, or women-owned business development,'';

(4) in subparagraph (L) (as so redesignated), by striking ''producers, or'' and inserting ''producers,'';

(5) in subparagraph (M) (as so redesignated), by striking the period at the end and inserting a comma;

(6) by inserting after subparagraph (M) the following new subparagraphs:

''(N) enhanced ability for small business concerns to reduce costs by using energy efficient products and generating renewable energy,

''(O) aid revitalizing of any area for which a disaster has been declared or determined under subparagraph (A), (B), (C), or (E) of section 7(b)(2) of the Small Business Act, or

''(P) expansion of small business concerns with 10 or fewer employees.''; and

(7) in the flush text following subparagraph (P), as added by paragraph (6), by striking ''subparagraphs (J) and (K)'' and inserting ''subparagraphs (K) and (L)''.

SEC. 3. INCREASE IN LOAN AMOUNTS FOR MANUFACTURING LOANS.

Section 502 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 696) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''The Administration'' and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administration''; and

(2) in subsection (a), as so designated—

(A) in paragraph (2)(A)—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''section'' and inserting ''subsection''; and

(ii) in clause (iii), by striking ''$5,500,000'' and inserting ''$6,500,000''; and

(B) in paragraph (3)(A), by striking ''this section'' and inserting ''this subsection''.

SEC. 4. IMPROVEMENTS TO 504 LOAN CLOSING PROCEDURE.

Title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 502, as amended by section 3, by adding at the end the following new subsections:

''(b) CLOSING.—

''(1) AUTHORITY OF CERTAIN DEVELOPMENT COMPANIES.—An accredited lender certified company may take any of the following actions to facilitate the closing of a loan made under subsection (a):

''(A) Reallocate the cost of the project with respect to which the loan is made in an amount that is not more than 10 percent of the overall cost of the project.

''(B) Correct any name that is applicable to the loan, including the name of any borrower, guarantor, eligible passive company described in subparagraph (C)(i), and operating company described in subparagraph (C)(ii).

''(C) Form any of the following to receive proceeds of the loan:

''(i) An eligible passive company that complies with section 120.111 of title 13, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.

''(ii) If an eligible passive company is formed under clause (i), an operating company with respect to that eligible passive company.

''(D) Correct the address of any property with respect to which the loan is made.

''(E) Correct the name of any interim lender or third-party lender.

''(F) Change any third-party lender or interim lender if that lender is a financial institution that is regulated by the Federal Government or a State government.

''(G) Make a guarantor a co-borrower or a co-borrower a guarantor.

''(H) Add a guarantor that does not change ownership with respect to the loan.

''(I) Reduce the amount of standby debt before the closing as a result of regularly scheduled payments.

''(J) Reduce the cost of the project with respect to which the loan is made.

''(2) FEES.—The Administrator shall—

''(A) issue a rule regarding the amount of a closing fee that may be financed in a debenture that is issued by a certified development company to make one or more loans to small business concerns, the proceeds of which are used by that concern for the purposes described in subsection (a), except that such amount shall be not less than $3,500; and

''(B) periodically update the rule issued under subparagraph (A).

''(3) NO ADVERSE CHANGE AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT.—Before the closing with respect to a loan made under subsection (a), the borrower and any operating company shall—

''(A) make the certification required under section 120.892 of title 13, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation; and

''(B) submit to the certified development company a financial statement that is not more than 180 days old, which the company shall certify not later than 120 days before the date on which the certified development company issues a debenture with respect to the project to which the loan relates.

''(c) ACCREDITED LENDER CERTIFIED COMPANY DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'accredited lender certified company' means a certified development company that meets the requirements under section 507(b), including a certified development company that the Administration has designated as an accredited lender under such section 507(b).''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 511. CLOSING AND OVERSIGHT.

''(a) SBA DISTRICT COUNSELS.—Beginning on the date of enactment of this section, with respect to the program established under this title, district counsels of the Administration shall be subject to the same requirements, and shall have the same authority and responsibilities, as in effect with respect to that program on the day before the date of enactment of this section, except that—

''(1) the Office of Credit Risk Management of the Administration shall have the responsibility for all duties relating to conducting file reviews of loans made under this title; and

''(2) district counsels of the Administration shall not have any responsibility relating to the review of closing packages with respect to a loan made under this title.

''(b) DESIGNATED ATTORNEYS.—For the purposes of this title, the following provisions and requirements shall apply with respect to a designated attorney of a certified development company:

''(1) A designated attorney that meets the requirements determined under paragraph (2) shall be responsible for certifying documents relating to the closing of a loan described in this title.

''(2) The Administrator may determine any continuing education requirements that the designated attorney shall be required to satisfy in order to be permitted to close a loan made under this title.

''(3) If, as of the date of enactment of this section, a certified development company does not have a designated attorney, during the 270-day period beginning on that date of enactment, the certified development company may identify such an attorney, subject to the approval of the Administrator.''.

SEC. 5. CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LOANS FOR SMALL MANUFACTURERS.

(a) CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENT.—Section 502(a)(3)(C) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as designated by section 3, is amended—

(1) by redesignating clauses (i), (ii), (iii), and (iv) as subclauses (I), (II), (III), and (IV), respectively, and adjusting the margins of such subclauses accordingly;

(2) by inserting before subclause (I), as so redesignated, the following:

''(i) for a small business concern that is not a small manufacturer (as defined in section 501(e)(7))—'';

(3) in subclause (III), as so redesignated, by striking ''clauses (i) and (ii)'' and inserting ''subclauses (I) and (II)'';

(4) in subclause (IV) as so redesignated, by striking the period and the end and inserting ''; or''; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

''(ii) for a small manufacturer (as defined in section 501(e)(7))—

''(I) at least 5 percent of the total cost of the project financed, if the small business concern has been in operation for a period of 2 years or less;

''(II) at least 5 percent of the total cost of the project financed, if the project involves a limited or single purpose building or structure;

''(III) at least 10 percent of the total cost of the project financed if the project involves

both of the conditions set forth in subclauses (I) and (II); or

''(IV) at least 5 percent of the total cost of the project financed, in all other circumstances, at the discretion of the development company.''.

(b) CREATION OR RETENTION OF JOBS REQUIREMENT.—Section 501(e) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695(e)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''creates or retains'' and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting ''creates or retains 1 job for every $75,000 guaranteed by the Administration, except that the amount is $150,000 in the case of a project of a small manufacturer.'';

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking ''creates or retains'' and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting ''creates or retains 1 job for every $75,000 guaranteed by the Administration, except that the amount is $150,000 in the case of a project of a small manufacturer.'';

(3) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (7); and

(4) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following:

''(6) For a loan for a project directed toward the creation of job opportunities under subsection (d)(1), the Administrator shall publish on the website of the Administration the number of jobs created or retained under the project as of the date that is 2 years after the completion (as determined based on information provided by the development company) of the project.''.

(c) COLLATERAL REQUIREMENTS.—Section 502(a)(3)(E)(i) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as designated by section 3, is amended by adding at the end the following: ''Additional collateral shall not be required in the case of a small manufacturer (as defined in section 501(e)(7)).''.

(d) DEBT REFINANCING.—Section 502(a)(7)(B) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as designated by section 3, is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding clause (i) by inserting ''(or in the case of a small manufacturer (as defined in section 501(e)(7)), that does not exceed 100 percent of the project cost of the expansion)'' after ''cost of the expansion'';

(2) in clause (v), by adding ''and'' at the end;

(3) by striking clause (vi); and

(4) by redesignating clause (vii) as clause (vi).

(e) AMOUNT OF GUARANTEED DEBENTURE.—Section 503(a) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 697(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) Any debenture issued by a State or local development company to a small manufacturer (as defined in section 501(e)(7)) with respect to which a guarantee is made under this subsection shall be in an amount equal to not more than 50 percent of the cost of the project with respect to which such debenture is issued, without regard to whether good cause has been shown.''.

SEC. 6. ASSISTANCE FOR SMALL MANUFACTURERS.

Title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695 et seq.), as amended by section 4(2), is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 512. ASSISTANCE FOR SMALL MANUFACTURERS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall ensure that each district office of the Administration partners with not less than 1 resource partner to provide training to small business concerns assigned a North American Industry Classification System code for manufacturing on obtaining assistance under the program carried out under this title, including with respect to the application process under that program and partnering with development companies under this title.

''(b) RESOURCE PARTNER DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'resource partner' means—

''(1) a small business development center (defined in section 3 of the Small Business Act);

''(2) a women's business center (described under section 29 of such Act);

''(3) a chapter of the Service Corps of Retired Executives (established under section 8(b)(1)(B) of such Act); and

''(4) a Veteran Business Outreach Center (described under section 32 of such Act).''.

SEC. 7. LEASING RULES FOR NEW FACILITIES AND EXISTING BUILDINGS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 502(a) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as designated by section 3, is amended by striking paragraphs (4) and (5) and inserting the following new paragraphs:

''(4) NEW FACILITIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to a project to construct a new facility, an assisted small business concern may permanently lease not more than 20 percent of the project if such concern—

''(i) permanently occupies and uses not less than 60 percent of the project;

''(ii) plans to occupy and use an additional portion of the project that is not permanently leased not later than 3 years after receipt of assistance under this section; and

''(iii) plans to permanently occupy and use 80 percent of the project not later than 10 years after receipt of such assistance.

''(B) SMALL MANUFACTURERS.—With respect to an assisted small business concern that is a small manufacturer (as defined in section 501(e)(6)), subparagraph (A)(i) shall apply with '50 percent' substituted for '60 percent'.

''(5) EXISTING BUILDINGS.—With respect to a project to acquire, renovate, or reconstruct an existing building, the following shall apply:

''(A) OCCUPANCY REQUIREMENTS.—The assisted small business concern may permanently lease not more than 50 percent of the project if the concern permanently occupies and uses not less than 50 percent of the project.

''(B) EXCEPTION.—The assisted small business concern may permanently lease more than 50 percent of the project if—

''(i) such concern—

''(I) has occupied and used the existing building for a consecutive 12-month period before submitting an application for assistance under this section;

''(II) agrees to permanently use less than 50 percent of the existing building and permanently lease more than 50 percent for a consecutive 12-month period after receiving such assistance; and

''(III) affirms that the existing building is appropriate for current and reasonably anticipated needs; and

''(ii) the development company assisting such project—

''(I) provides written notice to the Administrator on the date on which the development company closes the loan for such project; and

''(II) once each year during the first 5 years of the loan, and once every 2 years for the remainder of the loan—

''(aa) conducts an examination of the assisted small business concern to ensure the concern is not a real estate development business; and

''(bb) files with the Administrator an anti-investor certification signed by the development company and the assisted small business concern.

''(C) LEASE TERM.—Any residential lease made under this paragraph shall be for a term of not more than 1 year, and any commercial lease made under this paragraph shall be for a term of not more than 5 years.''.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall submit to Congress a report analyzing the impact of the amendments made by this section on access to capital for small business concerns (as defined under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632)), and recommending whether similar notice, examination, and certifications requirements should be made to the program established under section 7(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. DAVIDS) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Kansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the bill before us today, H.R. 1490, the 504 Modernization and Small Manufacturer Enhancement Act of 2021.

504 loans are an important SBA capital access product, allowing small businesses to affordably purchase machinery and equipment, acquire real estate, or take on other fixed asset costs.

The loan has a three-party structure where an SBA-backed 504 lender provides 40 percent of the financing, a third-party lender provides 50 percent of the financing, and a small business borrower provides 10 percent. This unique structure has helped thousands of entrepreneurs expand their businesses and hire more employees, especially businesses with significant fixed costs.

Last Congress, the Committee on Small Business's Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Regulations held a hearing to review the current status of the 504 loan program. We heard from a panel of 504 lenders who reported concerns with the loan closing process, specifically that closing delays have caused loans to fall through and businesses to lose out on affordable financing.

To that end, Ms. CRAIG put forth a strong proposal to streamline the 504 loan closing process and make compliance easier for CDCs, borrowers, and third-party lenders, who are essential to the 504 loan structure.

Two of the provisions of that bill, which passed unanimously through our committee and the House, were also included in the Economic Aid Act that was enacted in December.

The version of the bill before us today is identical to the version we passed last Congress, but for those provisions included in the Economic Aid Act.

The changes under consideration today continue to address the issues we have heard in our engagement with 504 lenders and their borrowers in our districts, and I am pleased we are taking a vote on them today.

□ 1445

These include increasing the maximum loan size for small manufacturers from $5.5 million to $6.5 million and easing the job retention or creation requirement for them, which helps make 504 loans easier to access.

We should be doing everything that we can to make navigating and utilizing this program as simple as possible. As a member of the Small Business Committee, I am committed to helping our small businesses and manufacturers weather this current crisis and to helping Main Street come back even stronger.

It is why I fought to secure $10 billion for the Defense Production Act in the American Rescue Plan Act to ramp up domestic production of PPE and other critical supplies. It is also why I introduced the SUPPLIES Act, which would promote the manufacturing of PPE and medical supplies by small businesses here in the U.S. I am proud to be a cosponsor of the bill to help small businesses and manufacturers so they can help us.

I want to thank the gentlewoman from Minnesota and the gentlewoman from California for their hard work, and I applaud their efforts to make bipartisan improvements to this valuable program.

I recommend a ''yes'' vote to all my colleagues in the House.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1490, the 504 Modernization and Small Manufacturer Enhancement Act of 2021.

When capital options are limited for a small business, the SBA offers numerous lending programs, including the 504/Certified Development Company Loan Program. Also known as a 504/CDC loan, the program provides long-term and fixed-rate financing that primarily supports purchases of real estate and machinery.

Due to the program's unique cost structure that includes a small business, a lender, and a certified development company, the process is often lengthy and cumbersome. H.R. 1490 takes important steps to streamline the closing process and ensures the Nation's job creators move through the program in a smooth and efficient manner.

Additionally, H.R. 1490 enhances the 504/CDC loan program for America's small manufacturers. By increasing the maximum loan amount for small manufacturers, H.R. 1490 ensures these small businesses have the capital to expand and create jobs in Missouri and beyond.

Enhancements to lending resources and tools, such as those outlined in H.R. 1490, is exactly what our small businesses, entrepreneurs, and startups need.

I want to highlight the work of Ms. CRAIG from Minnesota, Mrs. KIM from California, Mr. CHABOT from Ohio, and Ms. DAVIDS from Kansas on this important matter. I would also like to thank the chairwoman for her efforts as well.

The changes in H.R. 1490 will improve delivery of the 504/CDC loan program for all of America's small businesses. I urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 1490.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. CRAIG).

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, for over a year now, small businesses in my district and across the country have struggled to make it through this public health and economic crisis. As a result of this pandemic, prospective small business owners face a steeper climb than ever before.

We must do more to make it easy to start, operate, and expand a small business in our communities. One of the most important ways that we can do this is by ensuring that the Small Business Administration's loan programs are operating as effectively and efficiently as possible.

Today, we have two bills that would do exactly that, including my bipartisan bill, the 504 Modernization and Small Manufacturer Enhancement Act. These crucial bipartisan pieces of legislation will not only increase the amount of capital available to manufacturers, but will actually ease the process of getting a loan because, in the midst of a severe economic crisis, our businessowners simply cannot be bogged down in red tape and legalese.

Taken together, these bills will help to promote the economic development of small manufacturers, creating good paying jobs in growing industries all across this country.

To demonstrate just how impactful these loans can be, I want to tell you about Nate Bry, a lifelong resident of Rosemount, Minnesota. Thirteen years ago, Nate founded a sports apparel company called Custom Apparel Inc. in the basement of his home. After years of hard work, Nate felt that it was finally time to reach a turning point, but he didn't have the resources he needed to take his business to the next level. When Nate received a 504 loan, he was immediately able to invest in his company, building a facility to manufacture his products right in his hometown, creating good–paying jobs in the very same community where he grew up.

Nate's story, like so many others, is proof that the 504 loan program can change the lives of small business owners in this country. This program ensures that small businesses like Nate's are able to succeed, bringing home the job growth and economic stability that our communities are striving for, especially as we emerge from this devastating economic crisis.

Because these are not simply businesses. These are livelihoods, family traditions, and priceless contributions to our communities, and we have an opportunity to support them on a bipartisan basis by taking action today.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to come together and join me in supporting these bills and businesses across our Nation.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM), someone who believes in cutting red tape to help ease the regulatory burden on all our small businesses.

Mrs. KIM of California. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative LUETKEMEYER for his leadership in the House Small Business Committee. I would also like to extend my special thanks to Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ for putting forward these very important bills.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1490, the 504 Modernization and Small Manufacturer Enhancement Act of 2021.

I was proud to join my colleagues, Representatives CRAIG, DAVIDS, and CHABOT, to introduce this bipartisan bill to modernize the SBA's 504 loan program. The program was established with the mission to incentivize economic growth and job creation by providing small businesses with affordable long-term financing.

Our bill will provide the SBA with the tools to assist small businesses as they recover during COVID–19. H.R. 1490 would expand eligibility of 504 loans for small businesses that have focused on workforce development, revitalized areas hit hard by the pandemic or disaster areas, and implemented energy-efficient products, or have 10 or fewer employees. These additions will strengthen the 504 loan program for the long run and help small businesses in my community access much-needed capital.

The bill will also streamline the closing process of 504 loans. Specifically, H.R. 1490 allows Certified Development Companies to rectify documentation without the implicit approval of the SBA. These corrections will allow small businesses to make investments in their community or hire more workers without delay.

Lastly, the bill would support our small manufacturers to ensure that our community's manufacturing base remains strong and competitive during these difficult times.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 1490.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY), a small business owner herself who knows the importance of cutting red tape and how it can be linked to success of a small business.

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ and Ranking Member LUETKEMEYER for bringing forth this great bipartisan bill.

I rise today in support of H.R. 1490, the 504 Modernization and Small Manufacturer Enhancement Act. I am proud to cosponsor this bill with my colleagues from both sides of the aisle.

This bipartisan legislation improves the loan guaranty program and helps small manufacturers access capital by streamlining the loan process and providing support to manufacturers who apply for the loan from local Small Business Administration district offices.

As small businesses across the country and throughout New York's 22nd District continue to struggle with the devastating impacts of COVID–19, we must provide targeted support to our small businesses and manufacturers, and H.R. 1490 does just that.

This legislation increases the maximum loan amount to $6.5 million and requires SBA district offices to partner with SBA resource partners to provide entrepreneurial development assistance to small manufacturers, which are abundant in central New York.

This bill will also work to lower costs and streamline numerous administrative processes for small manufacturers, giving these businesses the tools and support they need to keep their doors open, something that has been said to me repeatedly through numerous townhalls with the small business community around the region.

As a member of the House Small Business Committee and, as the ranking member indicated, the owner of a small manufacturing facility that is in its 75th year in central New York, I am pleased to cosponsor H.R. 1490 and the other three small business bills on the floor today. These four bills will provide targeted relief to small businesses across New York's 22nd District and throughout the Nation. At a time when Americans seek true bipartisanship from its elected officials, I am honored to be part of that effort.

Madam Speaker, I thank Representative CRAIG from Minnesota and Representative KIM from California for their leadership on this issue. I look forward to continuing to work with them on this matter.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, we have one more gentleman coming, but there is a long path between his office and here. Apparently he is not here on time, so I am prepared to close.

Madam Speaker, as our economy continues to recover and as our small businesses rebuild, existing Federal Government programs, tools, and resources need to be ready to provide assistance. Processes that are slow and unwieldy must be examined and retooled to ensure they are working on behalf of small businesses and the American public.

H.R. 1490, the 504 Modernization and Small Manufacturer Enhancement Act of 2021, takes these steps to streamline the program while ensuring it is a viable option for small businesses as they recover and grow.

Additionally, H.R. 1490 places a direct focus on our Nation's small manufacturers. We must continue to work in a bipartisan manner to ensure these programs are ready for recovery.

With that, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1490.

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

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, the SBA's 504 loan program has made a significant impact on our Main Streets in its 62-year history.

In addition to partnering with banks to extend affordable fixed-asset capital, most CDCs in the program are also actively involved in promoting local economic development, especially for underserved business communities.

I am proud of the opportunity we have today to continue supporting the work of CDCs. I want to applaud the work by the gentlewoman from Minnesota, the gentlewoman from California, and their bipartisan effort on the 504 program.

I encourage all of my colleagues to vote ''yes.''

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. DAVIDS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1490.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. WEBER of Texas. 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.

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

504 CREDIT RISK MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2021

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1482) to amend the Small Business Act to enhance the Office of Credit Risk Management, to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to issue rules relating to environmental obligations of certified development companies, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1482

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''504 Credit Risk Management Improvement Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. ENHANCEMENTS TO THE OFFICE OF CREDIT RISK MANAGEMENT.

Section 47 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657t) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) DUTIES.—The Office—

''(1) shall be responsible for—

''(A) supervising—

''(i) any lender making loans under section 7(a) (in this section referred to as a '7(a) lender');

''(ii) any Lending Partner or Intermediary participant of the Administration in a lending program of the Office of Capital Access of the Administration;

''(iii) any small business lending company or a non-Federally regulated lender without regard to the requirements of section 23; and

''(iv) any certified development company described under the program established under title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (referred to in this section as a 'certified development company'), as provided in subsection (k); and

''(B) conducting file reviews with respect to loan closings under the program established under title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as provided in subsection (j); and

''(2) may—

''(A) take formal and informal enforcement actions against a certified development company, as provided in subsection (l); and

''(B) charge a certified development company a fee, as provided in subsection (m).''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsections:

''(j) LOAN CLOSING FILE REVIEWS.—With respect to a loan closing under the program established under title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, the Office shall be responsible for the following:

''(1) Conducting a complete file review of a random selection of all loan closings, the number, frequency, and conduct of which shall be at the discretion of the Office, to ensure program integrity, including a review of the items listed on the Checklist for Complete File Review contained in the appropriate form of the Administration.

''(2) Not later than 60 days after the date on which each complete file review conducted under paragraph (1) is completed, preparing a written report documenting the results of that review, which the Office shall send to—

''(A) the applicable certified development company;

''(B) the designated attorney that closed the loan for the certified development company; and

''(C) the Commercial Loan Service Center.

''(3) If a complete file review conducted under paragraph (1) reveals a deficiency that could result in a loss to the Administration, requiring the applicable certified development company or the designated attorney to promptly correct the deficiency.

''(k) SUPERVISION OF CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT COMPANIES.—With respect to the supervision of certified development companies—

''(1) an employee of the Office shall—

''(A) be present for, and supervise, the review of any such company that is conducted by a contractor of the Office on the premises of the company; and

''(B) supervise the review of any such company that is conducted by a contractor of the Office that is not conducted on the premises of the company; and

''(2) the Administrator shall—

''(A) develop a timeline for the review by the Office of certified development companies and the submission of reports regarding those reviews, under which the Administrator shall—

''(i) submit to a certified development company a written report of any review of the company not later than 90 days after the date on which the review is concluded; or

''(ii) if the Administrator expects to submit the report after the end of the 90-day period described in clause (i), notify the company of the expected date of submission of the report and the reason for the delay; and

''(B) if a response by a certified development company is requested in a report submitted under subparagraph (A)(i), require the company to submit responses to the Administrator not later than 45 business days after the date on which the company receives the report.

''(l) ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY AGAINST CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT COMPANIES.—

''(1) INFORMAL ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY.—The Director may take an informal enforcement action against a certified development company if the Director finds that the company has violated a statutory or regulatory requirement or any requirement in a Standard Operating Procedures Manual or Policy Notice relating to a program or function of the Office of Capital Access.

''(2) FORMAL ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—With the approval of the Lender Oversight Committee established under section 48, the Director may take a formal enforcement action against any certified development company if the Director finds that the company has violated—

''(i) a statutory or regulatory requirement, including a requirement relating to the necessary funds for making loans when those funds are not made available to the company from private sources on reasonable terms; or

''(ii) any requirement described in a Standard Operating Procedures Manual or Policy Notice relating to a program or function of the Office of Capital Access.

''(B) ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS.—The decision to take an enforcement action against a certified development company under subparagraph (A) shall be based on the severity or frequency of the violation and may include assessing a civil monetary penalty against the company in an amount that is not greater than $250,000.

''(3) FAILURE TO SUBMIT ANNUAL REPORT.—With respect to a certified development company that, as of the date that is 30 days after the date on which the company is required to submit any report, fails to submit that report, the Director may—

''(A) suspend the company from participating in the program established under title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 for a period that is not longer than 30 days; or

''(B) impose a penalty on the company in an amount to be determined by the Director, except that the amount of the penalty shall be not more than $10,000.

''(m) FEE AUTHORITY REGARDING CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT COMPANIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Effective one year after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the Office may collect from each certified development company a fee, the amount of which—

''(A) shall be determined on a graduated scale according to the size of the portfolio of the certified development company with respect to the program carried out under title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958; and

''(B) shall not exceed the amount that is 1 basis point with respect to the value of the portfolio described in subparagraph (A).

''(2) PAYMENT.—A certified development company on which a fee is imposed under paragraph (1) shall pay the fee from the servicing fees collected by the development company pursuant to regulation.''.

SEC. 3. RULES RELATING TO OBLIGATIONS OF CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT COMPANIES UNDER THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall issue rules to clarify the procedures necessary for an eligible certified development company to comply with the applicable requirements under National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to modify the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

(c) ELIGIBLE CERTIFIED DEVELOPMENT COMPANY DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''eligible certified development company'' means a certified development company defined under title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695 et seq.) that receives assistance pursuant to such title.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. DAVIDS) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Kansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1500

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the bill before us today, H.R. 1482, the 504 Credit Risk Management Improvement Act, which clarifies the oversight role of the SBA's Office of Credit Risk Management in respect to CDCs.

To improve oversight of the SBA business loan programs, including the 7(a) and 504 loan programs, the agency established the Office of Credit Risk Management—OCRM—within the Office of Capital Access. OCRM conducts periodic reviews of SBA lenders to ensure they are complying with program requirements.

In 2018, Congress passed bipartisan legislation to codify the office and gave it the tools it needs to conduct proper oversight and hold noncompliant lenders accountable.

It was our intent to boost the office's enforcement powers to help minimize the likelihood that business loan programs would face losses and reduce the need for Congress to appropriate funds.

I should point out that these programs are designed to operate at zero subsidy, meaning they come at no cost to the taxpayer, and we intend to keep it that way.

I am pleased that the gentleman from North Carolina, along with the gentlewoman from Minnesota, worked together to bring this bill to life last Congress. This bill clarifies OCRM's oversight role and shifts loan closing file review responsibilities to the office and, in turn, keeps the program running at a zero subsidy. I applaud their bipartisanship and, more importantly, their commitment to America's small businesses.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote ''yes,'' and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 1482, the 504 Credit Risk Management Improvement Act of 2021.

I thank the chair again for advancing all these bills that are meant to assist small businesses across the Nation. I also thank the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP), the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM), the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. DAVIDS), the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. CRAIG), as well as the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) for working in a bipartisan manner to strengthen the 504/CDC loan program.

Government programs, especially government guaranteed loan programs, are only as strong as the oversight that is required.

In order to protect and safeguard American tax dollars, executive branch agencies must have a watchful eye focused on these programs.

The Office of Credit Risk Management is a division at the Small Business Administration that is charged with overseeing many of the government guaranteed lending programs that the SBA offers to small businesses. H.R. 1482 ensures the Office of Credit Risk Management has a trained eye focused on the 504/CDC loan program.

Specifically, the legislation outlines how the office should conduct reviews under the lending program.

Additionally, H.R. 1482 details the enforcement authority of the Office of Credit Risk Management. These enhancements will ensure the program operates effectively and efficiently into the future.

Lastly, the bill requires the SBA to clearly and concisely define how the 504/CDC loan program operates in conjunction with the Nation's environmental laws and rules. Unfortunately, this process currently lacks certainty by the SBA.

Simply put, Federal Government programs require robust oversight and the

programs must have clear rules for small businesses. H.R. 1482 addresses both of these issues head on.

Madam Speaker, I urge and recommend all my colleagues to support H.R. 1482, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT), the former chairman of the Small Business Committee.

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1482.

I thank my colleague from Minnesota, Representative ANGIE CRAIG, for working with me on this bipartisan bill.

I also thank the other cosponsors, Representatives SHARICE DAVIDS and YOUNG KIM, for their work; as well as the full chair of the committee, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, who I worked with many years either with myself as chair and she as ranking, or her as chair and myself as ranking.

I thank Mr. LUETKEMEYER for the great job he is doing. At this point he is the ranking member of the committee. Hopefully he will be chair next time, depending on what the American people think a year and a half down the road.

So what does this legislation do?

A number of things. It streamlines the 504 loan closing process, clarifies the loan closing and oversight process, and enhances the program for small manufacturers. And small manufacturers are absolutely critical in the economy nowadays. And we were actually making great strides in bringing back more and more jobs there until COVID hit. So that is why programs like this are so important to give them the assistance that they need to get those jobs growing once again in that sector of the economy.

The 504 program has been one of the more successful of the SBA—the Small Business Administration—loan programs over the years, and it is really crucial as we recover from COVID-caused hardships of the past year.

The SBA CDC/504 loan program provides the Nation's smallest businesses with long-term and fixed-rate financing. Importantly, it requires that certain economic development criteria are in place to qualify for the program. And job creation and job retention are critical goals of the program.

This bill passed the House last December in the previous Congress, and I am happy to see it on the floor again this Congress. Hopefully we will get this bill signed into law this time and help provide small businesses with the support they need to recover from the pandemic, and hopefully we will be looking at the pandemic in the rearview mirror sooner rather than later.

I thank the Small Business Committee for the great work they are doing on behalf of America's small businesses. It is one of those committees that really does work in a bipartisan manner, Republicans and Democrats working together, and that is absolutely critical if we are going to get anything done.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM), a really hard worker and a big supporter of small businesses around this country.

Mrs. KIM of California. Madam Speaker, I thank Ranking Member LUETKEMEYER for yielding.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 1482, the 504 Credit Risk Management Improvement Act of 2021.

I am proud to have joined my colleagues, Representatives ANGIE CRAIG, DAN BISHOP, and SHARICE DAVIDS, to introduce this important bipartisan bill.

The Small Business Administration's 504 loan program provides small businesses with affordable long-term financing to purchase major fixed assets, such as machinery and real estate. This bill would ensure that our taxpayers' hard-earned dollars are spent effectively by enhancing oversight responsibilities of the SBA Office of Credit Risk Management.

Our bill will provide the SBA with the tools to enforce penalties for any violation of rules and regulations. By providing the SBA with these tools, we look to strengthen the 504 loan program for many years to come.

Additionally, this bill provides consistent and clear guidance when requiring certain environmental certifications. This change will provide small businesses with certainty about requirements and uniform regulations across the country.

For any Federal program to be successful, Congress and the executive branch must work together to ensure that we have a regulatory framework that is efficient and able to prevent fraud and abuse of taxpayer dollars. I commend my colleagues from both sides of the aisle for their leadership on this important issue.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support H.R. 1482.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise in support of my legislation, the 504 Credit Risk Management Improvement Act of 2021.

As you may remember, this exact bill passed unanimously last December, and I hope the commonsense measure can pass overwhelmingly again.

For those who do not know about the 504 program, this was one of the first programs established at the Small Business Administration and has been a key tool for economic development.

To receive financing, 504 loan recipients must create jobs or meet public policy goals, like aiding rural development or revitalizing a business district.

In its economic development role, the 504 program has provided access to capital and helped build communities across the country for over six decades.

To ensure the program's continued success and viability for years to come, I partnered with Representative ANGIE CRAIG to craft a bill that provides the SBA with the tools necessary to maintain the long-term health of the 504 program.

This bill codifies the SBA's oversight responsibilities for the 504 program and provides the Office of Credit Risk Management with full control of the review process for certified development companies, known as CDCs, that deliver this program.

The legislation also establishes a formal process of communication between the Office of Credit Risk Management and CDCs to facilitate reviews to make sure the SBA is providing timely feedback to CDCs.

Additionally, this legislation requires the SBA to provide clear direction to certified development companies as they navigate environmental rules and regulations.

Finally, this bill will help ensure that the program continues to operate on the fees built into the program.

SBA programs, including the 504 program, have been at the forefront of economic aid to businesses struggling as a result of the COVID–19 pandemic. The SBA core lending programs will continue to play a key role in business recovery.

I am proud to do my part to ensure the 504 program continues to be a lifeline to businesses and communities today and into the future.

I thank Chairwoman VELÁZQUEZ and Ranking Member LUETKEMEYER for their leadership. I thank my colleague, Ms. CRAIG, for her partnership on this important bill. I also thank Mrs. YOUNG KIM, Ms. DAVIDS, Ms. TENNEY, and Mr. COHEN for their support of this bill.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers at this time, and I am prepared to close.

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

Oversight of Federal Government programs is paramount to ensure American taxpayer dollars are used wisely. H.R. 1482 not only increases the oversight capabilities of the SBA over the 504/CDC loan program, but also requires clear and concise guidance for small business owners moving forward. There are sound changes that will improve the program for future 504/CDC borrowers.

I applaud all Members for working on this legislation and all of the small business bills before us today. We must continue to put our Nation's job creators at the forefront of this economic recovery.

Madam Speaker, I would like to take a few moments to make a couple comments here with regard to all the bills that we have offered here today. All these bills dealt with things that deal with oversight.

We, as legislators in this body, have two jobs. One is to provide legislation to improve the lives of our businesses and the people in this country, protect our country. Second is to provide oversight over all of the activities that go on within the executive branch, as well as the judicial branch, to whatever extent we can.

In our committee, we oversee the legislation with regard to the Small Business Administration, as well as oversight of their activities. We have come to find over the last several weeks here that the inspector general reports that the SBA is not being run as well as it should. There is fraud rampant in some of the programs, which is verified by the AG reports. We have a new Administrator who has got her hands full because of the lack of knowledge of what goes on with all the brand-new things going on.

So we have got a real problem and we, as legislators, have got to step up. These bills today are just one step in the process of providing the kind of oversight that it takes. We will continue to provide oversight, I can assure you. And those listening and watching today need to take heart in the fact that we are going to continue to provide the kind of oversight over the Small Business Administration and all of its programs that we have been tasked with and are responsible for.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1482, the last bill we will discuss today, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, in its 62-year history, the SBA's 504 loan program has helped thousands of entrepreneurs acquire heavy machinery and equipment, expand to more locations, and hire workers. It has long been a strong-performing SBA program and has enjoyed consistent bipartisanship support.

We must continue to take all steps needed to preserve the integrity of the 504 program and ensure it will be an option for the next generation of entrepreneurs. Passing the bill before us today will help us do so.

I thank Mr. BISHOP and Ms. CRAIG for their hard work and collaboration in bringing this bill to the floor today. I also thank Mr. LUETKEMEYER for his leadership today and his unwavering commitment to our Nation's 30 million small businesses.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes,'' and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. DAVIDS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1482.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. WEBER of Texas. 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.

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

□ 1515

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 7, PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1195, WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PREVENTION FOR HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL SERVICE WORKERS ACT

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 303 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 303

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 7) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and Labor now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor or their respective designees; (2) the further amendments described in section 2 of this resolution; (3) the amendments en bloc described in section 3 of this resolution; and (4) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. After debate pursuant to the first section of this resolution, each further amendment printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules not earlier considered as part of amendments en bloc pursuant to section 3 of this resolution shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before the question is put thereon, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

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

SEC. 4. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 1195) to direct the Secretary of Labor to issue an occupational safety and health standard that requires covered employers within the health care and social service industries to develop and implement a comprehensive workplace violence prevention plan, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and Labor now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor or their respective designees; (2) the further amendments described in section 5 of this resolution; (3) the amendments en bloc described in section 6 of this resolution; and (4) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 5. After debate pursuant to section 4 of this resolution, each further amendment printed in part C of the report of the Committee on Rules not earlier considered as part of amendments en bloc pursuant to section 6 of this resolution shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before the question is put thereon, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

SEC. 6. It shall be in order at any time after debate pursuant to section 4 of this resolution for the chair of the Committee on Education and Labor or his designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in part C of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc offered pursuant to this section shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor or their respective designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

SEC. 7. All points of order against the further amendments printed in parts B and C of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution or amendments en bloc described in sections 3 and 6 of this resolution are waived.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield

the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, yesterday the Committee on Rules met and reported a rule, House Resolution 303, providing for consideration of H.R. 7, the Paycheck Fairness Act, under a structured rule. It provides 1 hour of debate, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor. It self-executes a manager's amendment from Chairman SCOTT and makes in order six amendments to H.R. 7. It also provides for one motion to recommit.

The rule also provides for consideration of H.R. 1195, the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act, under a structured rule. It provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor and makes in order six amendments to H.R. 1195. It also provides for one motion to recommit. Finally, the rule provides for an en bloc authority to Chairman SCOTT or his designee for both bills.

Madam Speaker, before I begin, I just wanted to take a moment—this is the first time I have been on the floor since we lost Congressman Hastings—to say for myself, personally, how much gratitude I have for having known him and been able to serve with him. I regret that I won't see his smiling face, at least in this body, again.

Madam Speaker, the two bills we are talking about today have the potential to drastically improve the working lives of millions of Americans.

In 2019, nearly 1 in 9 women in the United States lived in poverty, with even higher rates for women of color. More than 1 in 3 families, headed by unmarried mothers, lived in poverty. And 60 percent of all poor children lived in families headed by unmarried mothers.

The coronavirus pandemic has only deepened the divides that already existed in this country. Women are especially likely to be on the front lines of the pandemic. At the same time, they are also being paid less than their male counterparts.

Madam Speaker, 93 percent of childcare workers, 66 percent of grocery store cashiers, 70 percent of food servers, and 77 percent of clothing, shoe stores, and retail salespeople are women. Women—disproportionately Black women and Latinas—make up more than 8 in 10 of those working as home health aides, personal care aides, and nursing assistants. They are also at great risk for contracting COVID–19.

Madam Speaker, 6 months ago, deep into the pandemic, 1 in 6 Latinas and 1 in 5 Black women reported not having enough food in the previous week, and many reported being behind on rent or mortgage payments. Even before the pandemic, women typically lost more than $10,000 every year to the gender wage gap, with even higher losses for women of color.

More than five decades after the passage of the Equal Pay Act of 1963, a woman in America still makes only 82 cents on average for every dollar earned by her male counterpart. Compared to White men, Black women are paid 63 cents. Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander women are paid 63 cents, American Indian or Alaska Native women are paid 60 cents and Hispanic women are paid 55 cents.

Based on today's wage gap, a woman who works full time year-round stands to lose over $400,000 over a 40-year career because of this disparity. This is not the United States that Frances Perkins, the first woman Secretary, envisioned, and we have an opportunity today to make a real change.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to have joined with my very dear friend, Chairwoman DELAURO, to introduce the Paycheck Fairness Act, which is an important step towards ending gender-based wage discrimination and ensuring that all women receive equal pay for equal work. It is time to make equal pay for equal work more than just a slogan and turn it into a reality.

Madam Speaker, we are also here to talk about the epidemic of violence against healthcare and social service workers. Last year, Department of Labor statistics show that they were nearly five times as likely to suffer a serious workplace violence injury than workers in other industries.

The General Accounting Office found that rates of violence against healthcare workers in hospitals, nursing homes, and residential care facilities is 5 to 12 times higher than the estimated rates for workers overall. Between 2011 and 2016, 58 hospital workers died as a result of workplace violence.

Madam Speaker, for me, this matter strikes close to home. In 2010, Napa State Hospital technician Donna K. Gross was killed outside of Napa State Hospital by a patient under psychiatric care. Donna was a constituent. She entered the profession to honor her mother, who battled mental illness and was a patient at this very same hospital. She was the mother of three grown children and was raising her granddaughter. Her colleagues described her by saying: ''First and foremost, Donna was a human service-type person and loved being with people and working with people.''

Donna's life was cut short when a patient brutally murdered her to steal jewelry and cash. This story is just one of thousands, and incidents are on the rise. Sadly, violence has become so commonplace for healthcare workers that they think it is part of their job, resulting in only 30 percent of violent incidents actually being reported.

Some States have stepped up to enact laws to require employers to establish a plan to protect against workplace violence. Donna's story, for example, inspired action in California that I was proud to be part of. That action in California served as the basis for the bill before us tomorrow.

These workers deserve national action, and they deserve it now. At the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, these workers are not receiving the urgent attention they need.

OSHA takes at least 7 years to put out a standard. But in some instances, it can take more than 20 years. People like Donna Kay Gross cannot wait any longer.

To protect the people who dedicate their lives to caring for us, we need to move now. In truth, we needed to move years ago. The longer we wait, the more people are suffering. The longer we wait, the more people like Donna will die.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1530

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I want to thank Mr. DESAULNIER from California for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I first want to acknowledge, along with Mr. DESAULNIER, the poignant loss that we all feel here in the House with the departure of our friend, Alcee Hastings. He was a fixture in the Rules Committee for all the years I have been on the committee. Certainly, while yesterday we acknowledged that we feel his absence, we also feel his presence. He was truly larger than life on the committee.

Today's rule provides for consideration of two bills that are meant to improve working conditions and compensation. The House actually considered these same bills last Congress. They did not receive consideration in the Senate, and I do not believe any substance has changed in the underlying bills.

The first bill, H.R. 7, the Paycheck Fairness Act, seeks to prevent wage discrimination on the basis of sex, a fact that is already prohibited under current law. This legislation will help trial lawyers but offers no new protections against pay discrimination.

The Equal Pay Act of 1963 prohibits all discrimination in pay based upon sex or any other non-job-performance-related issue. Title VII of the Civil Rights Act protects against discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion, and sex. Sex-based wage disparity is in direct violation of not one but two Federal laws.

It is important to acknowledge that bad actors engage in gender pay discrimination. Their actions are illegal,

and they leave employers vulnerable to burdensome lawsuits and heavy fines.

I could not agree more that such discrimination has no place in any business or in society in general. However, those who perpetrate these illegal acts are the exception and not the rule.

Congress must not forget the positive economic trends that this Nation enjoyed before the arrival of the novel coronavirus in the United States. The Trump administration made great strides reining in Federal overreach, which quickly improved opportunities for all Americans. Unemployment was at the lowest level in nearly half a century, and median wages across all demographic groups rose faster than at any other time in American history.

Unfortunately, the majority has crafted legislation that would place greater burdens on employers, reduce the privacy of employees, and increase Federal spending. H.R. 7 does little to protect the wages of American workers who are experiencing gender pay discrimination. In fact, it makes it harder for employers to defend legitimate differentials in pay based on factors other than sex.

Currently, employers may pay differential wages due to factors other than sex, like education, training, or experience. This means that all other things being equal, a woman cannot be paid differently than a man. When an employee brings different qualifications to the job, such as she has an advanced degree or more experience, the factors used to evaluate employee pay are no longer equal. This preserves the flexibility for employers to make the best decision for their businesses, including hiring the most qualified individuals, regardless of sex.

H.R. 7 would now require that nonsex reasons for any wage disparity have a business necessity, a term which is not defined in the bill. Providing a gender-based business necessity that accounts for the entire differential in pay is nearly an impossible standard to defend against.

This change to a bona fide factor defense does not consider the reality of the labor market. Employees are often willing to accept lower pay for greater control over their work location, schedule, and vacation time. Studies have shown that this is particularly true for women.

With the threat of lawsuits hanging over the heads of employers, they are less likely to allow for flexibility in the workplace. Instead of allowing employees to negotiate their own pay and work arrangements, employers will be incentivized to transform jobs that were once negotiable and flexible into jobs that are much more rigid.

H.R. 7 also limits an employer's ability to pay its employees based on performance. If a woman were to earn a performance-based bonus or salary increase that her male coworker did not receive, then that man could file suit against the employer on the basis that the bonus is not a business necessity due to the vagueness in terms in H.R. 7. With this threat in mind, employers are much less likely to use performance-based pay and bonuses, despite studies showing that such pay models actually do increase employee productivity.

While legitimate claims do exist, and I hope that all employees who have experienced discrimination do seek legal remedy, the changes in H.R. 7 would significantly increase the size and profitability of lawsuits, making nonmeritorious claims even more likely for trial lawyers looking for new cash flows. That is the inherent danger.

H.R. 7 also requires employers to provide disaggregated employee information to the Department of Labor without delineating mechanisms to keep that information safe. Have we ever heard that the Federal Government has lost employee data or that the Federal Government may not be the best steward of citizens' private information? Maybe we should limit the data received until those capabilities are, in fact, improved and verified.

The second bill included in this rule, H.R. 1195, requires that the Secretary of Labor issue a rule on workplace violence prevention in the healthcare and social service sectors. Some may be surprised to hear that acts of violence are the third leading cause of fatal occupational injuries. Of these incidents, approximately 8 percent were intentionally caused by another person.

When Americans go to work each day, they do not expect to face violence or other harm. This risk is especially high for healthcare providers and social workers. These caregivers can be subject to patients who may not be in control when under the influence of medication or may have some other mental stress, upset family members, ongoing domestic disputes, and, unfortunately, even gang violence.

The rate of workplace violence resulting in days away from work for healthcare providers is, on average, four times higher than for other professions. In addition, healthcare providers and social workers are less likely to report incidents. This may be partly due to the pledge to do no harm and the inclination to forgive patient-caused injuries as accidental. Regardless of the situation, all workers deserve a safe workplace.

Currently, there is no mandatory standard on workplace violence prevention. However, in 2015, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration published guidelines for preventing workplace violence for healthcare and social service workers and is currently working on a rule for workplace violence prevention.

H.R. 1195 would require the Secretary of Labor to issue a rule on workplace violence prevention based upon OSHA's 2015 guidelines. An interim standard is required within 1 year, and a final rule must be issued within 2 years.

While the goal of this legislation is very important, the timeframe imposed on the Department of Labor and OSHA does exceed the norm. While no one believes that we should continue to delay worker protections, OSHA has already begun the rulemaking process and is gathering stakeholder input.

Perhaps, rather than pass a bill to require the issuance of a rule, we should be considering reforms to the entire OSHA rulemaking process. In other words, let's improve the bureaucracy rather than simply flogging it.

While an OSHA rulemaking would ensure enforcement of workplace violence prevention policies, according to a 2018 American Hospital Association survey, 97 percent of respondents reported they already have a workplace violence prevention policy in place. In 2019, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention stated that additional research was required to identify effective strategies to prevent violence, particularly in healthcare settings.

We can all agree that there is a need for OSHA to do its work to issue a workplace violence prevention regulation to protect healthcare providers and social service workers. I hope we are able to accomplish this goal, but I do worry that we are placing another costly burden on entities through what is supposed to be an expedited process that may require modification in the future to ensure an effective and safe workplace for all Americans.

Madam Speaker, I urge opposition to the rule, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), the distinguished chair of the Rules Committee and representative of the beautiful city of Worcester, Massachusetts.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California, a distinguished member of the Rules Committee and also a graduate of the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, for yielding me the time.

Madam Speaker, I support this rule and the underlying legislation, and I urge my colleagues on both sides to do the same. I hope they all will vote for the rule.

The two bills that we are bringing to the floor are the product of regular order. They went through the committee process, hearings and markups.

We, in the Rules Committee, made the Republican substitutes in order so they can try to defend their ideas, which I don't agree with. Nonetheless, other Republican amendments are made in order as well. But then again, I guess there is not much we can do to make some of my friends happy.

Madam Speaker, I rise for a more somber purpose, and that is to honor my friend and colleague, Congressman ALCEE HASTINGS, who we lost last week after a courageous battle with cancer. I am proud to have sat side-by-side with him in the Rules Committee for many years.

I often say that the Rules Committee is like a family. To those outsiders who

are observing the Rules Committee, we can sometimes look a little bit like a dysfunctional family, but nonetheless, we are a family. Today, our family is in mourning.

This House is already a little less joyful and a little less purpose-driven without him here. That was the thing about ALCEE HASTINGS. Whether he was in the majority or the minority, or whether he liked what we were considering on this floor or not, he relished his service in this institution. He used every day here to wage worthy fights on behalf of justice.

His election marked the first time an African American was elected from Florida since the Civil War era. He went on to become the first Black chairman of the Helsinki Commission, a respected voice on the world stage.

There was not a barrier he was afraid to break. He was steadfast in providing a voice to all those who needed an ally, including minorities, children, immigrants, and people struggling in poverty.

Madam Speaker, I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge that he could do more with the simple turn of a phrase than many of us could do with 100 words or more. As he was yielding back his time in the committee or here on the floor, especially if he felt that we were considering a bill that somehow was disadvantaging vulnerable people in this country, he would get up and give a stern and passionate and succinct lecture to this body. Then he would conclude by saying: That is my story, and I am sticking to it. And if I offended any of you by what I said, that was intentional.

It was pure Alcee Hastings. He chose his words carefully, and he meant every one of them. Now I have lost a dear friend, this Congress has lost a giant, and those who all too often go unseen in America have lost a champion.

We send our prayers and our condolences to his family, to his dedicated and wonderful staff, and to his constituents, knowing that these Halls will never see someone quite like him again.

May he rest in peace.

□ 1545

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

Madam Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, Republicans will amend the rule immediately to consider H.R. 2430, the Temporary Reauthorization and Study of the Emergency Scheduling of Fentanyl Analogues Act. This critical bill would extend the Drug Enforcement Administration's authority to temporarily schedule fentanyl analogues for another year.

Unfortunately, President Biden's open border policy is encouraging drug trafficking of substances like fentanyl. So it is imperative that the Drug Enforcement Administration retain this authority to keep those dangerous substances out of our communities.

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, this is a critical reauthorization and it is imperative to maintaining our Nation's efforts to address the opiate epidemic.

In February of 2018, the Drug Enforcement Administration used its authority to place nonscheduled fentanyl-like substances temporarily into schedule I for a period of 2 years. It is important that we do not let this authorization lapse, as it listed fentanyl is still an eminent threat to Americans.

The Drug Enforcement Administration testified that the positive impacts since implementing this temporary schedule are significant, stating that prior to this action, the DEA observed a rapid and continuous emergence of a new fentanyl-like substance each time it is scheduled to remove a fentanyl-like substance. In other words, you take one out and one would pop up.

We simply cannot return to that reality because of the deadly nature of this substance.

Just last month, two north Texas teenagers died from counterfeit pills containing fentanyl. Last year, the Dallas DEA found over 16 kilograms of fentanyl targeting the region. It contained over 8 million lethal doses—one for every north Texas resident.

Unfortunately, throughout this pandemic, the opiate crisis has continued, and it has gotten worse. Exacerbating this problem is the ease with which fentanyl is being smuggled across our southern border. The changes in border security enforcement that have occurred have sent a message to the cartels and the drug smugglers that securing our sovereignty is no longer an administration priority. What is worse is that some adults and children are forced to carry these drugs into the United States by smugglers. Sometimes innocent individuals traffic drugs into the United States in their vehicles without even knowing that the cartels have placed it there without their knowledge.

The only way to limit the exploitation of innocent individuals and to protect our American communities is to limit the market for these vile products.

During the past year, this country has suffered over half a million deaths to an unforeseen disease. We should do everything we can to trample the market of a known killer: fentanyl. We must equip our communities to address this issue at its very source.

The temporary emergency rescheduling of fentanyl analogues to schedule I is a necessary tool for the Drug Enforcement Administration to work with other agencies and law enforcement officials to address the threat of illicit fentanyl.

Madam Speaker, I strongly support this bill, and I strongly urge fellow Members to defeat the previous question and support H.R. 2430.

Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) to speak on the amendment.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I am here today to ask my colleagues across the aisle to support the efforts outlined in H.R. 2430 to extend the emergency scheduling of fentanyl analogues.

This is an opportunity for us to work together to help stem the flow of deadly fentanyl and its analogues into our country. This is also an issue that impacts every one of us and the communities that we call home.

We all know someone who has been the victim of an addictive or illegal opioid. Just last week in my home State of Georgia, the Georgia attorney general announced that he is investigating fatal drug overdoses blamed on counterfeit medications—medications laced with fentanyl. Those individuals bought illegal products they believed to be Xanax, Percocet, and Roxicodone. These clusters of overdoses were spread across my State, and I know we are not alone. It continues to take the lives of our fellow Americans, and more must be done to fight this.

Fentanyl is an extremely dangerous substance. Three milligrams is enough to be fatal. It is 50 times more potent than heroin. First responders just touching or accidentally inhaling the substance can experience severe complications and possible death.

So where is this coming from?

Across the border with Mexico.

The GAO even reports that seizures of fentanyl from Mexico increased by more than 200 percent from 2018 to 2020.

Every year, U.S. Border Patrol agents intercept enough fentanyl to kill every single American several times over. In fact, the CBP announced in 2019 that they had enough seized fentanyl to kill 800 million people.

I visited the border last week to see this crisis firsthand. I was surprised. It wasn't a crisis. It was a disaster. It is a disaster on the border. Border Patrol agents are so overwhelmed with a 20-year record high number of illegal immigrants that smugglers and cartels are using this as an opportunity to traffic more fentanyl.

If the President and Vice President would visit the border like I did, then they would be able to talk to the agents firsthand and see for themselves how serious this issue is. Instead, they have elected to leave our border wide open.

We are inviting drug traffickers to bring fentanyl into the country and distribute it into our streets—my streets and your streets, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, if we don't look at long-term scheduling options for all

fentanyl products, then we remove the last line of defense to provide a deterrent to illegal distribution.

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

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Our communities are at risk, Madam Speaker, your community and my community—all of our communities. They don't care if it is a Democratic community or a Republican community. They are at risk.

It is time for us to work together as a Congress to pass good legislation. We started to address the opioid epidemic in a bipartisan fashion when Republicans were in the majority with the passage of the SUPPORT Act—a bipartisan product—and the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act. We should get back to working together, and this is a great opportunity to do so.

Madam Speaker, as you know, professionally I am a pharmacist. I have witnessed this. It does not discriminate. Opioid addiction doesn't care if you are a Republican, a Democrat, a male, a female, African American, Caucasian, or Hispanic. It does not care. It is an addiction that is paralyzing our country.

Madam Speaker, I urge defeat of the previous question so that we can immediately consider H.R. 2430.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. LOIS FRANKEL).

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Madam Speaker, just to follow Chairman MCGOVERN, I thank him for his very kind words on my friend and neighbor, Alcee Hastings, who was a brilliant and forceful advocate for justice and the great senior leader of the Florida delegation. We miss him dearly.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter from the National Urban League in support of the Paycheck Fairness Act.

NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE,
April 14, 2021.

Re Pass the Paycheck Fairness Act (H.R. 7) and vote no on harmful amendments.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of the National Urban League, with 90 local affiliates in 36 states and the District of Columbia, I strongly urge you to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act, H.R. 7, without amendments that limit its scope or undermine its critical protections.

The National Urban League is a civil rights organization dedicated to the economic empowerment of African Americans and other underserved populations. The National Urban League and our affiliate movement have a strong interest in ensuring equity in the workplace, including payment.

Despite federal and state equal pay laws, gender pay gaps persist, and earnings lost to these gaps are exacerbating the financial effects of COVID–19, falling particularly heavily on women of color and the families who depend on their income. The Paycheck Fairness Act, which has been passed three previous times by the House of Representatives, mostly recently in the 116th Congress, offers a much-needed update to the Equal Pay Act of 1963 by providing new tools to battle pervasive pay gaps and to challenge discrimination.

Women are increasingly the primary or co-breadwinner in their families and cannot afford to be shortchanged any longer. Women working full-time, year-round are typically paid only 82 cents for every dollar paid to men, adding up to a loss of more than $400,000 over a lifetime. This wage gap varies by race and is often larger for women of color: Black women working full time, year-round typically make only 63 cents, Native American women only 60 cents, and Latinas only 55 cents, for every dollar paid to their white, non-Hispanic male counterparts. Over the course of a 40-year career, Black women lose nearly $1 million in earnings and Latinas lose more than $1 million. While Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) women make 85 cents for every dollar paid to white, non-Hispanic men, many AAPI communities experience drastically wider pay gaps. Moms are paid less than dads. And even when controlling for factors like education and experience, pay gaps persist and start early in women's careers and contribute to a wealth gap that follows them throughout their lifetimes. Persistent pay discrimination, often cloaked by employer-imposed pay secrecy policies, is one factor driving these wage gaps.

These pay gaps can be addressed only if workers have the legal tools necessary to challenge discrimination and employers are provided with effective incentives and technical assistance to comply with the law.

The Paycheck Fairness Act updates and strengthens the Equal Pay Act of 1963 to ensure that it provides robust protection against sex-based pay discrimination. Among other provisions, this comprehensive bill:

ends secrecy around pay by barring retaliation against workers who voluntarily discuss or disclose their wages, and requiring employers to report pay data to the EEOC;

prohibits employers from relying on salary history in determining future pay, so that pay discrimination does not follow women from job to job;

closes loopholes that have allowed employers to pay women less than men for the same work without any important business justification related to the job;

ensures women can receive the same robust remedies for sex-based pay discrimination that are currently available to those subjected to discrimination based on race and ethnicity; and provides much needed training and technical assistance, as well as data collection and research.

The COVID–19 pandemic and systemic racism have exposed how the work performed primarily by women, and particularly Black and brown women, has long been and continues to be undervalued and underpaid, even as the rest of the country is newly recognizing the essential nature of this work. We cannot build back an economy that works for everyone without ensuring that all women can work with equality, safety, and dignity, starting with pay equity. Passing the Paycheck Fairness Act would mark a vitally important step toward ensuring this becomes reality.

We urge you to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act without harmful amendments that weaken its critical protections. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Joi Chaney at the National Urban League.

Thank you for your consideration,

MARC H. MORIAL,
President & CEO.

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to support the passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act.

I have some important questions and simple answers.

First, do rent and food cost less for women than men?

The answer is no.

Do women work less hard than men?

Absolutely not.

Do children depend on the financial support of their mothers?

That answer is yes.

So should women make less money than men for doing equal work?

Obviously not.

Yet, for many reasons, women are paid an average of just 82 cents for every dollar paid to men—it is even lower for women of color—causing struggling families and eventually lower Social Security benefits and retirement savings for our grandmothers.

No wonder it is women and their children who are the majority of poor in this country.

As we emerge from a pandemic that has hit women workers the hardest, isn't it time for an economy that compensates women fairly for their work?

Of course it is.

This requires numerous actions, including making sure that women and girls have full access to healthcare, education, and financial resources; family-friendly workplaces; combating on-the-job sexual harassment and violence; making child and adult care more affordable; and raising the pay for minimum wage workers, two-thirds of whom are women.

Today, we can take a giant step toward this moral and legal imperative of closing the gender wage gap by passing the Paycheck Fairness Act and giving workers the tools to enforce the Equal Pay Act of 1963, that requires pay equity.

Isn't it time, Madam Speaker, that our mothers, daughters, and sisters get paid fairly for their hard day's work?

Of course.

That is my final question and final answer for today.

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MEIJER) to speak on the amendment.

Mr. MEIJER. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2430 to extend the DEA's temporary authority to schedule fentanyl-related substances for 1 year.

Fentanyl is a deadly opioid that kills thousands of Americans annually. When the chemical formula of fentanyl is even slightly modified, creating a fentanyl analogue, these substances can become exponentially more lethal. These analogues have been a driving force behind the opioid epidemic that continues to plague our local communities.

The authority for the DEA to classify these analogues as schedule I substances is critical to law enforcement's ability to keep these drugs off our streets.

As a member of the Homeland Security Committee, I recently joined my colleagues on a trip to assess the ongoing crisis on our southern border.

Fentanyl has continued to move into our country through our ports of entry, mainly through our border with Mexico. On the trip, we spoke with law enforcement officials who detailed the challenges posed by transnational criminal organizations, including drug traffickers, who are attempting to take advantage of the current crisis.

With already limited border security resources being diverted to deal with the humanitarian crisis, drug smugglers are continuing their attempts to push dangerous substances, including fentanyl, into the United States. In the first quarter of 2021, the seizure of fentanyl at our southwestern border by CBP has increased by a staggering 233 percent from the first quarter of 2020.

At a time when our country is experiencing a border crisis and an opioid crisis, we need to be enacting policies that strengthen law enforcement and enhance public safety instead of empowering bad actors who are continuing to put our communities at risk.

If we fail to act on this commonsense extension before the upcoming May 6 deadline, we will be taking away a major tool that law enforcement needs to keep our communities safe.

With fentanyl analogues no longer properly scheduled, drug smugglers will continue and remain emboldened and even expand their attempts to move fentanyl into the United States. This would exacerbate two already unsustainable crises: the ongoing surge at our southern border and the opioid epidemic that has devastated lives of Americans across the country.

Madam Speaker, for that reason, I urge defeat of the previous question.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I have no other speakers, so I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1600

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

And just to speak a little further on the amendment that has been offered if the previous question is defeated, H.R. 2430; like so many Members, I too have traveled down to the border. The difference is I have done that many times over the last 12 years.

It has never been this bad; and I need to emphasize that. I encourage the President and the Vice President to visit the southern border, come to the Lower Rio Grande Valley and see for themselves, firsthand, just how bad this crisis is.

And then back to the business at hand. I want to be very clear about the two bills included in today's rule. Wage discrimination has no place in any society, and it is currently illegal in the United States of America.

The path Congress must take is to not increase opportunities for trial lawyers, but to continue its focus on strong economic policy that actually expands opportunities for all Americans.

Prior to the pandemic, nearly 75 million women participated in the workforce, more than at any other time in history. A robust and resilient economy will provide the jobs, provide the wages and the wage gains that Americans expect and deserve.

Also, workplace violence is a threat that no American should have to face. The threat is particularly high for healthcare workers and social service workers. These workers dedicate their lives to taking care of others, and they deserve to be taken care of in return.

While I support the goal of H.R. 1195, I believe it would benefit from further discussion to ensure that the timeline for issuing a rule and developing workplace violence prevention will produce the most effective and safe outcome for American workers.

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

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I include in the RECORD a March 25 New York Times article entitled '' In 25 Years, the Pay Gap Has Shrunk by Just 8 Cents.''

[From the New York Times, Mar. 25, 2021]

IN 25 YEARS, THE PAY GAP HAS SHRUNK BY JUST 8 CENTS

(By Francesca Donner and Emma Goldberg

Megan Rapinoe is a two-time World Cup champion who has played to sold-out stadiums around the globe; what she has in common with nearly every American woman is that she's underpaid.

On Wednesday, Ms. Rapinoe testified during a hearing held by Representative Carolyn B. Maloney to examine economic harm caused by gender inequalities, particularly for women of color.

Today is All Women's Equal Pay Day, Ms. Maloney said. But it's not Equal Pay Day for all women.

Black women would have to work until Aug. 3, 2021, to earn what men made in 2020. For Latina women, the date doesn't come until Oct. 21.

''This is a disgrace,'' Ms. Maloney said. ''And it has long-term consequences for women and families.''

Wage discrimination isn't limited to any one sector or income level.

Take Ms. Rapinoe, whose fight for equal pay has become something of a calling card for the U.S. women's team, and who played a central role in the team's lawsuit on unequal pay filed in 2019.

''One cannot simply outperform inequality,'' she said. ''Or be excellent enough to escape discrimination.''

If it can happen to me, she said, ''it can—and it does—happen to every person marginalized by gender.''

In Her Words looked at the history of Equal Pay Day, the reasons for the wage gap and what can be done to close it.

It's a symbolic day that illustrates how far into the current year American women would need to work to earn what their male counterparts earned last year. Put another way, because there is a disparity in what women and men are paid, women would need to work around 448 days to earn what men earn in just 365 days.

Race plays a part, too: For Black and Hispanic women, the numbers are worse. For Asian women, the numbers skew a bit better.

Estimates vary on how much the wage gap will cost an American woman over the course of her career. The National Women's Law Center puts it at $406,280 in lost income on average, but that number can top $1 million for Hispanic women and is just shy of $1 million for Black and Native American women.

How did it become a thing?

Equal Pay Day was established in 1996 by the National Committee on Pay Equity. Today marks the 25th. But debates around pay equity date back much further than that.

Carolyn York, secretary-treasurer of the National Committee on Pay Equity, pointed out in an email that in 1942, as huge numbers of women began replacing men in the work force, the National War Labor Board urged employers to make ''adjustments which equalize wage or salary rates paid to females with the rates paid to males for comparable quality and quantity of work on the same or similar operations.'' But two decades on, in the 1960s, women were still earning only around 59 cents for every dollar a man made.

Do other countries have a gender wage gap?

Of course they do. According to this O.E.C.D. study, the United States falls behind Canada and ahead of Mexico. In addition to Canada, other countries that have a smaller pay gap than the United States are Romania, Colombia, Belgium, Costa Rica, Denmark, Norway . . . the list goes on. And on.

Has the pay gap narrowed over time?

Yes, but not by much. We're talking pennies. This year, it's estimated that American women will earn around 82 cents for every dollar that a man earns. A decade ago in 2011, it was 77 cents. In 1996, the first ''official'' Equal Pay Day, it was around 74 cents. And this top-line number doesn't account for differences in earnings among different racial groups.

How is the wage gap number calculated?

The pay gap refers to the ratio of female to male median annual earnings for full-time workers. Think of it as a fraction: The numerator is the difference between male and female median earnings, and the denominator is male median earnings. The actual number might look different depending on the source it's coming from, because some sources factor in characteristics like age, family size, education level and industry.

''We treat this issue as if you could summarize it in one number,'' said Claudia Goldin, an economics professor at Harvard University. ''It's the headline,'' not really the full picture.

Are there jobs where women are better paid than men?

Not according to C. Nicole Mason, president of the Institute for Women's Policy Research. When men enter female-dominated sectors like nursing or education, the job begins paying more, she explained. But the inverse is not true: ''When women enter male-dominated spaces, they don't get paid more than men.''

How long will it take to close the pay gap if we do nothing about it?

Mark your calendars for 2059; if current trends continue, the gender wage gap is expected to close in a mere 38 years. For Black and Hispanic women, the deadline is a whole century away. If we do nothing, ''my daughter, and daughter's daughter, will not see pay equity in their lives,'' Dr. Mason said.

So what exactly explains the gap?

There are many factors at play, according to the American Association of University Women. One of them is that the fields in which women dominate tend to pay less than fields dominated by men. This is irrespective of education or skill required.

The ''motherhood penalty'' also complicates the wage gap. Moms are less likely

to be hired, they receive lower salaries when they are, and are less likely to be tapped on the shoulder for promotion. (Ironic given research suggests moms are some of the most productive employees.)

And women work around two-thirds of the low-paying jobs in the United States; jobs that not only put workers at an economic disadvantage, but also tend to be more unstable.

There is also ''invisible labor''—things like caregiving responsibilities and household chores—that women do in addition to their full-time work. ''Women perform up to 30 percent more unpaid labor,'' Dr. Mason said. Not to put too fine a point upon it, but ''unpaid labor is unpaid.'' And it's very hard—if not impossible—to do both your job and take care of the household at the same time.

There's also good old-fashioned sexism at play: Even when men and women are performing the exact same jobs, women tend to receive less compensation thanks to overt or unconscious biases, as well as stereotypes that make it more difficult for women to negotiate.

The pay gap is caused by a ''layering effect'' of all of these things, said Kimberly Churches, the CEO of the American Association of University Women. Ultimately, ''this really is how we value women and how we value women of color in our society,'' she said.

Did Covid make it worse?

In a year of devastating job loss, especially for women—hence the talk of a ''she-cession''—the Institute for Women's Policy Research released a piece of research that seemed, on its face, like good news. In 2020, it found the weekly gender wage gap for full-time workers shrunk to 17.7 percent from 18.5 percent. Seems positive, right? Not so fast.

As Ms. Goldin of Harvard explained, if the female labor force is reduced, but most of those reductions are from the bottom part of distribution (restaurant servers and retail workers, for instance), then women's wages relative to men's will rise.

This manifests as an overall rise in women's wages. And that's what happened here.

But underneath the top-line number, Dr. Mason pointed out, many, many lower-paid female workers are struggling.

What should companies do about it?

Closing the wage gap demands an investment of time and resources.

First, companies can audit workers' pay and collect data to determine the levels of disparity between their male and female workers, said Serena Fong, a vice president at Catalyst. Salesforce, for example, committed to reviewing all its workers' salaries in 2015, and over the following years spent more than $9 million on adjustments to give women equal pay.

Salary bands, which give the range of pay for a given role, can also help level the playing field between male and female workers in salary negotiations. (Though broadly speaking, a wide salary band can provide ''too much range to pay people unequally,'' Dr. Mason said.)

And governments?

The Equal Pay Act, passed nearly 60 years ago, made it illegal to discriminate by sex in setting wages. But in practice, it can be hard for women to know whether they're actually being paid equally. It's not common to ask your colleagues what they make while you're chatting by the water cooler.

In the last decade, more than a dozen states and the District of Columbia have adopted legislation prohibiting pay secrecy in the workplace. Still, a 2017–18 survey found that nearly half of fulltime workers were discouraged or prohibited from talking about their pay, meaning more legislation and enforcement is needed.

Ms. Churches also supports passing the Paycheck Fairness Act at a federal level, ''so we can ban the use of salary history questions in the hiring process.'' Such questions ''just compound women's lack of earnings going forward as they negotiate their salaries.''

And individuals?

Ask your colleagues how much they make, as awkward as that may sound.

Negotiation is also key. Research shows that women who consistently negotiate their salaries make more than $1 million more over the course of their lifetimes, compared with those who don't. But of course, Covid hasn't helped: A new survey from Ann Elizabeth Konkel of Indeed suggests women feel even more uncomfortable asking for a raise or promotion than they did prepandemic.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, on the anniversary of Women's Equal Pay Day, U.S. women's soccer player Megan Rapinoe, in a congressional hearing said: ''One cannot simply outperform inequality.''

Wage discrimination isn't limited to any one sector or income level, and Congress must act to stop it.

Mr. Speaker, the importance of this issue is really about the proper enforcement of a bill that was first enacted in 1963. We generally agree on the importance of that legislation.

Where we disagree is enforcement. And we have had years to see what the proper disincentives are and incentives for proper behavior when it comes to protecting women in the workforce, and on the second bill—predominantly women—but people who work in vulnerable positions where they are subject to greater violence.

On pay equity, we look at States like California where I am from, and we can see that our laws, our aggressive laws have worked, at least to help with the pay equity situation. Who can deny, in our lifetimes, the benefit to the U.S. economy, to all of us, for having women in the workforce? We should be able to compensate that benefit that we have all gotten.

As a survivor of cancer, I have been taken by how many young women went into the medical profession, and they helped to develop the medicine that has saved my life, a disease that, 15 years ago, at stage IV, when I was diagnosed, there was little that could be done to extend people's lives. That research came from brilliant people, many of them women. Why would I want to inhibit or disincentivize any young person, any woman, any young woman from going into that field?

I know that my friend from Texas knows this, we want the best and the brightest to help with our medical challenges, irrespective of what their background is or what their sex is.

Mr. Speaker, every day we wait to pass these bills, healthcare workers are being harmed and families are going deeper and deeper into poverty. Our inequality issues get worse, not better. We should not waste another moment.

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

The material previously referred to by Mr. BURGESS is as follows:

AMENDMENT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 303

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 8. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall proceed to the consideration in the House of the bill (H.R. 2430) to amend the Temporary Reauthorization and Study of the Emergency Scheduling of Fentanyl Analogues Act to extend for one year the temporary order for fentanyl-related substances. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy & Commerce; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 9. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H.R. 2430.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BLUMENAUER). The question is on ordering the previous question.

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

Mr. BURGESS. 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.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

UNITED STATES ANTI-DOPING AGENCY REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2021

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 172) to reauthorize the United States Anti-Doping Agency, and for other purposes on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 381, nays 37, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 99]

YEAS—381

Adams	Bentz	Brownley
Aguilar	Bera	Buchanan
Allred	Bergman	Buck
Amodei	Beyer	Bucshon
Armstrong	Bice (OK)	Budd
Arrington	Bilirakis	Burgess
Auchincloss	Bishop (GA)	Bush
Axne	Blumenauer	Bustos
Bacon	Blunt Rochester	Butterfield
Baird	Bonamici	Calvert
Balderson	Bost	Cammack
Banks	Bourdeaux	Carbajal
Barr	Bowman	Cárdenas
Barragán	Boyle, Brendan F.	Carl
Bass	Brown	Carson
Beatty		Carter (GA)

Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davis, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
Dunn
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gooden (TX)
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harder (CA)
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Hern
Herrera Beutler
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Long
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Mace
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
Nunes
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Ross
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Speier
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Stevens
Stewart
Stivers
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Vargas
Vela
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Young
Zeldin

NAYS—37

Aderholt
Allen
Babin
Biggs
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Brooks
Burchett
Cline
Cloud
Comer
Davidson
DesJarlais
Duncan
Gaetz
Gohmert
Good (VA)
Gosar
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Grothman
Harris
Herrell
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Jackson
Loudermilk
Mann
Massie
Mast
McClintock
Miller (IL)
Norman
Rose
Rosendale
Roy
Steube

NOT VOTING—11

Brady
Cawthorn
Clyde
Costa
Davis, Rodney
Fallon
Himes
Lofgren
McHenry
Ruppersberger
Veasey

□ 1641

Messrs. FULCHER, AMODEI, and ARRINGTON changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

Mr. ROSE changed his vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)
Babin (Nehls)
Cárdenas (Gomez)
Crenshaw (Nehls)
Greene (GA) (Gosar)
Grijalva (García (IL))
Jayapal (Raskin)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Keating (Clark (MA))
Lawson (FL) (Evans)
Lieu (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
Mfume (Raskin)
Moore (WI) (Beyer)
Moulton (Kahele)
Napolitano (Correa)
Neal (Lynch)
Norman (Rice (SC))
Omar (Pressley)
Payne (Pallone)
Porter (Wexton)
Rush (Underwood)
Sewell (DelBene)
Slotkin (Stevens)
Stefanik (Tenney)
Steube (Timmons)
Trahan (Lynch)
Wasserman Schultz (Soto)
Watson Coleman (Pallone)
Wilson (FL) (Hayes)
Wilson (SC) (Timmons)

HONORING THE LIFE OF ALCEE HASTINGS

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

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Madam Speaker, it is my solemn duty to rise today on behalf of the Florida delegation as we continue to grieve the passing of our colleague and our friend, Alcee Hastings of Florida.

Congressman Alcee Hastings was more than a colleague; he was a dear friend to me and to my family. Madam Speaker, my brother, Congressman Lincoln Diaz-Balart, served with Alcee Hastings on the Rules Committee; and, through him, I also developed a very special relationship.

Along with Congresswomen Carrie Meek and Corrine Brown, Alcee Hastings was the first African American from Florida to serve in Congress after more than 100 years.

Alcee Hastings dedicated his life to serving others and to fighting for human rights. You know, Alcee lived by Dr. Martin Luther King's phrase, ''An injustice anywhere is an affront to justice everywhere.''

Alcee Hastings' brilliance, his perseverance, and his charisma, along with his ceaseless fight for human rights, built a lasting and meaningful legacy. And even during that last battle of his, the one that ultimately took his life, he continued to serve with passion, with great heart, and always with that special spark that he had, that smile of his that he always had.

We are truly heartbroken by his passing, and we offer our deepest condolences and prayers to his family and all of those who knew and loved him.

Florida and Congress really lost a trailblazer.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to thank one very special person, Lale Morrison, Alcee's longtime chief of staff, for her service to the people of Florida and equally as important, her dedication and her friendship to Alcee Hastings.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CASTOR).

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend from Florida for yielding.

It is with great sadness that I rise on behalf of the Florida delegation, and you can see we have many new Floridians in our delegation today because we had such great love, respect, and admiration for our colleague Congressman Hastings.

Congressman Hastings was a towering figure who always stood up for the little guy. He fought for civil rights. He fought for voting rights. He fought for affordable healthcare. He was tireless.

Now, Alcee did not suffer fools or malarky, and he was unafraid to point it out. And he did so with relish. And let that be a great example to all of us who have this tremendous responsibility to stand up every day for the people who send us here, especially the voiceless and the vulnerable.

But Alcee served with great intellect, with passion, with flare. He loved the House of Representatives. He loved the State of Florida. He wanted it to be better, and he worked on that every single day. But I think we are all better for his service and his example.

Madam Speaker, I think Alcee would have appreciated the fact that you are in bright orange today, the color of his beloved Florida A&M University. Go Rattlers.

On behalf of the great State of Florida, we also send our love, prayers, and condolences to Lale, his chief of staff, his entire team, his family, his devoted friends, and I would respectfully ask that we recognize his life with a moment of silence, but ask and invite you

all to join us in a celebration of his life that we intend to hold next week.

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE HONORABLE ALCEE L. HASTINGS

The SPEAKER. The Chair asks all those present in the Chamber, as well as Members and staff throughout the Capitol, to please rise for a moment of silence in remembrance of the late Honorable Alcee L. Hastings of the great State of Florida.

FOOD ALLERGY SAFETY, TREATMENT, EDUCATION, AND RESEARCH ACT OF 2021

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 578) to improve the health and safety of Americans living with food allergies and related disorders, including potentially life-threatening anaphylaxis, food protein-induced enterocolitis syndrome, and eosinophilic gastrointestinal diseases, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 415, nays 11, not voting 3, as follows:

[Roll No. 100]

YEAS—415

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brooks
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Hern
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Letlow
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Mace
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Mann
Manning
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
Norman
Nunes
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Speier
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Stivers
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Young
Zeldin

NAYS—11

Biggs
Boebert
Cheney
Davidson
Good (VA)
Greene (GA)
Herrell
Higgins (LA)
Lesko
Massie
Roy

NOT VOTING—3

Brady
Cawthorn
Reschenthaler

□ 1718

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)
Babin (Nehls)
Cárdenas (Gomez)
Crenshaw (Nehls)
Greene (GA) (Gosar)
Grijalva (García (IL))
Jayapal (Raskin)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Keating (Clark (MA))
Lawson (FL) (Evans)
Lieu (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
Mfume (Raskin)
Moore (WI) (Beyer)
Moulton (Kahele)
Napolitano (Correa)
Neal (Lynch)
Norman (Rice (SC))
Omar (Pressley)
Payne (Pallone)
Porter (Wexton)
Ruppersberger (Raskin)
Rush (Underwood)
Sewell (DelBene)
Slotkin (Stevens)
Stefanik (Tenney)
Steube (Timmons)
Trahan (Lynch)
Wasserman Schultz (Soto)
Watson Coleman (Pallone)
Wilson (FL) (Hayes)
Wilson (SC) (Timmons)

ADVANCING EDUCATION ON BIOSIMILARS ACT OF 2021

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BLUMENAUER). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 164) to educate health care providers and the public on biosimilar biological products, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 412, nays 8, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 101]

YEAS—412

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Auchincloss
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford

Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Mace
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Mann
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
Norman
Nunes
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Speier
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Stivers
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Young
Zeldin

NAYS—8

Biggs
Brooks
Clyde
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Massie
Mast
Roy

NOT VOTING—9

Arrington
Boebert
Brady
Cawthorn
Dunn
Lucas
McEachin
Takano
Torres (NY)

□ 1749

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 101.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)
Babin (Nehls)
Cárdenas (Gomez)
Crenshaw (Nehls)
Greene (GA) (Gosar)
Grijalva (García (IL))
Jayapal (Raskin)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Keating (Clark (MA))
Lawson (FL) (Evans)
Lieu (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
Mfume (Raskin)
Moore (WI) (Beyer)
Moulton (Kahele)
Napolitano (Correa)
Neal (Lynch)
Norman (Rice (SC))
Omar (Pressley)
Payne (Pallone)
Porter (Wexton)
Ruppersberger (Raskin)
Rush (Underwood)
Sewell (DelBene)
Slotkin (Stevens)
Stefanik (Tenney)
Steube (Timmons)
Trahan (Lynch)
Wasserman Schultz (Soto)
Watson Coleman (Pallone)
Wilson (FL) (Hayes)
Wilson (SC) (Timmons)

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 7, PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1195, WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PREVENTION FOR HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL SERVICE WORKERS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 303) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 7) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1195) to direct the Secretary of Labor to issue an occupational safety and health standard that requires covered employers within the health care and social service industries to develop and implement a comprehensive workplace violence prevention plan, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 217, nays 208, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 102]

YEAS—217

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
Fletcher
Foster
Frankel, Lois
Gallego
Garamendi
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Golden
Gomez
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
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
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

NAYS—208

Aderholt
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bentz
Bergman
Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brooks
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess
Calvert
Cammack
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)

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
Letlow
Long
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 Drew
Van Duyne
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Young
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—4

Brady
Budd
Cawthorn
Loudermilk

□ 1819

Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, and Mr. PALMER changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)
Babin (Nehls)
Cárdenas (Gomez)
Crenshaw (Nehls)
Greene (GA) (Gosar)
Grijalva (García (IL))
Jayapal (Raskin)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Keating (Clark (MA))
Lawson (FL) (Evans)
Lieu (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
Mfume (Raskin)
Moore (WI) (Beyer)
Moulton (Kahele)
Napolitano (Correa)
Neal (Lynch)
Norman (Rice (SC))
Omar (Pressley)
Payne (Pallone)
Porter (Wexton)
Ruppersberger (Raskin)
Rush (Underwood)
Sewell (DelBene)
Slotkin (Stevens)
Stefanik (Tenney)
Steube (Timmons)
Trahan (Lynch)
Wasserman Schultz (Soto)
Watson Coleman (Pallone)
Wilson (FL) (Hayes)
Wilson (SC) (Timmons)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR). The question is on the resolution.

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

Mr. BURGESS. 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 217, nays 207, not voting 5, as follows:

[Roll No. 103]

YEAS—217

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
Fletcher
Foster
Frankel, Lois
Gallego
Garamendi
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Golden
Gomez
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
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
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

NAYS—207

Aderholt
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bentz
Bergman
Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Calvert
Cammack
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
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)
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
Letlow
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 Drew
Van Duyne
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Young
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—5

Brady
Brooks
Cawthorn
Greene (GA)
Webster (FL)

□ 1850

Mr. CARTER of Georgia changed his vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)
Babin (Nehls)
Cárdenas (Gomez)
Crenshaw (Nehls)
Grijalva (García (IL))
Jayapal (Raskin)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Keating (Clark (MA))
Lawson (FL) (Evans)
Lieu (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
Mfume (Raskin)
Moore (WI) (Beyer)
Moulton (Kahele)
Napolitano (Correa)
Neal (Lynch)
Norman (Rice (SC))
Omar (Pressley)
Payne (Pallone)
Porter (Wexton)
Ruppersberger (Raskin)
Rush (Underwood)
Sewell (DelBene)
Slotkin (Stevens)
Stefanik (Tenney)
Steube (Timmons)
Trahan (Lynch)
Wasserman Schultz (Soto)
Watson Coleman (Pallone)
Wilson (FL) (Hayes)
Wilson (SC) (Timmons)

EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE ALCEE L. HASTINGS

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Madam Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 312

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable Alcee L. Hastings, a Representative from the State of Florida.

Resolved, That a committee of such Members of the House as the Speaker may designate, together with such Members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House be authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of these resolutions and that the necessary expenses in connection therewith be paid out of applicable accounts of the House.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker on Tuesday, April 13, 2021:

H.R. 1868. An Act to prevent across-the-board direct spending cuts, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BEATTY). Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, and pursuant to House Resolution 312, the House stands adjourned until noon tomorrow, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable Alcee L. Hastings.

Thereupon (at 6 o'clock and 54 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, April 15, 2021, at noon, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable Alcee L. Hastings.

OATH OF OFFICE MEMBERS, RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, AND DELEGATES

The oath of office required by the sixth article of the Constitution of the United States, and as provided by section 2 of the act of May 13, 1884 (23 Stat. 22), to be administered to Members, Resident Commissioner, and Delegates of the House of Representatives, the text of which is carried in 5 U.S.C. 3331:

> ''I, AB, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God.''

has been subscribed to in person and filed in duplicate with the Clerk of the House of Representatives by the following Member of the 117th Congress, pursuant to the provisions of 2 U.S.C. 25:

Julia Letlow, Fifth District of Louisiana.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the first quarter of 2021, pursuant to Public Law 95–384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2021

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒											

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS, Mar. 25, 2021.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2021

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒											

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. JERROLD NADLER, Apr. 12, 2021.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2021

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒											

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA, Apr. 7, 2021.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 1002, the Debarment Enforcement of Bad Actor Registrants Act of 2021, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 1215, the Fraud and Scam Reduction Act, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 1899, the Ensuring Compliance Against Drug Diversion Act of 2021, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

EC–783. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Exemption from Registration for Certain Foreign Intermediaries (RIN: 3038-AE46) received March 17, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC–784. A letter from the Director, Regulations Management Division, Rural Development Innovation Center, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Rural eConnectivity Program [RUS-20-Telecom-0023] (RIN: 0572-AC51) received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC–785. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Scott A. Howell, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–786. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Role of Supervisory Guidance (RIN: 3064-AF32) received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC–787. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Assessments, Amendments To Address the Temporary Deposit Insurance Assessment Effects of the Optional Regulatory Capital Transitions for Implementing the Current Expected Credit Losses Methodology (RIN: 3064-AF65) received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC–788. A letter from the Compliance Specialist, Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule — Tip Regulations Under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA): Delay of Effective Date (RIN: 1235-AA21) received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

EC–789. A letter from the Compliance Specialist, Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule — Independent Contractor Status Under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA): Delay of Effective Date (RIN: 1235-AA34) received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

EC–790. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program: Revisions to the Vaccine Injury Table; Delay of Effective Date (RIN: 0906-AB24) received March 16, 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–791. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Fraud And Abuse; Removal of Safe Harbor Protection for Rebates Involving Prescription Pharmaceuticals and Creation of New Safe Harbor Protection for Certain Point-of-Sale Reductions in Price on Prescription Pharmaceuticals and Certain Pharmacy Benefit Manager Service Fees; Delayed Effective Date (RIN: 0936-AA08) received March 16, 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–792. A letter from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's Major final rule — Emergency Broadband Benefit Program [WC Docket No: 20-445] received March 16, 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–793. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Department's final rule — Health and Human Services Grants Regulation (RIN: 0991-AC16) received March 26, 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–794. A letter from the Associate General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting twelve (12) notifications of a vacancy, a designation of acting officer, a nomination, an action on nomination, and a discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC–795. A letter from the Legal Tech, CG-LRA, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Power Plant Demolition; Grand River, Grand Haven, MI [Docket Number: USCG-2021-0035] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–796. A letter from the Yeoman First Class Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Lower Mississippi River, Mile Markers 330.0-360.0, MS [Docket Number: USCG-2021-0036] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–797. A letter from the Legal Tech, CG-LRA, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Old Fort Bayou, MS [Docket No.: USCG-2018-0968] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–798. A letter from the Yeoman First Class Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Security Zone; San Diego Bay, San Diego, CA [Docket Number: USCG-2021-0070] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–799. A letter from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary interim rule — Safety Zone; Narragansett Bay, Quonset, RI [Docket Number: USCG-2020-0639] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received February 23, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–800. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Waiver of the Water Quality Certification Requirements of Section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act [Docket No.: RM20-18-000] received March 26, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–801. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Additional Relief for Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Under Sec. 125 Cafeteria Plans [Notice 2021-15] received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC–802. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Determination of Housing Cost Amounts Eligible for Exclusion for Deduction for 2021 [Notice 2021-18] received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC–803. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Guidance on the Employee Retention Credit under Section 2301 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act [Notice 2021-20] received March 16, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk

for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas: Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. H.R. 144. A bill to forestall the loss of research talent by establishing a temporary early career research fellowship program; with an amendment (Rept. 117–16). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. NEGUSE (for himself and Mr. BUCK):

H.R. 2497. A bill to establish the Amache National Historic Site in the State of Colorado as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. DEAN:

H.R. 2498. A bill to provide for the discharge of a private education loan in the case of death or total and permanent disability of a student obligor, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, 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. CARBAJAL (for himself, Mr. BACON, Mr. TAKANO, and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 2499. A bill to amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to create a presumption that a disability or death of a Federal employee in fire protection activities caused by any of certain diseases is the result of the performance of such employees duty, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. MOORE of Utah (for himself, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, and Mr. OWENS):

H.R. 2500. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to assess the use of new technologies across reforestation activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 2501. A bill to require the National Telecommunications and Information Administration and the Federal Communications Commission to update the memorandum of understanding on spectrum coordination; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. BROWNLEY (for herself, Ms. SPEIER, and Ms. STEFANIK):

H.R. 2502. A bill to direct the Secretaries concerned to take certain actions to reduce gender-related inequities in costs of uniforms to members of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. BUSTOS (for herself, Mr. COLE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. WELCH, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. COHEN, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. HAYES, Mrs. WALORSKI, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. RUSH, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Mr. CARBAJAL):

H.R. 2503. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish an interagency council on social determinants of health, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia (for himself, Mr. HICE of Georgia, and Mr. DUNCAN):

H.R. 2504. A bill to provide to localities injured by the cancellation or relocation, without good cause, of a scheduled organized professional major league team competition by a league of organized professional major league baseball teams, or a member of such league; 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. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. NADLER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CLEAVER, and Ms. JAYAPAL):

H.R. 2505. A bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to protect taxpayers from liability associated with the reclamation of surface coal mining operations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself and Mr. LIEU):

H.R. 2506. A bill to counter Saudi Arabia's possible pursuit of weapons of mass destruction, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. CURTIS (for himself and Mr. GARAMENDI):

H.R. 2507. A bill to amend the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 with respect to pre-agreement costs of emergency watershed protection measures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 2508. A bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to optimize the sequestration of carbon and the reduction of net emissions through agricultural practices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. DEFAZIO (for himself, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. MASSIE, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H.R. 2509. A bill to repeal the Military Selective Service Act, and thereby terminate the registration requirements of such Act and eliminate civilian local boards, civilian appeal boards, and similar local agencies of the Selective Service System; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. DEUTCH (for himself, Ms. DEGETTE, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 2510. A bill to regulate large capacity ammunition feeding devices; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DUNCAN (for himself, Mr. NORMAN, Mrs. GREENE of Georgia, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. ROY, Mr. CARL, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Ms. HERRELL, Mr. STEUBE, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. BIGGS, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. BABIN, Mr. PERRY, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. OWENS, Mr. CLYDE, and Mr. GOOD of Virginia):

H.R. 2511. A bill to subject professional baseball clubs to the antitrust laws; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ESTES (for himself, Mr. MANN, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. COLE, and Mr. LUCAS):

H.R. 2512. A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Chisholm National Historic Trail and the Western National Historic Trail, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois (for himself, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. NORTON, Ms. LEE of California, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. JONES, Ms. NEWMAN, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. CARSON, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. RUSH, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. COHEN, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. MENG, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. JACOBS of California, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. SIRES, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. BONAMICI, and Ms. BARRAGÁN):

H.R. 2513. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to make grants to public housing agencies and owners of other federally assisted housing to cover the costs of removing and replacing lead-based water service pipes for federally assisted housing projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois (for himself, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. COHEN, Ms. SHERRILL, and Mr. WELCH):

H.R. 2514. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to encourage and promote the safe and efficient management, operation, and development of surface transportation systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana (for himself, Mr. MCCARTHY, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. WESTERMAN, Ms. CHENEY, Ms. GRANGER, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. COLE, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. COMER, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. BOST, Mr. BABIN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. BALDERSON, and Mr. BUDD):

H.R. 2515. A bill to amend the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to clarify ambiguous provisions, align the Act with relevant case law, reflect modern technologies, optimize interagency coordination, and facilitate a more efficient, effective, and timely environmental review process; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 2516. A bill to amend the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act to require Federal banking regulators to include a diversity and inclusion component in the Uniform Financial Institutions Rating System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. HIGGINS of New York (for himself, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. GUTHRIE):

H.R. 2517. A bill to recommend that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation test the effect of a dementia care management model, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. HINSON (for herself, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mrs. FISCHBACH):

H.R. 2518. A bill to leverage incentives for the adoption of costly precision agriculture technology, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. NADLER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. JONES, Mr. CLEAVER, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. KEATING, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BUSH, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. JAYAPAL):

H.R. 2519. A bill to prohibit drilling in the outer Continental Shelf, to prohibit coal leases on Federal land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself, Mr. MANN, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. BABIN, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. DONALDS, and Ms. TENNEY):

H.R. 2520. A bill to assess the impact of school closures due to COVID-19, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mrs. LAWRENCE (for herself, Ms. DEAN, Mrs. LESKO, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, and Mrs. MCBATH):

H.R. 2521. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a pilot program to furnish doula services to veterans; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ:

H.R. 2522. A bill to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to establish the Cerro de la Olla Wilderness in the Río Grande del Norte National Monument and to modify the boundary of the Río Grande del Norte National Monument; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. LEVIN of California (for himself and Mr. BOST):

H.R. 2523. A bill to amend the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to improve the COVID-19 Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance program, to make certain technical corrections to the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, 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. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 2524. A bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to establish a program to make grants to States to inform Medicaid enrollees, SNAP participants, and low-income residents of potential eligibility for the Lifeline program of the Commission; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. MCBATH (for herself, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Mr. DUNCAN):

H.R. 2525. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require institutions of higher education to disclose hazing incidents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. MCHENRY:

H.R. 2526. A bill to enhance oversight of the implementation of subtitles B and C of title III of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 by the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself and Ms. KAPTUR):

H.R. 2527. A bill to establish a grant program to provide certain eligible entities engaged in food recovery with grants to support certain costs; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. NADLER (for himself, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. BOWMAN, and Mr. TORRES of New York):

H.R. 2528. A bill to establish the African Burial Ground International Memorial Museum and Educational Center in New York, New York, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. NAPOLITANO (for herself, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. SOTO, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. VELA, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. CORREA, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. CHU, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. SIRES, and Ms. ESCOBAR):

H.R. 2529. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a behavioral and mental health outreach and education strategy to reduce stigma associated with mental health among the Hispanic and Latino population, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. NEHLS (for himself and Mrs. LURIA):

H.R. 2530. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to seek to enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to conduct a study on radiation exposure relating to the cleanup of Enewetak Atoll, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PANETTA (for himself, Mr. LIEU, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. TAYLOR):

H.R. 2531. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide transportation to and from Department of Veterans Affairs facilities in connection with vocational rehabilitation or counseling; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PASCRELL (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 2532. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide credits for the production of renewable chemicals and investments in renewable chemical production facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. POSEY (for himself, Ms. BONAMICI, and Mr. MAST):

H.R. 2533. A bill to provide for a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine examining the impact of ocean acidification and other stressors in estuarine environments; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SPANBERGER:

H.R. 2534. A bill to provide incentives for agricultural producers to carry out climate stewardship practices, to provide for increased reforestation across the United States, to establish the Coastal and Estuary Resilience Grant Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, and 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. TAKANO (for himself, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. CHU, and Mr. SUOZZI):

H.R. 2535. A bill to prohibit Federal funds from being used to violate the terms of the Flores settlement agreement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TAKANO:

H.R. 2536. A bill to provide relief for victims of hate crimes, advance the safety and well-being of immigrants and refugees, and fund improved law enforcement and prosecution official training; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. TLAIB:

H.R. 2537. A bill to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to provide a timetable for the collection of medical debt by debt collectors, to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to prohibit consumer reporting agencies from issuing consumer reports containing information about debts related to medically necessary procedures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. TRONE (for himself and Mr. MCCAUL):

H.R. 2538. A bill to prioritize efforts of the Department of State to combat international trafficking in covered synthetic drugs and new psychoactive substances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. EVANS, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Mr. CARSON):

H.R. 2539. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to make grants for hate crime prevention and prejudice reduction education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself and Mr. SCHNEIDER):

H.R. 2540. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to prohibit certain unfair credit practices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. EVANS, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. CARSON, and Ms. WILSON of Florida):

H.R. 2541. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to establish grants to reduce the incidence of hate crimes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (for herself, Mr. CARSON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. OMAR, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. COOPER, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. RASKIN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. ROSS, and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin):

H.R. 2542. A bill to provide protection for survivors of domestic violence or sexual violence under the Fair Housing Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. WATERS (for herself, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Mrs. BEATTY):

H.R. 2543. A bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to add additional demographic reporting requirements, to modify the goals of the Federal Reserve System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN (for herself, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CARSON, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. PALLONE,

Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. NEGUSE, and Mr. RUSH):

H.R. 2544. A bill to regulate firearm silencers and firearm mufflers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WENSTRUP (for himself and Mr. MRVAN):

H.R. 2545. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the role of doctors of podiatric medicine in the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. YOUNG:

H.R. 2546. A bill to provide for the continuation of higher education through the conveyance to the University of Alaska of certain public land in the State of Alaska, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. AGUILAR:

H. Res. 310. A resolution electing a certain Member to a certain standing committee of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MCCARTHY:

H. Res. 311. A resolution electing a Member to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. DIAZ-BALART:

H. Res. 312. A resolution expressing the profound sorrow of the House of Representatives on the death of the Honorable Alcee L. Hastings; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. COSTA:

H. Res. 313. A resolution supporting the designation of April 18-24, 2021, as National Crime Victims' Rights Week; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KELLER:

H. Res. 314. A resolution commending the men and women of U.S. Customs and Border Protection for their service and sacrifice amidst a growing crisis at the southern border; to the Committee on Homeland Security, 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. KHANNA (for himself, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Ms. JAYAPAL, and Mr. BERA):

H. Res. 315. A resolution celebrating the 130th anniversary of the birth of Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. LOFGREN (for herself and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois):

H. Res. 316. A resolution providing for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Seventeenth Congress; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. MCCAUL (for himself and Mr. MEEKS):

H. Res. 317. A resolution condemning the ongoing genocide and crimes against humanity being committed against Uyghurs and members of other religious and ethnic minority groups by the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS (for herself, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. LAMALFA, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Ms. HERRELL, Mr. BUDD, Mr. SCALISE, Ms. CHENEY, Mr. MANN, Mr. EMMER, Mrs. HINSON, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. PERRY, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. KELLER, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. POSEY, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. BUCK, Mr. BENTZ, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. BABIN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. MCCARTHY, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. COLE, Mr. STEWART, Mr. COMER, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. BANKS, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mr. BOST, Mr. HILL, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. ESTES, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. CARL, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. OWENS, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. KUSTOFF, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, and Mr. CURTIS):

H. Res. 318. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that clean water is a national priority and that the April 21, 2020, Navigable Waters Protection Rule should not be withdrawn or vacated; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. WILSON of Florida (for herself, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. BASS, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H. Res. 319. A resolution recognizing the Seventh Anniversary of the Chibok Girls Kidnapping by the Boko Haram Terrorist Organization and calling on the Government of Nigeria to redouble efforts to bring an end to the conflict in northeast and central Nigeria and to provide assistance to the victims; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII ofthe 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. NEGUSE:

H.R. 2497.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. DEAN:

H.R. 2498.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. CARBAJAL:

H.R. 2499.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. MOORE of Utah:

H.R. 2500.

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

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2

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;

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 2501.

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

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 2502.

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

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mrs. BUSTOS:

H.R. 2503.

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

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia:

H.R. 2504.

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

Clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution provides Congress with the power to regulate commerce.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 2505.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (relating to the power of Congress to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.)

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:

H.R. 2506.

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

Article 1 Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. CURTIS:

H.R. 2507.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 2508.

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

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18:

[The Congress shall have Power . . .] To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. DEFAZIO:

H.R. 2509.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the 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 Mr. DEUTCH:

H.R. 2510.

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

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. DUNCAN:

H.R. 2511.

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

Article I, Section 8: This legislation establishes that baseball is interstate commerce.

By Mr. ESTES:

H.R. 2512.

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

ARTICLE IV, SECTION 3, CLAUSE 2

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

By Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois:

H.R. 2513.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois:
H.R. 2514.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
article 1, section 8
By Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana:
H.R. 2515.
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. GREEN of Texas:
H.R. 2516.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Taxing and Spending Clause: Article 1, Section 8, clause 1—provides Congress authority to, inter alia, enact spending legislation.
Commerce Clause: Article 1, Section 8, clause 3—provides Congress with the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the states, including the use of the channels of interstate commerce, the instrumentalities of interstate commerce, or persons or things in interstate commerce.
Necessary and Proper Clause: Article 1, Section 8, clause 18—allows Congress the power to make all laws that are necessary and proper for executing its enumerated powers and all other powers vested by the Constitution in the U.S. Government.
By Mr. HIGGINS of New York:
H.R. 2517.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mrs. HINSON:
H.R. 2518.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1
By Mr. HUFFMAN:
H.R. 2519.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 4, Section 3, Clause 2
By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:
H.R. 2520.
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 Constitution.
By Mrs. LAWRENCE:
H.R. 2521.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ:
H.R. 2522.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. LEVIN of California:
H.R. 2523.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the. U.S. Constitution
By Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York:
H.R. 2524.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mrs. MCBATH:
H.R. 2525.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8: Congress has the power ''to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Native American tribes''
By Mr. MCHENRY:
H.R. 2526.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18:
Authority to create laws that are necessary and proper to carry out the laws of the land (Necessary and Proper Clause)
By Mr. MCKINLEY:
H.R. 2527.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8
Section 8—Powers of Congress. 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. NADLER:
H.R. 2528.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, section 8, clauses 1, 17, and 18.
By Mrs. NAPOLITANO:
H.R. 2529.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, clause 1
By Mr. NEHLS:
H.R. 2530.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, which states ''[t]he Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, 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. PANETTA:
H.R. 2531.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18
By Mr. PASCRELL:
H.R. 2532.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. POSEY:
H.R. 2533.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8.
The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;
By Ms. SPANBERGER:
H.R. 2534.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution
By Mr. TAKANO:
H.R. 2535.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. TAKANO:
H.R. 2536.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Ms. TLAIB:
H.R. 2537.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section VIII, Clause XVIII
By Mr. TRONE:
H.R. 2538.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.
By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:
H.R. 2539.
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. VELÁZQUEZ:
H.R. 2540.
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. VELÁZQUEZ:
H.R. 2541.
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. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ:
H.R. 2542.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
[Page H12291]
By Ms. WATERS:
H.R. 2543.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 cl. 3, To regulate Commerce with Foreign Nations, Among the Several States, and with the Indian Tribes
By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN:
H.R. 2544.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.
By Mr. WENSTRUP:
H.R. 2545.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. YOUNG:
H.R. 2546.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18
Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 38: Ms. LETLOW.
H.R. 40: Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. STEVENS, Mrs. TORRES of California, and Mr. RUIZ.
H.R. 58: Mr. BABIN.
H.R. 82: Mr. SWALWELL and Mr. MRVAN.
H.R. 148: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 151: Mr. LAWSON of Florida and Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 160: Mr. DUNN, Mr. RUTHERFORD, and Mr. GIMENEZ.
H.R. 218: Mr. TAYLOR.
H.R. 263: Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. RASKIN, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. SMITH

of New Jersey, and Mr. LARSEN of Washington.
H.R. 274: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 310: Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 344: Mr. MRVAN and Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 350: Mr. SOTO, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, and Mr. CASTRO of Texas.
H.R. 366: Ms. SCANLON, Mr. RYAN, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. STEUBE, Ms. MENG, and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 379: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 431: Mr. TIMMONS and Mr. MFUME.
H.R. 432: Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. WELCH, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 448: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 472: Mr. BUCK and Mrs. MCCLAIN.
H.R. 503: Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 539: Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 541: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
H.R. 542: Mr. CLEAVER and Ms. BUSH.
H.R. 596: Mr. MALINOWSKI.
H.R. 604: Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. MOULTON, and Mr. YARMUTH.
H.R. 619: Mr. CARTER of Texas, Ms. TENNEY, Ms. GRANGER, and Ms. LETLOW.
H.R. 634: Mr. WALBERG.
H.R. 646: Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI.
H.R. 649: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 695: Mr. SMUCKER and Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio.
H.R. 697: Ms. CHU and Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 705: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 708: Mrs. KIM of California.
H.R. 738: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 748: Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. BASS, and Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 762: Mrs. STEEL.
H.R. 763: Ms. NORTON and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 783: Mr. RYAN and Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 789: Mr. HORSFORD.
H.R. 793: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H.R. 814: Mr. BUDD.
H.R. 815: Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Ms. SCANLON.
H.R. 816: Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas.
H.R. 820: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 841: Mr. JACOBS of New York.
H.R. 852: Mr. GOLDEN.
H.R. 885: Mr. MORELLE and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 890: Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. SWALWELL, and Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 892: Mr. EMMER.
H.R. 901: Mr. FEENSTRA.
H.R. 915: Mr. JACOBS of New York.
H.R. 917: Ms. Velázquez and Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 922: Mr. BACON, Mr. CICILLINE, and Mr. KINZINGER.
H.R. 1057: Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 1123: Mr. VAN DREW and Mr. MASSIE.
H.R. 1145: Mr. OBERNOLTE.
H.R. 1178: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 1202: Mr. GALLAGHER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 1210: Mr. OBERNOLTE.
H.R. 1231: Mr. FALLON and Mrs. WAGNER.
H.R. 1282: Mr. CASE.
H.R. 1284: Mr. MANN.
H.R. 1302: Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. FALLON, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
H.R. 1346: Mr. BANKS and Mr. BARR.
H.R. 1352: Mr. BROWN, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. JEFFRIES.
H.R. 1361: Mr. POCAN and Mr. GOLDEN.
H.R. 1364: Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. RYAN, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. PORTER, Mr. TRONE, and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 1381: Mr. LAHOOD.
H.R. 1396: Mrs. WALORSKI.
H.R. 1417: Mr. FALLON.
H.R. 1434: Mr. MEIJER.
H.R. 1466: Mr. NORMAN.
H.R. 1488: Ms. JACOBS of California and Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 1491: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 1518: Mr. FERGUSON.
H.R. 1522: Mr. HOYER and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 1528: Mr. TAYLOR.
H.R. 1534: Mr. LATURNER, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, and Mr. EMMER.
H.R. 1542: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
H.R. 1554: Ms. PORTER.
H.R. 1568: Mr. FALLON and Mr. RESCHENTHALER.
H.R. 1601: Mr. SCHWEIKERT.
H.R. 1607: Mrs. DEMINGS, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Ms. SHERRILL, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. CASE, and Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 1627: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 1633: Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 1636: Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 1644: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. PETERS, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. RUSH, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 1655: Mr. MALINOWSKI.
H.R. 1677: Mr. RUTHERFORD and Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 1693: Mr. MEIJER and Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 1712: Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. ADERHOLT, and Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
H.R. 1747: Mr. GOSAR.
H.R. 1764: Mr. PASCRELL and Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H.R. 1785: Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. CARSON, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LIEU, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. TRONE, Mr. VARGAS, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H.R. 1786: Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. JONES, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 1787: Mr. BROOKS.
H.R. 1788: Mr. CURTIS and Mr. BURGESS.
H.R. 1808: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas and Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 1813: Mr. RYAN, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, and Mr. CROW.
H.R. 1820: Mr. MCKINLEY.
H.R. 1834: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 1843: Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. BERA, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CRIST, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Ms. SPANBERGER.
H.R. 1861: Mr. JACOBS of New York and Mr. O'HALLERAN.
H.R. 1901: Mr. SCHWEIKERT and Mr. OBERNOLTE.
H.R. 1910: Mr. BURGESS, Mr. DUNN, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. GUTHRIE, and Mr. CURTIS.
H.R. 1911: Mr. MORELLE, Ms. NEWMAN, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 1916: Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. KILMER, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. NEWMAN, Mr. DELGADO, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. LATURNER, Ms. WEXTON, and Mr. MALINOWSKI.
H.R. 1956: Mr. BACON, Ms. DEGETTE, and Ms. UNDERWOOD.
H.R. 1978: Mr. MORELLE, Ms. CHU, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Ms. BARRAGÁN, and Ms. HOULAHAN.
H.R. 1986: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 1992: Mr. COLE.
H.R. 1993: Mr. SIRES.
H.R. 1994: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 1996: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. EMMER, Mr. MEIJER, and Ms. ADAMS.
H.R. 2002: Mr. WESTERMAN.
H.R. 2015: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
H.R. 2050: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. COLE, and Mr. O'HALLERAN.
H.R. 2076: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
H.R. 2080: Mr. WELCH and Mr. BUTTERFIELD.
H.R. 2084: Mr. BABIN and Mrs. BOEBERT.
H.R. 2108: Ms. PRESSLEY and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 2125: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Ms. NEWMAN, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 2139: Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H.R. 2144: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 2184: Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 2188: Mr. STIVERS, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, and Mr. RESCHENTHALER.
H.R. 2192: Mr. RYAN and Mr. CAWTHORN.
H.R. 2193: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 2201: Ms. NORTON and Mr. DEUTCH.
H.R. 2213: Mr. GOLDEN.
H.R. 2224: Mr. ALLEN and Mr. FALLON.
H.R. 2249: Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 2294: Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. TURNER, and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 2300: Mr. MANN.
H.R. 2318: Mrs. WALORSKI.
H.R. 2333: Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 2337: Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. MATSUI, and Ms. HOULAHAN.
H.R. 2347: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. SOTO, and Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 2349: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. PERRY, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mrs. LESKO, and Mr. LAMALFA.
H.R. 2355: Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida and Mr. LAMALFA.
H.R. 2373: Mr. MORELLE and Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 2375: Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 2377: Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. RUSH, Ms. NORTON, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. MENG, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. POCAN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. ROSS, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Mr. SWALWELL.
H.R. 2394: Mr. JONES.
H.R. 2430: Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. LONG, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. DUNN, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, and Ms. VAN DUYNE.
H.R. 2457: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 2487: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 2488: Mr. FITZGERALD and Mr. SCHWEIKERT.
H.R. 2491: Mrs. STEEL, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr. HILL, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. KATKO, Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. SMUCKER, and Ms. LETLOW.
H. J. Res. 12: Mr. ARRINGTON and Mr. GOLDEN.
H. J. Res. 19: Mr. BUCK and Mrs. MCCLAIN.
H. Res. 47: Mr. JEFFRIES.
H. Res. 109: Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. CARSON, Ms. ROSS, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. STEFANIK, Ms. MANNING, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, and Mr. JEFFRIES.
H. Res. 118: Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. TRONE, Mr. GOSAR, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. JACOBS of New York, and Ms. MACE.
H. Res. 153: Mr. JACOBS of New York.
H. Res. 160: Mrs. MCCLAIN.
H. Res. 174: Mr. VELA.
H. Res. 237: Mr. HUFFMAN and Mr. COSTA.
H. Res. 245: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H. Res. 285: Mr. CASE and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
H. Res. 299: Mr. GARBARINO and Mrs. RADEWAGEN.
H. Res. 302: Mr. COSTA.

DELETION OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

H. Res. 157: Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. OBERNOLTE, and Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII, petitions and papers were laid on the clerk's desk and referred as follows:

PT-7. The SPEAKER presented a petition of Puerto Rico Bar Association, relative to Resolution No. 8, calling for the ratification of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and other related initiatives; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

PT-8. Also, a petition of the Mayor and City Commission of Miami Beach, FL, relative to Resolution No. 2021-31550, strongly condemning the disgraceful, violent assault on the United States Capitol that took place on January 6, 2021, in an unlawful effort to undermine and derail the fulfillment of Congress' Constitutional duty to certify the results of the 2020 General Presidential Election; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

PT-9. Also, a petition of Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco, CA, relative to Resolution No. 31-21, urging the Board of Supervisors to support Caravan for the Children: Uncage, ReUnify, and Heal/Caravana Por Los Ninos: Liberar ReUnificar y Sanar, in their efforts to demand the Biden-Harris administration use executive action to undue cruel and destructive policies, and for the United States Congress pass comprehensive immigration reform; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

PT-10. Also, a petition of the City Commission of Miramar, FL, relative to Resolution No. 21-42, urging the United States Congress to enact the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 and providing for an effective date; Foreign Affairs.; jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce, and Foreign Affairs.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 167 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2021 No. 64

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.

God, our God, we honor Your Name. You have been our help in ages past; you are our hope for the years to come.

Continue to guide our Senators with Your love. Answer them when they cry to You for assistance. Be for them a shade by day and a defense by night. May they exercise sound judgment as they listen closely to the whisper of Your wisdom that will keep them on the path that leads to life. May they trust in Your unfailing love to make the crooked places straight. Lord, give them the wisdom to permit godliness to fill their lives with light and joy.

We pray in Your sacred Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN). The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

VIOLENCE AGAINST ASIAN AMERICANS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, we live in partisan times, but there are moments when we can break through the typical divisions and work together on matters of real urgency. The anti-Asian hate crimes legislation this week is such a matter. It is a very straightforward and relatively modest bill to address a pressing and important issue in the country. It would designate a point person at the Justice Department to identify hate crimes towards Asian Americans related to COVID–19—telling Federal law enforcement to make these hate crimes a top priority during the pandemic.

Just as important, it would send a strong message to two groups: to the Asian-American community that the country is paying attention to them and to all of America that this kind of bigotry cannot be tolerated.

I was gratified to hear the Republican leader yesterday say that the Senate Republican conference wanted to move forward on the bill.

This bill was never intended to be some kind of ''gotcha'' legislation. It is led by Senators HIRONO and DUCKWORTH, two outstanding Asian-American Senators who rightfully want to respond to the rising tide of anti-Asian violence over the past year. When they asked me to move the bill quickly, I thought that was exactly the right thing to do, and here it is on the floor.

The fact that Leader MCCONNELL said yesterday he believes discrimination against Asian Americans is a real problem and wants to move forward and be constructive is a very good thing, and I salute him for it. The entire Senate ought to stand up against the recent surge of anti-Asian violence. We can take the first step later today by voting to proceed to the legislation.

As I said yesterday, my intention is to have a bipartisan amendment process, beginning with the amendment offered by Senators MORAN and BLUMENTHAL—one a Republican and one a Democrat. In consultation with the Republican leader, we can work out an agreement on other germane, non-''gotcha'' amendments to the bill if Senators have them. We should be able and should really try in earnest to reach a final resolution and pass the bill through the Senate very, very soon.

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, taking a step back for a moment, this is how the process should work in a closely divided Senate. If the Republican minority allows the Senate to move forward with a bill where we have shared priorities, the Democratic majority will work to set up a process for the Senate to consider germane amendments from both sides.

That is the essence of the organizing resolution we all agreed to earlier this year, and hopefully it is a process we can repeat. In fact, we will test that proposition on the very next piece of legislation. If we are able to finish the anti-Asian hate crimes bill in a timely manner, I will move next to consider a bipartisan water infrastructure bill.

The bill, the Drinking Water Infrastructure Act, was advanced by the Environment and Public Works Committee on a unanimous—unanimous—vote. It will authorize tens of billions of dollars to make sure American families, especially low-income families, have access to safe and clean drinking water. I salute Senator CARPER, the chair of the committee, as well as Senator CAPITO, the ranking Republican on the committee, for coming together on such an important and necessary bill.

So, in addition to further nominations, it is my intention to move the bipartisan water infrastructure bill next week.

As the country turns the corner from COVID–19, our focus will soon shift to

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

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how we can cement our economic recovery and create the jobs of the future. President Biden's Build Back Better agenda—a big, bold investment in infrastructure and jobs—is extremely important to that effort. It has wide support among Democrats and wide support among the American people. Many, many Republicans out there in the country support this bill and this concept. The water infrastructure bill is a small but important part of that overall effort.

We hope our Republican colleagues join us in advancing these proposals to repair and reimagine our Nation's infrastructure for a new century. Just like the anti-Asian hate crimes bill, if Republicans let us get on the bill, we can work out a process to have bipartisan debate and amendments, but if the Republican minority prevents the Senate from even debating some of these commonsense proposals, we will have to try to move forward without them.

AFGHANISTAN

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, yesterday President Biden announced that American forces will come home from Afghanistan by September 11, 2021. It has been 20 years since that fateful day when the Towers fell and the Pentagon was hit. We in New York live particularly hard with that. I still think of the people I knew who perished: a guy I played basketball with in high school; a businessman who helped me on the way up; a brave firefighter who used to go around the city urging people to donate blood together. But in that time since then, America's Armed Forces, thank God, have become extremely successful in deterring and rooting out terrorist networks around the globe.

President Obama authorized the mission that took out Osama bin Laden, the architect of the 9/11 attacks. Our intelligence agencies have assessed that al-Qaida and other terrorist groups do not pose an immediate threat to strike the United States from Afghanistan because of the brave work of our Armed Forces and intelligence organizations. So after sinking two decades of blood and treasure into wars in the Middle East, it is time to bring our troops home. America does not need to fight forever wars.

I applaud President Biden's decision. Unlike President Trump, President Biden and Secretary Austin have developed a careful and thought-out plan. This isn't President Trump waking up one morning and announcing a random new policy on Twitter while our generals scramble to catch up. This will be a careful and thought-out plan with a real timetable and a firm end date.

Whenever we talk about American troops in the Middle East, one of the concerns is missions creep and the enormous pressure to kick the can down the road and delay final decisions. We should and must stick to the date the President has proposed as the last day our troops will be there. I have been assured by the White House that the September 11 date will stick and that President Biden will not kick the can down the road.

I know many Senators have questions, so I am happy to let my colleagues know that the administration has agreed to brief all Senators on this important decision. The briefing will take place soon. It will be in the SCIF, and everyone's questions can be asked and answered. The President himself will address the Nation later today and explain the reasons for his decision.

In my view, President Biden's plan to bring American troops home from Afghanistan is a very wise one.

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. Mr. 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.

AFGHANISTAN

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, ''Biden takes the easy way out of Afghanistan. The likely result is disaster.'' This is the morning's lead editorial from one of the Nation's most liberal newspapers.

The administration has decided to abandon U.S. efforts in Afghanistan, which have helped keep radical Islamic terrorism in check, and bizarrely, they decided to do so by September 11. Apparently, we are to help our adversaries ring in the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks by giftwrapping the country and handing it right back to them.

Here is what this administration's own national intelligence threat assessment says will happen:

> The Taliban is likely to make gains on the battlefield, and the Afghan government will struggle to hold the Taliban at bay if the coalition withdraws support.

This is a quote from this administration.

In 2019, the Democratic leader and the now chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee expressed outrage that the previous administration considered hosting Taliban officials for discussions around the date of September 11.

But now a Democratic administration is going to skip the negotiations and just surrender an entire country back to the Taliban on the very same date? Our President should remember what happened when the Obama administration let political considerations rush a retreat from Iraq—total chaos and bloodshed and ISIS.

Two years ago, I wrote a bipartisan amendment that warned a Republican administration against recklessly withdrawing from Afghanistan or Syria. A supermajority of Senators right here voted for it. A supermajority of Senators voted for it, warning that the terrorist threat had not abated. Where are the Democratic voices today? I hope we will hear from some of them.

Unfortunately, this mistake in Afghanistan is one of several instances of this new administration's surrendering leverage without making America, our allies, or our interests more secure.

In January, President Biden extended the New START agreement with Russia by Executive order for 5 years—no strings attached, no concessions secured, not even a shorter term extension to keep up pressure on Russia to cooperate on a better agreement. Just a gift—a gift.

And then there is Iran. Senior administration officials have gone from denigrating the former administration's ''maximum pressure'' strategy to simply begging for direct talks with Iran, to proactively offering to remove sanctions that are ''inconsistent with the JCPOA.'' So which sanctions exactly are inconsistent with the JCPOA? Our sanctions on Iran's terrorist organizations or its ballistic missile program?

Most Republicans would be thrilled if President Biden could actually secure a better deal that holds Iran accountable. Giving up the leverage of sanctions before we even get to the table—before we even get to the table—or just return to a bad deal is certainly not a good sign.

It would be hard to support any deal that isn't part of a broader strategy that also confronts the nonnuclear threats Iran poses to America and to the region.

On China, the administration's tough talk has been welcome, but its proposal to cut defense spending after inflation suggests there is less interest in walking the walk. We will not keep pace with China and Russia by cutting defense spending to placate fringe parts of the far left.

The American people need and they deserve a foreign policy that puts our security, our partners, and our interests ahead of the reflexive desire to break with the last 4 years at any cost—at any cost.

If this administration wants a successful legacy on the world stage, if they want accomplishments that will endure, they need to put American strength back at the center and come back to a bipartisan mainstream.

THE FOR THE PEOPLE ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Now, Mr. President, on a completely different matter, we know Democrats are desperate to create a national controversy over voting regulations, but the facts and the truth keep getting in the way.

For more than a year, we have seen a coordinated campaign to call any

American institution that occasionally frustrates liberal activists an evil relic of Jim Crow. Let me say that again. For more than a year, we have seen a coordinated campaign to call any American institution that occasionally frustrates liberal activists an evil relic of Jim Crow.

When these talking points came into circulation last summer, their focus was the legislative filibuster here in the Senate, except it was Senate Democrats who had just used the legislative filibuster to kill Senator TIM SCOTT's police reform, body camera, and anti-lynching legislation.

Two days ago, our colleague the assistant Democratic leader suggested he now opposes the filibuster because it was used back in the 1920s to block an anti-lynching bill. To be clear, our colleague from Illinois was a loud and proud defender of the current Senate rules as recently at 2018. This isn't about the 1920s. It is not about the 1920s. It is about Democrats wanting different sets of rules, depending on whether or not they happen to be in the majority.

Our colleague didn't need to go back nine decades to find instances of Democrats' filibustering a Republican anti-lynching bill. He only needed to go back 9 months. He didn't have to go back to the 1920s but just go back 9 months to find an example of Democrats filibustering an anti-lynching bill.

Last summer, 44 Senate Democrats locked arms and filibustered TIM SCOTT's police reform, body camera, and anti-lynching legislation because it was not far left enough or anti-police enough. That is the irony here. If any recent Senate filibusters have been reminiscent of the 1920s, it was when Democrats killed a Republican anti-lynching bill just last summer.

Here is the truth. Our colleagues can't defend any of the details of their radical policies. So they want to change the subject—change the subject—by any means necessary.

Look at voting regulations. The recent bill passed in the State of Georgia mandates more days of early voting than plenty of Democratic-run States allow. It continues no-excuse absentee voting, which some blue States do not allow. There is no factual standard by which its overall approach is radically more restrictive than the rules in place in many other States, blue or red.

The Washington Post has given the White House its worst rating, four—four Pinocchios—for repeated lies about Georgia and the election law. But the President and his staff just keep on doubling down.

One of our colleagues who represents Georgia put his name to a public statement—to a public statement—with inaccurate information about the bill.

In the Rules Committee, the Democratic leader shouted angry attacks at things the Georgia law simply doesn't do.

Why the fake narratives? Why the falsehoods? We all know why. For more than 2 years, Washington Democrats have been desperate to pass a sweeping partisan takeover of our democracy. It is packed—packed—with shameless provisions that have nothing to do with ballot access.

They want to take the bipartisan Federal Election Commission, make it a partisan body, and give Democrats the majority. They want to send taxpayers' money to political campaigns. They want to expand Washington's policing of Americans' speech. They want to neuter voter ID and mandate ballot harvesting in all 50 States. Strangely enough, for multiple years now, this exact same power grab has been their answer to every changing circumstance. When they didn't like the outcome of the 2016 election, Democrats said our democracy was broken and only this takeover could fix it. Then, in 2020, they got the result they liked. Suddenly, this same bill became the way to simply preserve a system that functioned well.

There seems to be no situation where this attempted power grab is not the Democrats' answer. I think we can learn tomorrow that an asteroid was hurtling toward Earth, and Democrats would say our only hope was to pass H.R. 1.

This isn't about responding to recent State laws. It is not about justice or equity. Washington Democrats want to rewrite all 50 States' election laws. They want to take over the Federal Election Commission. And they have been trying out different justifications for multiple years straight to get what they want.

Any Federal law addressing the ground rules of our democracy has a special obligation to be sober, to be factual, and to be bipartisan. The Senate has done just that in the past. We have passed reasonable laws by huge, bipartisan margins making it easier to vote but harder to cheat.

So ask yourself: Why won't Democrats today deal in truth and facts? Why do they keep using the same smears to distract from their policies? Why are they hell-bent on a bill that passed the House with purely partisan support but bipartisan opposition? Talk about tipping your hand.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Gary Gensler, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for the remainder of the term expiring June 5, 2021.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

MAIDEN SPEECH

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, today I am honored to stand on this hallowed Senate floor and share my gratitude for and the priorities of the people of Kansas.

I want to start by thanking the people of Kansas who believed in me and sent me here to represent them. It is an honor of a lifetime to follow in the steps of heroic Kansans who preceded me in this legislative body. That includes sharing this tour of duty with my long-time friend whom I have admired for decades and now my senior Senator, JERRY MORAN, as well as legends of this Chamber, my mentors Bob Dole and Pat Roberts.

But before I continue, I want to say a special word of gratitude to my family for all of their support. I would not be here today without the support of my wife of 37 years now, Laina, our four children and their spouses, our three grandchildren, as well as my parents, brother, sister, and extended family, who in so many ways have contributed to our campaigns and the work we have done in Congress. I am grateful for their understanding, their unwavering support, and sacrifice of privacy and family time, but, mostly, I am grateful for the values they passed on to me.

I am grateful for the many teachers, coaches, pastors, and personal friends who inspired me and gave me a solid foundation of values that have seen us through tough times. These values provided the foundation for me, a fifth-generation farm kid, to become a first-generation college student and live my American dream as a physician in rural America.

And these values have become pillars, the sturdiest of which in my life are faith, family, community, education, and hard work—a faith that you live in your heart, not wear on your shirt sleeves; a family that loves and stands beside you no matter what; a community where everyone looks out for each other; an education that is the great equalizer, leveling the playing field for all; and, finally, a belief in hard work that paves the way to achieve your American dream.

As I traveled Kansas this past year, I carried these pillars with me while I heard from people all over the State, and they gave three very clear priorities: No. 1, provide for their safety, health, and security; No. 2, to bring back our jobs and economy; and, No. 3, to protect our values and our God-given, inalienable rights.

I am here in the Senate to do just that, to fight for the people of Kansas,

for all Americans. But more than anyone else, I am here to fight for our children and grandchildren. And like another great Kansan, the 34th President of the United States, Dwight David Eisenhower, the decisions I make will be most guided by the impact they will have on future generations, not by tonight's news or the simultaneous tweet that goes out as I raise my thumb up or down. History will be the judge of my decisions, not social media.

The motto of the 1st Infantry Division of the U.S. Army, the Big Red One, housed in my home State of Kansas is ''No Mission Too Difficult. No Sacrifice Too Great. Duty First!''

It is with this fighting attitude I intend to fully fund our military; secure our borders; as the son and brother of veterans, and as a veteran myself, honor our commitment to those who protected our freedoms and values; and as the son of a police chief, fully support our law enforcement.

I am so grateful for all law enforcement officers, including those here at the U.S. Capitol. They put their lives on the line every day, and we join the entire Nation in mourning those heroic officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice keeping us safe.

While we too often hear calls to defund the police and weaken our military readiness, we are still a nation of law and order, and we must advance President Reagan's philosophy of peace through strength.

Pre-COVID, we had the strongest economy in my lifetime, thanks to Republican-led policies put into place over the last 4 years. Lower taxes and deregulation resulted in historically low unemployment rates, as well as American energy independence and affordable energy costs. With agriculture being responsible for 40 percent of the Kansas economy, these policies, along with strong trade agreements, provided the tools necessary to ensure our farmers, ranchers, and producers remain profitable and our rural communities prosperous.

But here is what concerns me today. Like my grandma often told me at the family supper table, there are three things you can count on from the current majority party: They will spend a lot of your money. They will raise your taxes. And they will increase regulations. Just like my grandma warned, within the first 3 months of this new administration, we have seen an onslaught of harmful redtape, proposed tax increases, and an unprecedented spending spree.

Fighting government redtape and working to ensure Kansans keep more of their hard-earned money as a means to harness job growth and help our economy recover will be what I work for each day.

Lastly and most importantly, as this is what is keeping me up late at night, I was sent here to protect the Kansas values I was raised on. These values are still held by the majority of Americans, and many of us are tired of being canceled, censured, and lectured to.

I acknowledge we all need to be woke up sometimes—woke up for church on Sundays, woke as a child to help milk the cows on my grandparents' farm—but we certainly don't need the woke mob to shake us out of bed every day.

Like all nations of people, we make plenty of mistakes and we have room to grow, but we Kansans are still proud of our American history. Rather than cancel it, we should embrace it. America has accomplished incredible things and defeated enemies of freedom. We should be proud of our history, hang onto it, and learn from it.

God has given our Nation enormous bounty and blessings to help feed the world, maintain peace, and protect human rights. America has been called upon to be the salt of the Earth and remain a bright, burning candle, not hidden under a bushel.

I believe our country will not fall from another military giant, nor will it succumb to economic failure created from foreign lands. Our greatest risk of failure comes from falling under our own weight if we continue to ignore the self-evident values our forefathers taught us.

Indeed, if we continue paying too much attention to silly hyperbole, social media hype, and political correctness, this Nation will struggle and not be the leader of the free world we were intended to be.

Before I leave the subject of values, I want to share how important and personal the sanctity of life is to me. I had the honor, as an obstetrician, to deliver over 5,000 babies, and I promise I will work as hard in this Chamber to protect the lives of the unborn and our children as I did in the delivery room all those years. I will always lead on this issue and protect our values.

Leadership is the quality I most remember my dad looking for and praising in others, and I have always tried to study and emulate great leaders. To this end, as I sometimes wander the Capitol looking for solitude and inspiration, I am struck by one of my favorite paintings hanging in the Capitol Rotunda.

In this portrait, the artist depicts General George Washington, shortly after the Revolutionary War, surrendering his commission as an officer. And behind Washington, resting on an otherwise empty King's throne, are the robes of a King, the robes he declined.

The leadership lesson is that great leaders don't seize more power when they see the opportunity. Three months into this 117th Congress, it appears that the power grab General Washington declined is now the majority's primary modus operandi. We have seen a record number of Executive orders, the first partisan COVID relief bill, steps to grant DC statehood to tip the scales of power, an attempt to federalize elections and destroy election integrity with H.R. 1, and now a commission to study expanding the Supreme Court.

Like Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz watching the grains of sand dropping through the hourglass, additional partisan priorities remain on standby while the timing of dropping the ultimate power grab—the elimination of the filibuster—is carefully weighed.

The filibuster is meant to force both parties to work together to come up with long-lasting policies which help Americans. Without it, we will see tax laws and many other policies go up and down like a roller coaster, creating uncertainty and making it impossible for long-term planning.

We are witnessing what may be the most blatantly hypocritical policy switch we have ever seen, as most all Senators and the President have been on record previously in support of the filibuster. This flip-flop appears to be all in the name of greed and power.

So while I come to the Senate intent on fighting against efforts to weaken our security, harm our economy, and diminish our American values, I also want to discuss what I am for.

My favorite memories of growing up were spent in the great outdoors with the people I love the most: my friends and family. Make no mistake, I will do everything in my power to leave this world cleaner, safer, and healthier than I found it, and this can be accomplished while at the same time maintaining affordable energy.

Whether it is environmental policy or economic policy, we need to level the playing field, both at home and abroad. We must prioritize jobs for Americans, secure our supply chains, and continue to develop fair and reciprocal trade agreements. We must lower the cost of quality healthcare for all Americans. We must stop intellectual property theft, along with economic coercion, forced technology transfer, and cyber espionage.

We must stop counterfeit products and illicit drugs from entering our Nation. In addition, we must stop all censorship, especially the censorship of conservative thought that is under attack.

For our grandchildren's sake, we must modernize our policies surrounding Big Tech and social media before they engulf our society.

So this Nation, still very young in the scheme of world history, we have our challenges, but as long as we stay true to our American values, we will get more right than we get wrong. But we have to learn to forgive our pasts and forgive each other.

Over this Easter break, one of my sons told me something that made my heart go pitter-patter. He said:

> Dad, capitalism keeps America at the tip of the spear.

Capitalism keeps America at the tip of the spear. You know, he was spot on. American innovation, our pioneer spirit, and hard work will always lead the way and bring victory over totalitarianism and singular thought and rule.

Each and every American youth and young adult has their own story to write, and my job here is to ensure everyone has their shot at happiness and

their shot at their American dream. While we cannot guarantee happiness for any of them, those of us in this Chamber can pave the way with an abundance of opportunity.

As the dreams and stories of so many Americans are interweaved, this American portrait—this tapestry of blues and grays, of pastels and earth tones—will keep this Republic in good shape. It is our diversity that makes us great. As long as we pass on our American values that have seen this Nation through so many dark nights, we will succeed through current and future trials and conflicts.

May God bless this great Republic.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican whip.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, shortly before Easter, I joined a number of my colleagues on a visit to the border to get a firsthand look at the crisis that we are facing. And make no mistake, this is a crisis. Customs and Border Protection apprehensions at our southern border last month were at their highest level in nearly 20 years—20 years.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection reported more than 172,000 encounters with individuals attempting to cross our southern border in March alone. And that is just the individuals they encountered. We don't know how many individuals came across without being identified and are currently residing illegally in our country.

Nearly 19,000 unaccompanied children crossed our southern border in March alone, the largest number ever recorded in a single month. That is 19,000 children making an incredibly dangerous journey without their parents, at the mercy of smugglers, human traffickers, or any other dangerous individual that they might encounter.

Needless to say, the surge at our border is having very serious effects. Border Patrol agents have been pulled off the border to deal with the influx of migrants and unaccompanied children, leaving the borders undermanned. And the government is straining to deal with processing the massive number of people who have come across the border. One facility that we visited was at 16 times its allotted capacity.

The administration has had to deploy the Federal Emergency Management Agency—that is right, our government's disaster recovery Agency—to help deal with the influx of unaccompanied children. And the Department of Health and Human Services has been forced to open emergency shelters and ask the Department of Defense for temporary housing on bases.

Despite the pandemic, adequate COVID safety measures have been unable to be maintained because the numbers needing to be housed have been so great.

While the administration would like to attribute this crisis to the previous administration or anything but the current President's policies, the truth is, President Biden bears a lot of the responsibility for the situation. His Presidential campaign made it clear that border security was not going to be one of his priorities.

And since taking office, what signals have he and his administration sent? On his very first day in office, President Biden rescinded the declaration of a national emergency at our southern border; he halted construction on the border wall; and he rescinded a Trump administration order that called for the government to faithfully execute our immigration laws, including removals for visa overstays and limiting funding to sanctuary cities—all on his first day.

And that is not all. The President's Department of Homeland Security also issued guidelines that same day pausing deportations, except under certain conditions. The effect of President Biden's actions was to declare to the world that the U.S. borders are effectively open.

That may or may not have been what President Biden and his administration intended, but it certainly has been the effect. The message received by prospective migrants has been, if you can make it to the U.S. border and claim asylum, whether legitimate or not, even if you illegally cross the border, you are in.

Trump administration policies like ''Remain in Mexico'' and the third country asylum rule relieved pressure on our overburdened immigration casework and enforcement efforts at the southern border. They allowed for asylum claims to be vetted long before individuals reached the U.S. border, removing the need for people to uproot themselves and attempt a dangerous border crossing only to be sent back home again.

But in his rush to distance himself from President Trump and appease the open borders wing of the Democratic Party, President Biden eliminated these policies, which has helped create the humanitarian crisis we are currently facing.

Under the Biden administration, there is little deterrent or fear of punishment for those who seek to enter the country illegally, knowing that they can claim asylum and join the backlog of roughly 1.3 million cases while they wait in the United States. And the humanitarian crisis that we are seeing at the border is the result.

President Biden and Democrats would like to present themselves as the compassionate alternative to the Trump administration, but there is nothing compassionate about policies that invite illegal immigration, that encourage people to attempt the dangerous border crossing, to run the risk of death or injury or exploitation or disease.

Inviting the surge at the border also shows a significant lack of compassion or consideration for Americans, particularly those in border communities.

While many of those trying to cross our borders illegally are simply looking for a better life, which is not an excuse for going outside our established legal pathways, there are also a lot of dangerous people—dangerous people attempting illegal border crossings: drug traffickers, weapons traffickers, human traffickers, gang members. And when Border Patrol agents have been pulled off the border to help manage the immigration influx, it is not going to be too surprising if we discover that more of these dangerous individuals have made their way into our country. And that represents a real danger to Americans.

Americans living in towns and cities along our southern border are at the greatest risk of having their communities disrupted by border-related criminal activity, but the effects of drug trafficking and other criminal activity across our southern border are felt throughout our entire country.

President Biden helped cause this crisis. There are no ifs, ands, or buts about it. And he could start ending this crisis today by making it clear that his administration will enforce immigration laws and that the way to come to this country is to come legally. He could also help by recommitting our country to serious border security along our southern border, including construction, continued construction of the border wall.

For the sake of the unaccompanied children and all those trying to cross our borders and for the sake of the Americans who have been endangered by his policies, I hope—I hope that President Biden will take action.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON GENSLER NOMINATION

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the rollcall vote scheduled for 11:45 begin now, and I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

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 Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 148 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Baldwin	Durbin	Luján
Bennet	Feinstein	Lummis
Blumenthal	Gillibrand	Manchin
Booker	Grassley	Markey
Brown	Hassan	Menendez
Cantwell	Heinrich	Merkley
Cardin	Hickenlooper	Murphy
Carper	Hirono	Murray
Casey	Kaine	Ossoff
Collins	Kelly	Padilla
Coons	King	Peters
Cortez Masto	Klobuchar	Reed
Duckworth	Leahy	Rosen

Sanders	Smith	Warnock
Schatz	Stabenow	Warren
Schumer	Tester	Whitehouse
Shaheen	Van Hollen	Wyden
Sinema	Warner	

NAYS—45

Barrasso	Fischer	Paul
Blackburn	Graham	Portman
Blunt	Hagerty	Risch
Boozman	Hawley	Romney
Braun	Hoeven	Rubio
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Shelby
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Marshall	Toomey
Cruz	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	Moran	Wicker
Ernst	Murkowski	Young

NOT VOTING—2

Rounds	Tillis

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 53, Brenda Mallory, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Council on Environmental Quality.

Charles E. Schumer, Ron Wyden, Maria Cantwell, Richard J. Durbin, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Jeanne Shaheen, Tim Kaine, Angus S. King, Jr., Tammy Duckworth, John Hickenlooper, Gary C. Peters, Brian Schatz, Patty Murray, Tina Smith, Mazie K. Hirono, Sheldon Whitehouse, Alex Padilla.

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 Brenda Mallory, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Council on Environmental Quality, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any Senators in the Chamber wishing to vote or to change their vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 53, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 149 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Baldwin	Heinrich	Portman
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
Graham	Padilla	Wyden
Hassan	Peters	

NAYS—45

Barrasso	Fischer	Murkowski
Blackburn	Grassley	Paul
Blunt	Hagerty	Risch
Boozman	Hawley	Romney
Braun	Hoeven	Rubio
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Shelby
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Toomey
Cruz	Marshall	Tuberville
Daines	McConnell	Wicker
Ernst	Moran	Young

NOT VOTING—2

Rounds	Tillis

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 53, the nays are 45.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Brenda Mallory, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Council on Environmental Quality.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

NOMINATION OF BRENDA MALLORY

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, the Senate has now invoked cloture on the nomination of Brenda Mallory, President Biden's nominee to serve as the Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality. First, let me just say thank you. I want to express my thanks to—and I am sure, on behalf of Brenda Mallory—53 Senators who voted in favor of cloture so that we can move forward and now debate her nomination. We thank each Senator who cast that supporting vote. But I rise in support of Ms. Mallory's nomination to this important position. This is a position a lot of folks have never heard of, but it is a hugely important one. And I urge our colleagues to now join me in supporting, in confirmation, a highly, highly qualified nominee as well.

The Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality—or CEQ, as we call it—may not be the first position many Americans think about when they consider consequential Presidential appointments. But it is a crucial body—critical body—with considerable sway over our Nation's health and environment.

One of my mentors was a Republican named Russ Peterson, a great leader of the DuPont company for many years, Governor of Delaware, and later served as Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality during the administrations of both Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford.

Governor Peterson used to refer to his role as Chair at the Council on Environmental Quality as similar to that of an orchestra leader, an orchestra conductor. He said: You don't play the instruments as the Chair of the CEQ, but you try hard to ensure that everyone in the orchestra is playing in harmony. The CEQ Chair coordinates action across the entire government in order to ensure that Federal Agencies are working in harmony and that every Federal decision advances the objectives of economic growth, of better public health, and of stronger environmental quality.

While CEQ Chairs do work much like an orchestra leader, a conductor, to achieve harmony across Federal Agencies, they must also pursue balance. That balance includes at least three components: one, growing our economy; two, ensuring a just and healthy society; and, three, protecting our environment for current and future generations. Those are the clear objectives of CEQ as laid out in the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, known as NEPA, the landmark law that created CEQ, often referred to as ''the Magna Carta of environmental laws.''

According to its six pages of statute, NEPA's purpose includes—and I am going to quote—''efforts which will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of man.'' I would add ''and woman.'' NEPA enshrines democracy by giving the American people a voice to help decide the fate of Federal decisions. For 50 years, NEPA has sought to ensure environmental protection, public health, and the notion that the American people should have a say in the Federal decision-making process that affects their lives.

Like our Constitution, NEPA is one of our Nation's most enduring and replicated laws. The same principles of democracy and citizen participation enshrined in our Constitution are also enshrined in NEPA.

Sadly, the Trump administration's CEQ largely walked away from the tenets of this 50-year-old law, issuing drastic rollbacks that undermine much of its very mission. Instead of advancing the CEQ's three objectives—one, a more productive economy; two, a healthier society; and three, a cleaner environment—the previous administration sadly repeatedly compromised public health and environmental quality for the sake of less redtape.

So one of the many tasks ahead for the next CEQ Chair will be to get us back on track—to harmonize our efforts to address the climate crisis, safeguard public health, and ensure that

we are treating others the way we want to be treated. If that sounds familiar, it should because that is the Golden Rule, which is found in every major religion on this planet.

There are few people as well qualified to tackle this challenge as Brenda Mallory. I believe that she is the kind of experienced, dedicated public servant that we need to lead CEQ at this critical time, not just for the Agency but for our Nation.

Ms. Mallory is a deeply committed public servant with extensive experience under both Democratic and Republican administrations. No stranger to CEQ, Ms. Mallory served there for a number of years after an impressive tenure of more than a decade at EPA, including under President George W. Bush. She has earned respect from both sides of the aisle, and, as the former General Counsel for CEQ, she already knows the Agency inside and out.

Her experience and her reputation as a collaborative, pragmatic leader help to explain why she has garnered broad bipartisan support among environmental leaders who have served before her. Get this—13 past Republican CEQ and EPA appointees, including a former CEQ Chair, and 4 different Republican EPA Administrators have publicly praised Ms. Mallory and urged her confirmation. Now, that doesn't happen every day, as the Presiding Officer knows. But among those former Republican EPA Administrators who have urged her confirmation are these: Bill Reilly, Christine Todd Whitman, Michael Leavitt, Stephen Johnson, and James Connaughton.

Ms. Mallory has also earned the support of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. I will say that again. Ms. Mallory also earned the support of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce—and a whole bushel of environmental groups across this land.

She has represented business interests in the past as an attorney in private practice, so she understands the importance of timely and well-coordinated environmental reviews, which are crucial for getting investments in telecommunications and in infrastructure off the ground.

Ms. Mallory's expertise will be critical to the task that lies ahead. In addition to restoring balance at CEQ and its mission, the next Chair at CEQ will address a number of pressing crises facing our Nation today. Let me mention some of them. They include the ongoing COVID–19 pandemic, and they include the worst economy since the Great Depression, as well as the enduring problem and challenge of racial injustice. All three—all three of these crises are compounded by a fourth, and that is the climate crisis.

We have no time to waste. We must tackle the climate crisis with conviction and with urgency. My home State of Delaware, which I am privileged to represent, certainly cannot wait any longer. We happen to be the lowest lying State in America. Our State is sinking, and the seas around us are rising.

This is felt by other States across the country too. Climate change is an issue that hits red States and blue States alike. Our colleagues JOHN NEELY KENNEDY and BILL CASSIDY, from Louisiana, tell me that Louisiana loses—get this—a football field of wetlands to rising sea levels every 100 minutes.

Let me mention that again. Louisiana loses a football field of wetlands to rising sea levels every 100 minutes. In another part of the country, the midwestern part of the country, last year, hurricane-force winds flattened over half—over half of the corn and soybean crop in Iowa, literally in the span of about a week, maybe even in a span of about a day.

Out on the west coast, wildfires raged across California as big as the size of Rhode Island, while floods in Florida damaged homes, and roads and deadly ice storms a month or two ago left millions in Texas stranded without power or water.

Natural disasters and extreme weather don't discriminate; they impact all of us. Brenda Mallory knows this. She understands the gravity of the situation and the immense challenge she has ahead of her, should she be confirmed. I know she is ready to seize the opportunity ahead of her in this role.

She also knows that the laws we write and decisions we make can affect who faces the brunt of the consequences. For too long, communities of color have disproportionately suffered from our environmental policies. From chemical contaminants in drinking water to toxic air pollution from our roads and our factories, our most marginalized citizens are too often exposed to environmental public health risks and left behind by our investments and policies.

We need to work to improve environmental outcomes for all Americans—all Americans. Brenda Mallory at the helm of CEQ can play the leadership role that is needed in addressing environmental justice and meeting the challenges of climate change in a way that will lift up all communities and achieve a brighter, more equitable future for each one of them.

As we address the crises we face, we have an opportunity to improve people's lives today and for future generations. To do that, we need principled, enlightened leaders. We need leaders who are humble, not haughty; leaders who have the heart of a servant and understand that their job is to serve, not be served; leaders who unite, not divide; leaders who build bridges, not walls.

I am confident that Brenda Mallory is just that kind of leader. She will bring integrity. She will bring honor and humility to her role just as she has done in her decades of service to this country. As Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality, she will be a leader who brings people together to form lasting solutions to the challenges that we face today.

With that in mind, I strongly urge each of our colleagues to join me in supporting her confirmation. I thank again those who voted for cloture a few minutes ago.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

FOR THE PEOPLE ACT

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, it has been just over 2 months since we transferred majority rule to President Biden and the Democrats, and they have made it very clear that not even their most radical policy proposals are up for debate. They just want to push things through. In fact, based on what we have seen, I am willing to go on the record as saying that they see any possibility of defeat as an impermissible challenge to their hold on power, and they have got quite a long enemies' list.

You will recall that, back in 2016, after Donald Trump won the election, liberal activists blamed the electoral college for their many campaign failures.

In 2020, even as the count came down in their favor, the attacks continued. Faced with the possibility of constitutionalist, conservative judicial nominees, the Supreme Court also became a source of righteous panic. In the wake of the 2020 election, activists were quick to demand that their new majority break the structure of the Court and transform it into a rubberstamp for radical policies that don't stand a chance of surviving this Chamber under regular order.

Just this year, when faced with a much slimmer majority than, I am sure, they expected, many of my Democratic colleagues reversed their positions on the filibuster. Suddenly, the procedural backstop so many of them had once vowed to protect—this was an important check against the tyranny of the majority—was, all of a sudden, nothing more than a racist relic of Jim Crow America. So we are left to assume, I suppose, that tyranny started to look pretty good in the face of such a slim majority.

Yet the filibuster isn't the only Senate institution that came under fire. Debate over a Federal minimum wage increase grew so unhinged that many Democrats suggested firing the Parliamentarian and replacing her with someone who was willing to deploy his or her own rubberstamp. Just this week, news broke that Senate Democrats are now toying with the idea of firing the Director of the Congressional Budget Office. For what? For the unpardonable sin of doing his job.

If you don't like the score, fire the scorekeeper. If you don't like the standard, wipe it off the books. If you don't like the institution, just burn it to the ground.

It is a familiar curriculum now reflected in the Democrats' latest effort to demolish and rebuild the country in their own radical image. They call it the For the People Act, but the basic premise of S. 1 is that, in order to secure our elections, we have no choice

but to take electoral power away from the people and put it in the hands of politicians and bureaucrats. It is a top-down approach that, if implemented, would centralize control over elections in direct contravention to the Constitution, destroy barriers to voter fraud, and enable radical activists to harass and intimidate their political opponents. It is the sort of power grab you would expect a cartoon villain to conduct, but here we are, debating this in the U.S. Senate.

When you dive into the specifics, it really gets worse. Here are some things that it would do.

The bill would, indeed, ban voter ID requirements and force States to allow ballot harvesting schemes.

The Federal Election Commission, which for the moment is a balanced, bipartisan Agency, would morph into a partisan, prosecutorial body, ready to be weaponized against the political minority.

Instead of living or dying by the support of loyal donors, under this new scheme, political campaigns would receive public money payouts, which they could then use to promote whatever message they pleased no matter how objectionable it might be to the taxpayers, who would be funding those campaigns.

Speaking of those donors, if you have ever wondered who was behind a particular campaign, this bill has you covered. It includes new restrictions on political speech in the form of a donor disclosure mandate. Say goodbye to anonymous political activity in the tradition of the Federalist Papers and the civil rights movement. This is cancel culture on steroids, and if the Democrats have their way, this is what is coming to a precinct near you.

Of course, the centralization of power on this scale will require a laundry list of regulations, and on that front, S. 1 does not disappoint. The requirements shoveled onto local and State officials are so burdensome and impractical that I refuse to believe anyone involved in the drafting has ever staffed a polling place. Certainly, they have never served as volunteers on a county election commission. That is something I had the honor of doing a couple of decades ago.

If they get their way, the same automatic registration procedures that failed voters in California and in Illinois are coming to a county elections office in your neighborhood.

Felons will regain their right to vote in Federal elections, but no one seems willing to explain how they expect State officials to prevent them from voting in down-ballot races.

Elections officials will have the pleasure of purchasing new paper-backed voting machines just as soon as those machines come into existence. That is right. This bill mandates the use of technology that hasn't hit the marketplace.

Speaking of theoretical technology, for some reason, the drafters of this bill also thought it would be a good idea to force States to invent new technology to support automated voter registration by phone.

Elections are not easy events to stand up. County officials and volunteers work year-round to ensure that polling places are staffed and safe, that machines are functional, and that volunteers are well trained to recognize illegal electioneering and fraud. Over the years, State and local authorities have found their own solutions to these challenges. When those solutions fail, we have the ability to implement Federal backstops against voter suppression and election mishandling.

Everyone has his own role to play. These roles are outlined in the Constitution for a reason—because the Founders knew that any detached Federal bureaucracy would lack the competence to solve the unique logistical challenges my Democratic colleagues are trying to use as proof that Congress must step in to burn down yet another institution of our democracy. That is the constitutional imperative of the States to set the time, place, and manner of elections.

If we continue to go down this road, this partisan fever dream will become codified chaos that will trickle all the way down to the precinct level and irreparably erode confidence in the electoral process.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

AFGHANISTAN

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President and my colleagues, there is a saying about Afghanistan: that we have turned the corner toward victory so many times that we are spinning in circles.

During the beginning of my time in Congress, I went to Afghanistan to visit our troops and military leadership about every 2 years. Each time I went, I was met by a new, capable, impressive general who had just started his yearlong tour, who told me that the last general did it wrong and that, this time, everything was going to be different. I remember coming back from my third trip to Afghanistan—I think it was in 2011—convinced that it was time to leave. The primary mission had been accomplished. Within a few years of our invasion, al-Qaida in Afghanistan had been reduced to a shell of its former self, and we had really shifted to a new mission: nation-building. At the outset, there was reason for us to stay and engage in that mission and to work with the new Afghan Government to help get it on its own feet, but, by 2011, that mission had, for all intents and purposes, become a permanent one.

Now, after 20 years of war and handwringing about when the right time is to leave, we have to acknowledge some basic truths: Our military presence in Afghanistan is not creating the conditions necessary to eradicate the Taliban or the conditions necessary to create a fully functional Afghan military or government.

In fact, the facts on the ground would tell you the opposite is true: The longer we stay, the more powerful the Taliban becomes and the less willing the Afghan Government appears to be to make the hard choices to stand on its own.

We can pretend that another year is going to change this, but it won't. ''Just a little bit more time'' has become the rinse-and-repeat phrase of the Afghanistan hawks, but to stay any longer is really—let's be honest—a decision to stay forever, and that is something the American people do not support.

I want to tell you one story from my trip to Afghanistan in 2011 that helped to confirm my belief that something was very wrong about our policy there. I went with a bipartisan delegation. I was in the House at the time. We visited a far-off Province in western Afghanistan—a small town called Parmakan—and we were there to visit a group of Army commandos who toured us around this village. They were protecting the farmers in this village from Taliban attack. They attested to us that the attacks had largely stopped, and in the place of those attacks had matured a commerce between the Taliban forces that surrounded the village and the farmers of the village. As we walked around this village, we made our way through fields of these beautiful, beautiful, colorful flowers.

I turned to my colleague next to me, and I asked him if he had a sense as to what this crop was.

He said: I think I do, but let's confirm.

So we asked one of the village elders what they were harvesting in these fields.

Poppy, he told us.

Our U.S. military forces were protecting the poppy trade in this western Province of Afghanistan—in fact, protecting the ability of the Taliban to come in and purchase that poppy in order to fuel the insurgency that we were fighting. Our troops were literally being utilized to protect the revenue source of our enemy. And so no wonder our policy in Afghanistan appears circular. In many ways, it is and it has been for a very long time.

But even for those who disagree with me and contest that our presence there has actually helped facilitate the survival of the Taliban, what evidence is there that staying for another few years is going to make the key difference?

The American war in Afghanistan is nearly 20 years old. It is the longest war in U.S. history, outlasting the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, and the Korean war combined.

The United States and other international donors have invested an extraordinary amount of money and effort and blood to help stand up a functioning Afghan Government and civil society. And yet that government has

failed to get widespread support from the Afghan people. There are many reasons for this, but there is one big one: corruption. And the billions upon billions of dollars that are pumped into the Afghan economy by U.S. taxpayers often never find their way to actually helping the people of that country. Too much of our aid has been syphoned off by local leaders and unintentionally we have helped establish a system of corruption that has become so pervasive and so predatory that people have, frankly, become less resistant to Taliban inroads.

Without a functioning police force, local Governors establish their own militias, and the mafia-style system that has developed has led to this vast drug trafficking network, fueled by corruption and that poppy production I talked about.

This has distorted Afghanistan's economy, and it has, frankly, neutralized a lot of our economic aid. And yet the United States often, over the course of the last 20 years, has tolerated these warlords, these drug traffickers, and these corrupt defense contractors inside Afghanistan because we consider the enemy of our enemy to be our friend. Our entire mission there has often been built on a self-defeating strategy.

In fact, what began as a vital mission to eliminate the threat of those who attacked us on September 11 has now, in some ways, become a symbol of nearly everything that is wrong with American foreign policy. Our armed presence in Afghanistan epitomizes this hubristic myth around the power of U.S. troops abroad; that they can completely dismantle terrorist networks by force, install and cultivate a stable democratic government, and eliminate rampant corruption and illegal drug cultivation.

Two decades and nearly $2 trillion dollars of spending later, we have seen the limitations of those fantastical assumptions. Our generals have offered PowerPoint presentation after PowerPoint presentation on how this time it is going to be different, but it never is because the failure really isn't in the execution. The failure has been in the design.

A few thousand troops—and that is what we have there today—cannot deliver security and political stability to a complex, multicultural, multilingual nation, long resistant to centralized rule, on the other side of the world.

We were right to pursue the al-Qaida terrorists who attacked us on September 11, but that mission is completed, and it is time to face facts about the limitations of American military power in Afghanistan and bring our troops home.

Now, let's be clear, al-Qaida still wants to harm the United States, but the threat that they pose today is nowhere near what it was 20 years ago when they attacked our Embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, bombed the USS *Cole*, and killed thousands of Americans on September 11.

Intelligence estimates tell us that in Afghanistan, there may be only 200, 300, maybe 400 al-Qaida members total. The organization is no longer capable of planning large-scale attacks against the United States. That is what our intelligence estimates tell us. And, frankly, there are far more al-Qaida members today in other countries, like Yemen, for instance. Does that mean that we should also plant huge numbers of U.S. troops in every place where there are security vacuums to eliminate the terrorist threat from those countries? Of course not.

After two decades of the War on Terror, we have made a ton of mistakes, but we have also gotten a lot better in terms of our intelligence capabilities and our ability to strike against a terrorist threat absent a huge in-country presence. Why not apply that lesson learned to Afghanistan?

To their credit, the Trump administration was right to finally call it like it is and state that the U.S. presence in Afghanistan couldn't and shouldn't continue forever.

But as usual, the Trump team didn't put in the work to ensure that we could do this responsibly by their deadline of May 1. So a 4-month extension, announced by President Biden, will give us the space needed, not to magically accomplish what we haven't been able to do in 20 years but to realistically chart out the operational plans for pulling out the 2,500 troops whom we still have there.

Now, finally, I want to be honest. When we withdraw, there is a real possibility the situation in Afghanistan is going to get worse. It is likely that fighting between the Afghan Government and the Taliban escalates. At that point, either the Afghan Government will have to lead the fight without the crutch of American support or the government could collapse.

But this is the key point: That has been the dynamic for the last 15 years, and it is going to continue to be the dynamic for the next 15 years. It wouldn't be any different if we had stayed for another 5 years, another 20 years, or another year. There is simply no evidence to suggest that things are going to change. After 20 years and billions of dollars of investment in the Afghan Government, the onus has to be on them to get their act together and to earn the support of the people.

And one last point, being in Afghanistan is a choice, a choice to not focus on other theaters that present more serious threats to international norms, global stability, and American security. It bogs America down having 2,500 troops there and thousands more contractors and billions of dollars. It bogs us down in a theater that, frankly, just matters less to us today than it did years ago.

Just within the last few days, China has leveled new threats to the territorial integrity of its neighbors; Russia is amassing thousands of troops on the border of Ukraine; and there are new worries about a potential attack on NATO member states.

And remember, counterterrorism officials and our daily newsfeed remind us that the most serious threat to America today is actually not from foreign terrorist organizations but from domestic groups.

We spend more money than any other nation in the world on security, but even given the gargantuan size of our global military footprint, we cannot and should not be everywhere. We need to make choices every now and again, and right now it is fantasy, not reality, that undergirds an argument to stay in Afghanistan for another 10 years or 5 years or even another year.

A big part of being President is making tough choices, and today President Biden has made the right one to end this war.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

FILIBUSTER

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, the new power dynamic in Washington has brought about a frenzy of proposed institutional changes by our friends across the aisle.

The American people elected a Democratic President, that is true; they reduced the Democratic majority in the House; and elected a 50–50 Senate. In all of Congress, there are seven more Democrats than Republicans. That is all—7 out of 535 Members.

Despite these tight margins, our friends on the other side have tried to characterize this new power dynamic as a mandate, and they have floated a tsunami of rule changes to go along with it. First came the push to eliminate the filibuster.

Just a few years ago, the idea of such a radical change terrified our Democratic colleagues. We certainly didn't do it when we were in a position to do it, notwithstanding the encouragement of President Trump.

When Republicans held control of the Senate, the House, and the White House, as our Democratic colleagues do now, our friends on the other side of the aisle feared the filibuster would come tumbling down. They were so concerned, in fact, that 33 of our colleagues signed on to a letter insisting that the filibuster be preserved. Leader MCCONNELL agreed. He never wavered to pressure from anyone, even the President, to eliminate the filibuster. He has been around this Chamber and this Senate a long time, and he knows that what goes around comes around.

As the leader correctly noted, Democrats didn't just spend the last 4 years supporting the filibuster, they took every advantage of the opportunity for

the minority to stop legislation they disagreed with. They spent 4 years using it.

Our Democratic colleagues employed the filibuster to kill quite a number of Republican bills on pandemic relief, government funding, pro-life legislation, police reform, and the list goes on and on.

Despite the fact our friends on the other side of the aisle consistently praised and utilized the filibuster in recent years, now, after the election of 2020, they seem to have reversed course. Since the political tides have changed, so, too, have the views of many Senate Democrats.

In recent months, one of our colleagues referred to the filibuster as making a mockery of American democracy.

I happen to remember at John Lewis's funeral—the great civil rights icon—even former President Obama called it a ''relic of Jim Crow,'' arguably giving permission to Democrats to call the filibuster a racist obstacle to making progress in the country.

Another Senator said that the filibuster had deep roots in racism, even though last summer Democrats used this tool to block an anti-lynching bill.

The entire debate has ballooned beyond reason, and the past few months have been a game of ''will they or won't they'' when it comes to eliminating the filibuster.

You know, the filibuster has very sound origins. It forces us to do what I think the American people would want us to do anyway, and that is to work together. It forces us to do that. And building consensus is hard, as we all know.

Well, we now have confirmation that our Democratic colleagues do not have the votes. Last week, Senator MANCHIN of West Virginia took to the pages of the Washington Post and said he will not support eliminating or weakening the filibuster. He has been here long enough to know that what you can do in the majority will have consequences when you are in the minority, as you eventually will be if you are here long enough.

I was appreciative of what Senator MANCHIN said in those pages. I am sure it wasn't easy. I am sure there is a lot of pressure on him to be expedient, to jam things through on a partisan basis, and I appreciate his willingness to stand up.

I agree with the Senator from Arizona, who said: We don't have a rule problem. We have a people problem. We have a behavior problem.

We need to restore bipartisan cooperation. There is no chance that will happen if everything in the Senate is jammed through along party lines.

The filibuster is designed to protect our country from the continual change of who is in the majority and who is in the minority and to provide the American people a chance to plan their lives. If anything that can be done in one election can be undone in the next election, that is an invitation to chaos.

Unfortunately, the list of proposed institutional changes doesn't end with the filibuster. Over the last few years, our friends on the other side of the aisle have also set their sights on the Supreme Court.

We all remember the day a sitting Member of this body threatened two Supreme Court Justices by name. As the Justices were debating a case, the current majority leader said, on the steps of the Supreme Court:

> You have released the whirlwind and you will pay the price.

Well, I think he realized the error in making that statement because he then followed up with—well, this isn't the point where he realized the error because he doubled down on it. He said:

> You won't know what hit you if you go forward with these awful decisions.

Well, we know this wasn't an isolated incident. It is true that the majority leader tried to walk back his words later after he realized how intemperate and inappropriate they were when directed at two sitting members of the U.S. Supreme Court.

We don't have to remember too far in the past to know how the words we speak here in Congress and as public officials—the impact they can have on other people's minds and perceptions, especially those who are not particularly stable in the first place.

Well, several of our Democratic colleagues filed an amicus brief in which they threatened the Supreme Court with retribution unless they got the outcome that they wanted.

Thank goodness our Founders designed the Federal Government with three separate but equal branches. Through this system of checks and balances, they sought to prevent any one branch of government from forcing its will on the other two. Standing up on the steps of the Supreme Court and issuing threats to the Justices that they must do what you want or else is certainly not consistent with the Founders' vision.

Let me be clear. An independent judiciary is the crown jewel of our Constitution and our constitutional Republic—an independent judiciary. In the words of Supreme Court Justice John Roberts, ''We should celebrate our strong and independent judiciary as a source of national unity and stability.'' But now, even this hallowed institution is being attacked by our Democratic colleagues unless they get the result they want. They are trying to intimidate the members of the Supreme Court.

Then there is the most recent discussion—threat, really—about packing the Supreme Court with additional members. The push to pack the Supreme Court has been a mainstay of the far left for years, but it has now made its way into the Biden administration.

Previously, throughout his campaign, President Biden refused to weigh in on this topic. He knew how explosive this was, this threat to pack the Court, to make it a political body, to eliminate its role as an independent judiciary. Well, he refused to weigh in on it during the campaign, and I have no doubt this was an important strategic decision. He realized how offensive that would be to the voters he hoped would vote for him in 2020. A poll last fall found that less than one-third of Americans support increasing the number of Justices on the Supreme Court.

The President previously said he is ''not a fan of court packing.'' In fact, he called it a ''bonehead idea.'' He referred to President Roosevelt's proposal to pack the Court as a ''terrible, terrible mistake.'' But now President Biden has appeared to have embraced this ''bonehead idea'' and this ''terrible, terrible mistake'' that he condemned previously.

The first step was last week when he created a Commission to examine adding members to the Supreme Court of the United States above the current nine. This decision and announcement came despite the fact that Justices on both sides appointed by Presidents on both sides of the aisle have affirmed the integrity of the Supreme Court with just nine members.

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who was an icon for the liberals on the Court and many people in America, said: ''Nine seems to be a good number.''

Just last week, Justice Breyer said that the Court's authority depends on ''a trust that the court is guided by legal principle, not politics.'' He said that these types of changes would erode the trust that the American people must have in the highest Court in the land.

The American people simply won't have faith in an independent judiciary if one side is adding names to the roster so that they can game the outcome. They need to get involved in the legislative process if they want to make policy, not try to make politics through the judiciary, through the Supreme Court.

So I would urge President Biden to heed his own words that he delivered with such conviction during his time on the Judiciary Committee when he said that President Roosevelt's decision ''put in question for an entire decade the independence of the most significant body . . . in this country.''

Well, unfortunately, the power grab doesn't stop there. The single biggest legislative goal of our friends on the other side of the aisle is an attempted takeover of State election laws. That is in spite of the fact that article I of the Constitution explicitly gives the States the power to regulate the ''times, places, and manner of holding elections.'' Yet this massive bill creates a one-size-fits-all mandate that every State must follow. It preempts State law, but I doubt it would ultimately be held up as constitutional because of the explicit guarantee that the States will regulate the time, manner, and place of holding elections.

But there are also other changes that our Democratic colleagues—where they

seek to reap the benefit of a politicized Supreme Court and Federal Agencies.

In this instance, the Federal Election Commission has six members, three from each party—intentionally designed to be a tie vote if they vote along party lines, to protect the Commission from partisan politics.

We have learned that a fair and balanced Commission, which has been the standard for many years, isn't the gold standard for Democrats when they are in control of Congress and the White House. The election takeover bill introduced by our Democratic colleagues would remove one of the seats held by a Republican member of the Commission and turn the FEC into a partisan body. No more equal representation. No more consensus building. Why bother with that if you can steamroll an agenda with no opposition?

Then there is the taxpayer funding of political campaigns. Instead of candidates working to gain the support, the vote, the activism and contributions from their preferred candidate, our Democratic colleagues want the taxpayer to pay for those campaigns. And it is not even a dollar-for-dollar match. The American taxpayer would pay $6 dollars for every $1 dollar that was donated to a candidate. That means if someone donates 200 bucks to their preferred candidate, the Federal Government would match that with up to $1,200. Those are taxpayer dollars. That is money coming out of your pocket whether you support that candidate's policies or not.

On top of that, there are campaign vouchers proposed which would provide eligible voters with a $25 voucher to donate to the campaign of their choosing. I would rather this funding support the people and organizations that really need it: crime victims, unaccompanied children on our border, domestic violence, shelters. There are far more urgent needs for this money than our Democratic colleagues' campaign account.

Of course, this effort comes at a time when the House Democrats are already trying to overturn the results of an Iowa congressional election in order to boost their own numbers.

This confluence of institutional changes isn't about repairing a broken system; it is revolutionary. It is a revolution. You can't win every case before the Supreme Court? Well, just add some more liberal Justices. You can't build support for legislation? Well, eliminate the filibuster and the need to build consensus and to work together on a bipartisan basis. You can't win an election? Overturn the results and secure government funding or taxpayer funding for your candidates. And to cement these changes for a generation, better throw in a complete partisan takeover of our election laws.

Our Democratic friends are taking the saying ''If you can't win the game, change the rules'' to a whole new level. This has been branded by propaganda, really, as a way to fix the system. Well, the system is not broken, and to the extent it needs reforms, it can be reformed at the State level, where the Constitution provides the authority for the States to run their elections.

Well, I think it is important for the American people to understand exactly what is going on here. You can't understand what is going on here by just reading social media or watching cable news shows that reinforce your own bias. Unfortunately, our news these days seems to be like ships passing in the night, and people pick the channel that reaffirms their previous bias and doesn't challenge people with ideas that perhaps they are not familiar with or don't agree with, which is the way we ought to be dealing with each other. It is OK to disagree, but we ought to engage each other in a civil and respectful manner and to work those out in the crucible of our democracy known as the Congress.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. ROSEN). The Senator from Ohio.

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.'S LETTER FROM THE BIRMINGHAM JAIL

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, it is an honor to join my colleagues of both parties, starting with Reverend Warnock and five—two other Democrats and three other Republicans on the floor today to read one of the great pieces of writing of the 20th century, Dr. King's letter from the Birmingham jail.

I thank Senator WARNOCK and Senators MURKOWSKI, Republican from Alaska; TOOMEY, Republican from Pennsylvania; PADILLA, our new colleague from California, a Democrat; Senator CORTEZ MASTO, in her fifth year in the Senate, a Democrat from the Presiding Officer's home State of Nevada; and Senator CASSIDY from Louisiana, a Republican. They will be joining me today for this annual tradition.

Our former colleague, Doug Jones from Alabama, began this reading 3 years ago. I joined him on the floor. He asked me last year after his election to carry on this tradition in the years ahead. I am honored to take that responsibility because Dr. King's words are as powerful, as beautiful, and as relevant as ever.

One of many, many, many incisive things that Dr. King said was that we live in a 10-day world where people forget about public events 10 days later. Not so for him, not so for his words, and certainly not so from the letter from the Birmingham jail.

Twelve years after Dr. King's assassination, when Cesar Chavez was thrown in jail, Dr. King's widow, Coretta Scott King, said:

> You cannot keep truth in . . . jail. . . . Truth and justice leap barriers, and in their own way, reach the conscience of the people.

She said that is what Dr. King said, were his words.

In April 1963, Dr. King was detained at the Birmingham jail for leading a series of peaceful protests and boycotts. The goal was to put pressure on the business community to end discrimination in hiring for local jobs.

Some White ministers from Alabama had taken issues with his boycotts. They supported civil rights, they said. They told him to slow down, don't move too fast, and don't demand too much all at once. Dr. King, of course, as we know, rejected that premise.

That is what this letter is all about. It is about demanding justice now. We can't wait around and hope the problems in families' lives will solve themselves. It is up to all of us as citizens, as leaders, as members of our churches and our communities to get to work.

Dr. King made that point more eloquently and more persuasively, certainly, than I can, but we will read this note—we will read his words. Senator WARNOCK will begin, followed by Senator MURKOWSKI and four other Senators.

Senator WARNOCK.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. WARNOCK. Madam President, I want to thank my colleague, Senator BROWN, for bringing us together in this way, reading from a letter from a Birmingham jail by Dr. King, April 16, 1963. Dr. King writes:

> MY DEAR FELLOW CLERGYMEN:
>
> While confined here in the Birmingham city jail, I came across your recent statement calling my present activities ''unwise and untimely.''
>
> Seldom do I pause to answer criticism of my working ideas. If I sought to answer all of the criticisms that cross my desk, my secretaries would have little time for anything other than such correspondence in the course of a day, and I would have no time for constructive work. But since I feel you are men of genuine good will and that your criticisms are sincerely set forth, I will try to answer your statement in what I hope will be patient and reasonable terms.
>
> I think I should indicate why I am here in Birmingham, since you have been influenced by the view which argues against ''outsiders coming in.'' I have the honor of serving as president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, an organization operating in every southern state, with headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia. We have some eighty-five affiliated organizations across the South, and one of them is the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights. Frequently we share staff, educational and financial resources with our affiliates. Several months ago the affiliate here in Birmingham asked us to be on call to engage in a nonviolent direct action program if such were deemed necessary. We readily consented, and when the hour came we lived up to our promise. So I, along with several members of my staff, am here because I was invited here. I am here because I have organizational ties here.
>
> But more basically, I am in Birmingham because injustice is here. Just as the prophets of the eighth century B.C. left their villages and carried their ''thus saith the Lord'' far beyond the boundaries of their home towns, and just as the Apostle Paul left his village of Tarsus and carried the gospel of Jesus Christ to the far corners of the Greco Roman world, so am I compelled to carry the gospel of freedom beyond my home town. Like Paul, I must constantly respond to the Macedonian call for aid.

Moreover, I am cognizant of the interrelatedness of all communities and states. I cannot sit idly by in Atlanta and not be concerned about what happens in Birmingham. Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. Never again can we afford to live with the narrow, provincial ''outside agitator'' idea. Anyone who lives inside the United States can never be considered an outsider anywhere within its bounds.

You deplore the demonstrations taking place in Birmingham. But your statement, I am sorry to say, fails to express a similar concern for the conditions that brought about the demonstrations. I am sure that none of you would want to rest content with the superficial kind of social analysis that deals merely with effects and does not grapple with underlying causes. It is unfortunate that demonstrations are taking place in Birmingham, but it is even more unfortunate that the city's white power structure left the Negro community with no alternative.

In any nonviolent campaign there are four basic steps: collection of the facts to determine whether injustices exist; negotiation; self purification; and direct action. We have gone through all these steps in Birmingham. There can be no gainsaying the fact that racial injustice engulfs this community. Birmingham is probably the most thoroughly segregated city in the United States. Its ugly record of brutality is widely known. Negroes have experienced grossly unjust treatment in the courts. There have been more unsolved bombings of Negro homes and churches in Birmingham than in any other city in the nation. These are the hard, brutal facts of the case. On the basis of these conditions, Negro leaders sought to negotiate with the city fathers. But the latter consistently refused to engage in good faith negotiation.

Then, last September, came the opportunity to talk with leaders of Birmingham's economic community. In the course of the negotiations, certain promises were made by the merchants—for example, to remove the stores' humiliating racial signs. On the basis of these promises, the Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth and the leaders of the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights agreed to a moratorium on all demonstrations. As the weeks and months went by, we realized that we were the victims of a broken promise. A few signs, briefly removed, returned; the others remained. As in so many past experiences, our hopes had been blasted, and the shadow of deep disappointment settled upon us. We had no alternative except to prepare for direct action, whereby we would present our very bodies as a means of laying our case before the conscience of the local and the national community. Mindful of the difficulties involved, we decided to undertake a process of self purification. We began a series of workshops on nonviolence, and we repeatedly asked ourselves: ''Are you able to accept the blows without retaliating?'' ''Are you able to endure the ordeal of jail?''

We decided to schedule our direct action program for the Easter season, realizing that except for Christmas, this is the main shopping period of the year. Knowing that a strong economic-withdrawal program would be the by product of direct action, we felt that this would be the best time to bring pressure to bear on the merchants for the needed change.

Then it occurred to us that Birmingham's mayoral election was coming up in March, and we speedily decided to postpone action until after election day. When we discovered that the Commissioner of Public Safety, Eugene ''Bull'' Connor, had piled up enough votes to be in the run off, we decided again to postpone action until the day after the run off so that the demonstrations could not be used to cloud the issues. Like many others, we waited to see Mr. Connor defeated, and to this end, we endured postponement after postponement. Having aided in this community need, we felt our direct action program could be delayed no longer.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, I continue the reading of the letter from Birmingham jail:

You may well ask: ''Why direct action? Why sit ins, marches and so forth? Isn't negotiation a better path?'' You are quite right in calling for negotiation. Indeed, this is the very purpose of direct action. Nonviolent direct action seeks to create such a crisis and foster such a tension that a community which has constantly refused to negotiate is forced to confront the issue. It seeks so to dramatize the issue that it can no longer be ignored. My citing the creation of tension as part of the work of the nonviolent resister may sound rather shocking. But I must confess that I am not afraid of the word ''tension.'' I have earnestly opposed violent tension, but there is a type of constructive, nonviolent tension which is necessary for growth. Such as Socrates felt that it was necessary to create a tension in the mind so that individuals could rise from the bondage of myths and half truths to the unfettered realm of creative analysis and objective appraisal, so must we see the need for nonviolent gadflies to create the kind of tension in society that will help men rise from the dark depths of prejudice and racism to the majestic heights of understanding and brotherhood. The purpose of our direct action program is to create a situation so crisis packed that it will inevitably open the door to negotiation. I therefore concur with you in your call for negotiation. Too long has our beloved Southland been bogged down in a tragic effort to live in a monologue rather than dialogue.

One of the basic points in your statement is that the action that I and my associates have taken in Birmingham is untimely. Some have asked: ''Why didn't you give the new city administration time to act?'' The only answer that I can give to this query is that the new Birmingham administration must be prodded about as much as the outgoing one, before it will act. We are sadly mistaken if we feel that the election of Albert Boutwell as mayor will bring the millennium to Birmingham. While Mr. Boutwell is a much more gentle person than Mr. Connor, they are both segregationists, dedicated to the maintenance of the status quo. I have hoped that Mr. Boutwell will be reasonable enough to see the futility of massive resistance to desegregation. But he will not see this without pressure from devotees of civil rights. My friends, I must say to you that we have not made a single gain in civil rights without determined legal and nonviolent pressure. Lamentably, it is an historical fact that privileged groups seldom give up their privileges voluntarily. Individuals may see the moral light and voluntarily give up their unjust posture; but as Reinhold Niebuhr has reminded us, groups tend to be more immoral than individuals.

We know through painful experience that freedom is never voluntarily given by the oppressor; it must be demanded by the oppressed. Frankly, I have yet to engage in a direct action campaign that was ''well timed'' in the view of those who have not suffered unduly from the disease of segregation. For years now I have heard the word ''Wait!'' It rings in the ear of every Negro with piercing familiarity. This ''Wait'' has almost always meant ''Never.'' We must come to see, with one of our distinguished jurists, that ''justice too long delayed is just denied.''

We have waited for more than 340 years for our constitutional and God given rights. The nations of Asia and Africa are moving with jetlike speed toward gaining political independence, but we still creep at horse and buggy pace toward gaining a cup of coffee at a lunch counter. Perhaps it is easy for those who have never felt the stinging darts of segregation to say, ''Wait.'' But when you have seen vicious mobs lynch your mothers and fathers at will and drown your sisters and brothers at whim; when you have seen hate filled policeman curse, kick and even kill your black brothers and sisters; when you see the vast majority of your twenty million Negro brothers smothering in an airtight cage of poverty in the midst of an affluent society . . . when you take a cross country drive and find it necessary to sleep, night after night, in the uncomfortable corners of your automobile because no motel will accept you; when you are humiliated day in and day out by nagging signs reading ''white'' and ''colored''; when your first name becomes [an expletive], your middle named becomes ''boy'' (however old you are) and your last name becomes ''John,'' and your wife and mother are never given the respected title ''Mrs.''; when you are harried by day and haunted by night by the fact that you are a Negro, living constantly at tiptoe stance, never quite knowing what to expect next, and are plagued with inner fears and outer resentments; when you are forever fighting a degenerating sense of ''nobodiness''—then you will understand why we find it difficult to wait.

There comes a time when the cup of endurance runs over, and men are no longer willing to be plunged into the abyss of despair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Madam President, I will continue the reading of Martin Luther King's letter from the Birmingham jail.

I hope, sirs, you can understand our legitimate and unavoidable impatience. You express a great deal of anxiety over our willingness to break laws. This is certainly a legitimate concern. Since we so diligently urge people to obey the Supreme Court's decision of 1954 outlawing segregation in the public schools, at first glance it may seem rather paradoxical for us consciously to break laws. One may well ask: ''How can you advocate breaking some laws and obeying others?'' The answer lies in the fact that there are two types of laws: Just and unjust. I would be the first to advocate obeying just laws. One has not only a legal but a moral responsibility to obey just laws. Conversely, one has a moral responsibility to disobey unjust laws. I would agree with St. Augustine that ''an unjust law is no law at all.''

Now, what is the difference between the two? How does one determine whether a law is just or unjust? A just law is a man made code that squares with the moral law or the law of God. An unjust law is a code that is out of harmony with the moral law. To put it in the terms of St. Thomas Aquinas: An unjust law is a human law that is not rooted in eternal law and natural law. Any law that uplifts human personality is just. Any law that degrades human personality is unjust. All segregation statutes are unjust because segregation distorts the soul and damages the personality. It gives the segregator a false sense of superiority and the segregated a false sense of inferiority. Segregation, to use the terminology of the Jewish philosopher Martin Buber, substitutes an ''I it'' relationship for an ''I though'' relationship and

ends up relegating persons to the status of things. Hence, segregation is not only politically, economically and sociologically unsound, it is morally wrong and sinful. Paul Tillich has said that sin is separation. Is not segregation an existential expression of man's tragic separation, his awful estrangement, his terrible sinfulness? Thus it is that I can urge men to obey the 1954 decision of the Supreme Court, for it is morally right; and I can urge them to disobey segregation ordinances, for they are morally wrong.

Let us consider a more concrete example of just and unjust laws. An unjust law is a code that a numerical or a power majority group compels a minority group to obey but does not make binding on itself. This is difference made legal. By the same token, a just law is a code that a majority compels a minority to follow and that it is willing to follow itself. This is sameness made legal. Let me give another explanation. A law is unjust if it is inflicted on a minority that, as a result of being denied the right to vote, had no part in enacting or devising the law. Who can say that the legislature of Alabama which set up that State's segregation laws was democratically elected? Throughout Alabama all sorts of devious methods are used to prevent Negroes from becoming registered voters, and there are some counties in which, even though Negroes constitute a majority of the population, not a single Negro is registered. Can any law enacted under such circumstances be considered democratically structured?

Sometimes a law is just on its face and unjust in its application. For instance, I have been arrested on a charge of parading without a permit. Now, there is nothing wrong in having an ordinance which requires a permit for a parade. But such an ordinance becomes unjust when it is used to maintain segregation and to deny citizens the First Amendment privilege of peaceful assembly and protest.

I hope you are able to see the distinction I am trying to point out. In no sense do I advocate evading or defying the law, as would the rabid segregationist. That would lead to anarchy. One who breaks an unjust law must do so openly, lovingly, and with a willingness to accept the penalty. I submit that an individual who breaks a law that conscience tells him is unjust, and who willingly accepts the penalty of imprisonment in order to arouse the conscience of the community over its injustice, is in reality expressing the highest respect for the law.

Of course, there is nothing new about this kind of civil disobedience. It was evidenced sublimely in the refusal of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to obey the laws of Nebuchadnezzar, on the ground that a higher moral law was at stake. It was practiced superbly by the early Christians, who were willing to face hungry lions and the excruciating pain of chopping blocks rather than submit to certain unjust laws of the Roman Empire. To a degree, academic freedom is a reality today because Socrates practiced civil disobedience. In our own nation, the Boston Tea Party represented a massive act of civil disobedience.

We should never forget that everything Adolf Hitler did in Germany was ''legal'' and everything the Hungarian freedom fighters did in Hungary was ''illegal.'' It was ''illegal'' to aid and comfort a Jew in Hitler's Germany. Even so, I am sure that had I lived in Germany at the time, I would have aided and comforted my Jewish brothers. If today I lived in a Communist country where certain principles dear to the Christian faith are suppressed, I would openly advocate disobeying that country's antireligious laws.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, continuing the reading of the letter from the Birmingham jail.

I must make two honest confessions to you, my Christian and Jewish brothers. First, I must confess that over the past few years I have been gravely disappointed with the white moderate.

I have almost reached the regrettable conclusion that the Negro's great stumbling block in his stride toward freedom is not the White Citizen's Counciler or the Ku Klux Klanner, but the white moderate, who is more devoted to ''order'' than to justice; who prefers a negative peace which is the absence of tension to a positive peace which is the presence of justice; who constantly says: ''I agree with you in the goal you seek, but I cannot agree with your methods of direct action''; who paternalistically believes he can set the timetable for another man's freedom; who lives by a mythical concept of time and who constantly advises the Negro to wait for a ''more convenient season.'' Shallow understanding from people of goodwill is more frustrating than absolute misunderstanding from people of ill will. Lukewarm acceptance is much more bewildering than outright rejection.

I had hoped that the white moderate would understand that law and order exist for the purpose of establishing justice and that when they fail in this purpose they become the dangerously structured dams that block the flow of social progress.

I had hoped that the white moderate would understand that the present tension in the South is a necessary phase of the transition from an obnoxious negative peace, in which the Negro passively accepted his unjust plight, to a substantive and positive peace, in which all men will respect the dignity and worth of human personality. Actually, we who engage in nonviolent direct action are not the creators of tension. We merely bring to the surface the hidden tension that is already alive. We bring it out in the open, where it can be seen and dealt with. Like a boil that can never be cured so long as it is covered up but must be opened with all its ugliness for the natural medicines of air and light, injustice must be exposed, with all the tension its exposure creates, to the light of human conscience and the air of national opinion before it can be cured.

In your statement you assert that our actions, even though peaceful, must be condemned because they precipitate violence. But is this a logical assertion? Isn't this like condemning a robbed man because his possession of money precipitated the evil act of robbery? Isn't this like condemning Socrates because his unswerving commitment to truth and his philosophical inquiries precipitated the act by the misguided populace in which they made him drink hemlock? Isn't this like condemning Jesus because his unique God consciousness and never ceasing devotion to God's will precipitated the evil act of crucifixion? We must come to see that, as the federal courts have consistently affirmed, it is wrong to urge an individual to cease his efforts to gain his basic constitutional rights because the quest may precipitate violence. Society must protect the robbed and punish the robber. I had also hoped that the white moderate would reject the myth concerning time in relation to the struggle for freedom. I have just received a letter from a white brother in Texas. He writes: ''All Christians know that the colored people will receive equal rights eventually, but it is possible that you are in too great a religious hurry. It has taken Christianity almost two thousand years to accomplish what it has. The teachings of Christ take time to come to earth.'' Such an attitude stems from a tragic misconception of time, from the strangely irrational notion that there is something in the very flow of time that will inevitably cure all ills.

Actually, time itself is neutral; it can be used either destructively or constructively. More and more I feel that the people of ill will have used time much more effectively than have the people of good will. We will have to repent in this generation not merely for the hateful words and actions of the bad people but for the appalling silence of the good people. Human progress never rolls in on wheels of inevitability; it comes through the tireless efforts of men willing to be coworkers with God, and without this hard work, time itself becomes an ally of the forces of social stagnation. We must use time creatively, in the knowledge that the time is always ripe to do right. Now is the time to make real the promise of democracy and transform our pending national elegy into a creative psalm of brotherhood. Now is the time to lift our national policy from the quicksand of racial injustice to the solid rock of human dignity.

You speak of our activity in Birmingham as extreme. At first I was rather disappointed that fellow clergymen would see my nonviolent efforts as those of an extremist. I began thinking about the fact that I stand in the middle of two opposing forces in the Negro community. One is a force of complacency, made up in part of Negroes who, as a result of long years of oppression, are so drained of self respect in the sense of ''somebodiness'' that they have adjusted to segregation; and in part of a few middle-class Negroes who, because of a degree of academic and economic security and because in some ways they profit by segregation, have become insensitive to the problems of the masses. The other force is one of bitterness and hatred, and it comes perilously close to advocating violence. It is expressed in the various black nationalist groups that are springing up across the nation, the largest and best known being Elijah Muhammad's Muslim movement. Nourished by the Negro's frustration over the continued existence of racial discrimination, this movement is made up of people who have lost faith in America, who have absolutely repudiated Christianity, and who have concluded that the white man is an incorrigible ''devil.''

I have tried to stand between these two forces, saying that we need emulate neither the ''do nothingism'' of the complacent nor the hatred and despair of the black nationalist. For there is the more excellent way of love and nonviolent protest. I am grateful to God that, through the influence of the Negro church, the way of nonviolence became an integral part of our struggle. If this philosophy had not emerged, by now many streets of the South would, I am convinced, be flowing with blood. And I am further convinced that if our white brothers dismiss as ''rabble rousers'' and ''outside agitators'' those of us who employ nonviolent direct action, and if they refuse to support our nonviolent efforts, millions of Negroes will, out of frustration and despair, seek solace and security in black nationalist ideologies—a development that would inevitably lead to a frightening racial nightmare.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. CASSIDY.

Oppressed people cannot remain oppressed forever. The yearning for freedom eventually manifests itself, and that is what has happened to the American Negro. Something within has reminded him of his birthright of freedom, and something without has reminded him that it can be gained. Consciously or unconsciously, he has been

caught up by the Zeitgeist, and with his black brothers of Africa and his brown and yellow brothers of Asia, South America and the Caribbean, the United States Negro is moving with a sense of great urgency toward the promised land of racial justice. If one recognizes this vital urge that has engulfed the Negro community, one should readily understand why public demonstrations are taking place. The Negro has many pent up resentments and latent frustrations, and he must release them. So let him march; let him make prayer pilgrimages to the city hall; let him go on freedom rides—and try to understand why he must do so. If his repressed emotions are not released in nonviolent ways, they will seek expression through violence; this is not a threat but a fact of history.

So I have not said to my people: ''Get rid of your discontent.'' Rather, I have tried to say that this normal and healthy discontent can be channeled through into the creative outlet of nonviolent direct action. And now this approach is being termed extremist. But though I was initially disappointed at being categorized as an extremist, as I continued to think about the matter I gradually gained a measure of satisfaction from the label. Was not Jesus an extremist for love: ''Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.'' Was not Amos an extremist for justice: ''Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever flowing stream.'' Was not Paul an extremist for the Christian gospel: ''I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.'' Was not Martin Luther an extremist: ''Here I stand; I cannot do otherwise, so help me God.'' And John Bunyan: ''I will stay in jail to the end of my days before I make a butchery of my conscience.'' And Abraham Lincoln: ''This nation cannot survive half slave and half free.'' And Thomas Jefferson: ''We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal . . .'' So the question is not whether we will be extremists, but what kind of extremists we will be. Will we be extremists for hate or for love? Will we be extremists for the preservation of injustice or for the extension of justice?

In that dramatic scene on Calvary's hill three men were crucified. We must never forget that all three were crucified for the same crime—the crime of extremism. Two were extremists for immorality, and thus fell below their environment. The other, Jesus Christ, was an extremist for love, truth and goodness, and thereby rose above his environment.

Perhaps the South, the nation and the world are in dire need of creative extremists. I had hoped the white moderate would see this need. Perhaps I was too optimistic; perhaps I expected too much. I suppose I should have realized that few members of the oppressor race can understand the deep groans and passionate yearnings of the oppressed race, and still fewer have the vision to see that injustice must be rooted out by strong, persistent and determined action. I am thankful, however, that some of our white brothers in the South have grasped the meaning of this social revolution and committed themselves to it. They are still all too few in quantity, but they are big in quality. Some—such as Ralph McGill, Lillian Smith, Harry Golden, James McBride Dabbs, Ann Braden and Sarah Patton Boyle—have written about our struggle in eloquent and prophetic terms. Others have marched with us down nameless streets of the South. They have languished in filthy, roach infested jails, suffering the abuse and brutality of policemen who view them as ''dirty niggerlovers.'' Unlike so many of their moderate brothers and sisters, they have recognized the urgency of the moment and sensed the need for powerful ''action'' antidotes to combat the disease of segregation. Let me take note of my other major disappointment.

I have been so greatly disappointed with the white church and its leadership. Of course, there are some notable exceptions. I am not unmindful of the fact that each of you has taken some significant stands on this issue. I commend you, Reverend Stallings, for your Christian stand on this past Sunday, in welcoming Negroes to your worship service on a nonsegregated basis. I commend the Catholic leaders of this state for integrating Spring Hill College several years ago.

But despite these notable exceptions, I must honestly reiterate that I have been disappointed with the church. I do not say this as one of those negative critics who can always find something wrong with the church. I say this as a minister of the gospel, who loves the church; who was nurtured in its bosom; who has been sustained by its spiritual blessings and who will remain true to it as long as the cord of life shall lengthen.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I thank Senator BROWN for including me on this reading. It is a tremendous honor. I will continue.

When I was suddenly catapulted into the leadership of the bus protest in Montgomery, Alabama, a few years ago, I felt we would be supported by the white church. I felt that the white ministers, priests and rabbis of the South would be among our strongest allies.

Instead, some have been outright opponents, refusing to understand the freedom movement and misrepresenting its leaders; all too many others have been more cautious than courageous and have remained silent behind the anesthetizing security of stained glass windows. In spite of my shattered dreams, I came to Birmingham with the hope that the white religious leadership of this community would see the justice of our cause and, with deep moral concern, would serve as the channel through which our just grievances could reach the power structure. I had hoped that each of you would understand. But again I have been disappointed.

I have heard numerous southern religious leaders admonish their worshipers to comply with a desegregation decision because it is the law, but I have longed to hear white ministers declare: ''Follow this decree because integration is morally right and because the Negro is your brother.'' In the midst of blatant injustices inflicted upon the Negro, I have watched white churchmen stand on the sideline and mouth pious irrelevancies and sanctimonious trivialities. In the midst of a mighty struggle to rid our nation of racial and economic injustice, I have heard many ministers say: ''Those are social issues, with which the gospel has no real concern.'' And I have watched many churches commit themselves to a completely other worldly religion which makes a strange, un-Biblical distinction between body and soul, between the sacred and the secular.

I have traveled the length and breadth of Alabama, Mississippi and all the other southern states. On sweltering summer days and crisp autumn mornings I have looked at the South's beautiful churches with their lofty spires pointing heavenward. I have beheld the impressive outlines of her massive religious education buildings. Over and over I have found myself asking: ''What kind of people worship here? Who is their God? Where were their voices when the lips of Governor Barnett dripped with words of interposition and nullification? Where were they when Governor Wallace gave a clarion call for defiance and hatred? Where were their voices of support when bruised and weary Negro men and women decided to rise from the dark dungeons of complacency to the bright hills of creative protest?''

Yes, these questions are still in my mind. In deep disappointment I have wept over the laxity of the church. But be assured that my tears have been tears of love. There can be no deep disappointment where there is not deep love. Yes, I love the church. How could I do otherwise? I am in the rather unique position of being the son, the grandson and the great grandson of preachers. Yes, I see the church as the body of Christ. But, oh! How we have blemished and scarred that body through social neglect and through fear of being nonconformists.

There was a time when the church was very powerful—in the time when the early Christians rejoiced at being deemed worthy to suffer for what they believed. In those days the church was not merely a thermometer that recorded the ideas and principles of popular opinion; it was a thermostat that transformed the mores of society. Whenever the early Christians entered a town, the people in power became disturbed and immediately sought to convict the Christians for being ''disturbers of the peace'' and ''outside agitators.''

But the Christians pressed on, in the conviction that they were ''a colony of Heaven,'' called to obey God rather than Man. Small in number, they were big in commitment. They were too God-intoxicated to be ''astronomically intimidated.'' By their effort and example they brought an end to such ancient evils as infanticide and gladiatorial contests. Things are different now. So often the contemporary church is a weak, ineffectual voice with an uncertain sound. So often it is an arch defender of the status quo. Far from being disturbed by the presence of the church, the power structure of the average community is consoled by the church's silent—and often even vocal—sanction of things as they are.

But the judgment of God is upon the church as never before. If today's church does not recapture the sacrificial spirit of the early church, it will lose its authenticity, forfeit the loyalty of millions, and be dismissed as an irrelevant social club with no meaning for the twentieth century. Every day I meet young people whose disappointment with the church has turned into outright disgust.

Perhaps I have once again been too optimistic. Is organized religion too inextricably bound to the status quo to save our nation and the world? Perhaps I must turn my faith to the inner spiritual church, the church within the church, as the true ekklesia and the hope of the world. But again I am thankful to God that some noble souls from the ranks of organized religion have broken loose from the paralyzing chains of conformity and joined us as active partners in the struggle for freedom. They have left their secure congregations and walked the streets of Albany, Georgia, with us. They have gone down the highways of the South on tortuous rides for freedom.

Yes, they have gone to jail with us. Some have been dismissed from their churches, have lost the support of their bishops and fellow ministers. But they have acted in the faith that right defeated is stronger than evil triumphant. Their witness has been the spiritual salt that has preserved the true meaning of the gospel in these troubled times.

They have carved a tunnel of hope through the dark mountain of disappointment. I hope the church as a whole will meet the challenge of this decisive hour. But even if the

church does not come to the aid of justice, I have no despair about the future. I have no fear about the outcome of our struggle in Birmingham, even if our motives at present are misunderstood. We will reach the goal of freedom in Birmingham and all over the nation, because the goal of America is freedom.

Mr. TOOMEY. Continuing the reading of a letter from a Birmingham jail.

Abused and scorned though we may be, our destiny is tied up with America's destiny. Before the pilgrims landed at Plymouth, we were here. Before the pen of Jefferson etched the majestic words of the Declaration of Independence across the pages of history, we were here. For more than two centuries, our forebears labored in this country without wages; they made cotton king; they built the homes of their masters while suffering gross injustice and shameful humiliation—and yet out of a bottomless vitality they continued to thrive and develop. If the inexpressible cruelties of slavery could not stop us, the opposition we now face will surely fail. We will win our freedom because the sacred heritage of our nation and the eternal will of God are embodied in our echoing demands. Before closing I feel impelled to mention one other point in your statement that has troubled me profoundly. You warmly commended the Birmingham police force for keeping ''order'' and ''preventing violence.'' I doubt that you would have so warmly commended the police force if you had seen its dogs sinking their teeth into unarmed, nonviolent Negroes. I doubt that you would so quickly commend the policemen if you were to observe their ugly and inhumane treatment of Negroes here in the city jail; if you were to watch them push and curse old Negro women and young Negro girls; if you were to see them slap and kick old Negro men and young boys; if you were to observe them, as they did on two occasions, refuse to give us food because we wanted to sing our grace together. I cannot join you in your praise of the Birmingham police department.

It is true that the police have exercised a degree of discipline in handling the demonstrators. In this sense they have conducted themselves rather ''nonviolently'' in public. But for what purpose? To preserve the evil system of segregation. Over the past few years I have consistently preached that nonviolence demands that the means we use must be as pure as the ends we seek. I have tried to make it clear that it is wrong to use immoral means to attain moral ends. But now I must affirm that it is just as wrong, or perhaps even more so, to use moral means to preserve immoral ends. Perhaps, Mr. Connor and his policemen had been rather nonviolent in public, as was Chief Pritchett in Albany, Georgia, but they have used the moral means of nonviolence to maintain the immoral end of racial injustice. As T. S. Elliot has said: ''The last temptation is the greatest treason: To do the right deed for the wrong reason.'' I wish you had commended the Negro sit inners and demonstrators of Birmingham for their sublime courage, their willingness to suffer, and their amazing discipline in the midst of great provocation. One day the South will recognize its real heroes. They will be the James Merediths, with the noble sense of purpose that enables them to face jeering and hostile mobs, and with the agonizing loneliness that characterizes the life of the pioneer. They will be old, oppressed battered Negro women symbolized in a seventy two year old woman in Montgomery, Alabama, who rose up with a sense of dignity and with her people decided not to ride segregated buses, and who responded with ungrammatical profundity to one who inquired about her weariness: ''My feets is tired, but my soul is at rest.'' They will be the young high school and college students, the young ministers of the gospel and a host of their elders, courageously and nonviolently sitting in at lunch counters and willingly going to jail for conscience' sake. One day the South will know that when these disinherited children of God sat down at lunch counters, they were in reality standing up for what is best in the American dream and for the most sacred values in our Judeo Christian heritage, thereby bringing our nation back to those great wells of democracy which were dug deep by the founding founders in their formulation of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence.

Never before have I written so long a letter. I'm afraid it is much too long to take your precious time. I can assure you that it would have been much shorter if I had been writing from a comfortable desk, but what else can one do when he is alone in a narrow jail cell, other than write long letters, think long thoughts, and pray long prayers?

If I have said anything in this letter that overstates the truth and indicates an unreasonable impatience, I beg you to forgive me. If I have said anything that understates the truth and indicates my having a patience that allows me to settle for anything less than brotherhood, I beg God to forgive me. I hope this letter finds you strong in the faith. I also hope that circumstances will soon make it possible for me to meet each of you, not as an integrationist or a civil-rights leader but as a fellow clergymen and a Christian brother. Let us all hope that the dark clouds of racial prejudice will soon pass away and the deep fog of misunderstanding will be lifted from our fear drenched communities, and in some not too distant tomorrow, the radiant stars of love and brotherhood will shine over our great nation with all their scintillating beauty.

Yours for the cause of Peace and Brotherhood,

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BALDWIN). The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I thank my colleague from the neighboring State, Senator TOOMEY, for joining us. I thank all of my colleagues who were here today, Senators WARNOCK and MURKOWSKI, TOOMEY and CASSIDY, CORTEZ MASTO, and PADILLA for joining to read these powerful words today.

This is about as diverse a group as we could assemble in the U.S. Senate, a group of seven Senators who really reflect our country today: a reverend in a Black church, the son of a union electrical worker, a doctor from the Deep South, an Independent born in the Alaska country, a son of Mexican immigrants, a daughter of Mexican Americans who made this country home for a century, and a son of the Midwest whose father came from Mansfield, OH, and mother came from Mansfield, GA.

We come from different backgrounds, and we disagree on many things, but we love this country—all seven us—and we know we can do better for the people who make it work.

Dr. King and the civil rights leaders of his generation did more than just about anyone to push this country to live up to our founding ideals and make the dream of America real for everyone.

Protesting, working for change, organizing, demanding our country to do better—those are some of the most patriotic things all of us can do. That is Dr. King's charge of this letter:

Progress never rolls in on wheels of inevitability.

That is our charge. I think about the campaign Dr. King was waging when he was assassinated. You can't forget he was martyred in Memphis when fighting for some of the most exploited workers in this country, sanitation workers. He understood the deep connection between workers' rights and civil rights. As he put it, ''What does it profit a man to be able to eat at an integrated lunch counter, if he doesn't earn enough money to buy a hamburger and a cup of coffee?''

Until all Americans have the dignity they have earned, Dr. King's work will remain unfinished. That means paying all workers a living wage, giving them power over their schedules, providing good benefits and safety on the job, letting them, if they choose, organize a union. That means all workers should get a fair share of the wealth they create. It means recognizing the dignity of communities that Black Americans have built over generations.

They were denied wealth and investment. The schools were underfunded. Banks wouldn't lend. Highways tore down businesses and tore apart neighborhoods in the Presiding Officer's largest city in Milwaukee, as they did in the largest cities in my State: Columbus, Cleveland, and Cincinnati.

In the face of all of that, Black Ohioans and people all over the country built businesses and churches and vibrant neighborhoods and loving families. But they should not have to do it on their own.

As we emerge from this pandemic and we work together to build a stronger country out of this crisis, we can't make the mistakes of the past. We learned in the Banking, Housing Committee this week that President Roosevelt's collective bargaining laws and investment in housing with the creation of housing agencies created a middle class for Americans who look like me but didn't create a middle class for a whole lot of other Americans.

Think about the infrastructure investments that we made in the 1930s and the years after World War II. Think how we created millions of new homeowners and grew the middle class. Think of how we expanded economic security, with overtime and workers compensation and Medicare and Social Security.

There is no reason we can't do that again, the same thing again, but this time we bring along everyone. We invest in all communities. We bring us closer to the society Dr. King envisioned, where all labor—as he would say, where ''all labor has dignity.''

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

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

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

COVID–19 HATE CRIMES ACT

Ms. HIRONO. Madam President, on March 29, Vilma Kari was walking to church near Times Square in Manhattan when a man pushed her to the ground and violently assaulted her in broad daylight.

A silent video of the incident captured by a security camera inside a luxury apartment building showed the attack in vivid detail. In it, we can clearly see the assailant pushing Ms. Kari to the ground and kicking her repeatedly in the head and torso before leaving the scene. This video, which has gone viral, is disturbing enough to watch, but it doesn't capture the full picture of what happened. Witnesses to the attack recounted the assailant's repeatedly yelling ''You don't belong here'' to Ms. Kari—an immigrant from the Philippines who has lived in our country for decades.

Now recovering from multiple injuries, including a broken pelvis, Vilma Kari has become one of the latest victims in a surging wave of hate crimes targeting the Asian-American, Pacific Islander community during the COVID–19 pandemic.

Over the last year, we have seen businesses defaced with anti-Asian graffiti, elders verbally accosted on the street, women assaulted, and eight people murdered in cold blood at Asian-owned businesses in Georgia during unprovoked attacks. All told, people of Asian descent have reported more than 3,800 hate incidents across all 50 States and the District of Columbia.

These attacks are disturbing and horrifying, but they are, in many ways, a predictable and foreseeable outgrowth of the use of racist and inflammatory language, like ''Chinese virus,'' ''Wuhan virus,'' and ''Kung flu,'' to describe the COVID–19 pandemic. Last year, as some political leaders, including the former President, started using this language, the FBI warned of a potential surge in hate crime incidents targeting people of Asian descent.

At the same time, public health experts warned of the danger of singling out the Asian-American community as being responsible for the virus. These warnings proved prophetic. A study recently published by the American Journal of Public Health found there was a dramatic increase in tweets using anti-Asian phrases after the first time the former President tweeted using the hashtag ''China virus'' on March 16, 2020.

This rise in hate crimes targeting AAPIs over the past year has shown the extent to which this inflammatory rhetoric has normalized racist attitudes toward and the stigmatization of Asian Americans with devastating consequences. The Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism, for example, assessed that, in 16 of the Nation's largest cities, hate crimes targeting AAPIs spiked nearly 150 percent during the pandemic.

The current dramatic rise in hate crimes targeting Asian Americans might be a recent development, but we all know that racism is never far below the surface in our country, sadly. Asian Americans have always been targeted as the ''other'' in our country—considered the perpetual ''foreigner.'' It is what drove the passage of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 and is what led to the incarceration of 120,000 Japanese Americans during World War II. It is also what drove two Detroit autoworkers, during the height of hysteria about Japan's growing economic strength, to murder a Chinese-American man named Vincent Chin in 1982 because they thought he was Japanese. Outrageously, neither of Vincent's killers received prison time. Nearly 40 years later, we can see clear parallels between the racism that motivated Vincent Chin's murder and the ongoing surge in anti-Asian racism and hate crimes. We can also see the parallels in the wave of activism both unleashed.

Today, the AAPI community is uniting, once again, to confront this epidemic of racism, discrimination, and hate. We are marching, speaking out, and demanding action in cities and States across the country. As part of our activism, we are working to dispel the model minority myth that all Asians are successful and integrated in society. This racist and discriminatory stereotype devalues the struggles and experiences of an extraordinarily diverse community. The AAPI community is comprised of people from more than 48 distinct ethnic groups who speak over 300 languages. Some of these groups have been in this country for over 100 years. Others have grown in size through waves of immigration in recent decades.

Like other communities of color, elements of the AAPI community have traditionally suffered from a variety of health, economic, and other disparities for years, and the COVID–19 pandemic has only made them worse. AAPIs are contracting and dying from COVID–19 at much higher rates than White Americans and at comparable rates with Black and Hispanic Americans.

Our community has suffered too much over the past year from the two epidemics of racism and COVID, and confronting both will continue to present challenges, but it has been a relief to have a President capable of demonstrating care and empathy and who shares our sense of urgency in confronting this wave of hate.

In his first week as President, Joe Biden issued an executive memorandum that condemned racism, xenophobia, and intolerance targeting the AAPI community and directed the Federal Government to actively combat it. In recent weeks, following the brutal murder of eight people, including six Asian women in Georgia, President Biden took additional action. He announced new investments for research into anti-Asian xenophobia through the National Science Foundation, directed $50 million in support for victims of hate crimes, and established a COVID–19 equity task force to combat anti-Asian hate.

Members of President Biden's administration have followed his lead. Attorney General Merrick Garland, for example, pledged to prioritize hate crimes enforcement during his confirmation hearing and has taken additional steps to help local law enforcement agencies investigate bias crimes.

Under President Biden's leadership, the executive branch is doing its part. Now it is time for us—it is time for Congress to act.

I am encouraged that in just a few minutes, the Senate will vote to proceed to the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act on a strong bipartisan vote. This is not a controversial bill. It would focus Federal leadership to investigate and report hateful acts of violence and provide resources for our communities to come together to take a stand against intolerance and hate.

The COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act directs the Attorney General to designate a person whose responsibility it will be to expedite review of anti-Asian hate crimes and report them. It also instructs DOJ to issue guidance to State and local law enforcement on culturally appropriate public education campaigns and on the collection of data on hate crimes or incidents. Such culturally-sensitive, in-language outreach is an important element for strengthening trust and awareness in impacted communities, and it will help overcome established hesitancy to report hate crimes or incidents to law enforcement.

At a time when the AAPI community is under siege, this bill is an important signal that Congress is taking anti-Asian racism and hatred seriously. Significantly, Democrats and Republicans are working together in good faith to come to consensus to pass this bill. For example, I wholeheartedly support a bipartisan amendment from Senators Blumenthal and Moran to attach their NO HATE Act to this bill. Their amendment improves the data collection and reporting of all hate crimes so that we can better understand their prevalence and implement effective policies to prevent them. Senator COLLINS and I are also working on additional language to broaden support for the bill.

The ongoing wave of anti-Asian violence and hate crimes has touched virtually every single member of the AAPI community. We are talking about millions of people in the AAPI community. Many of us are changing our daily routines. Until recently, I usually have my earbuds in, listening to an audio book whenever I leave my apartment to go for a walk. I don't do that now.

An attack on one group in our country is truly an attack on all of us. By passing the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act, we can come together on a bipartisan basis to show that the U.S. Senate will not be a bystander to the wave of racist, anti-Asian violence in our country. So let's get it done together.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON MALLORY NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, all postcloture time has expired.

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

Ms. HIRONO. Madam President, 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 Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 150 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Baldwin	Heinrich	Portman
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
Graham	Padilla	Wyden
Hassan	Peters	

NAYS—45

Barrasso	Fischer	Murkowski
Blackburn	Grassley	Paul
Blunt	Hagerty	Risch
Boozman	Hawley	Romney
Braun	Hoeven	Rubio
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Shelby
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Toomey
Cruz	Marshall	Tuberville
Daines	McConnell	Wicker
Ernst	Moran	Young

NOT VOTING—2

Rounds	Tillis

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). The majority whip is recognized.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 13, S. 937, a bill to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes.

Charles E. Schumer, Mazie K. Hirono, Tammy Duckworth, Richard J. Durbin, Patty Murray, Jeff Merkley, Tammy Baldwin, Elizabeth Warren, Robert Menendez, Bernard Sanders, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Jacky Rosen, Chris Van Hollen, Ron Wyden, Richard Blumenthal, Amy Klobuchar, Christopher Murphy.

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 motion to proceed to S. 937, a bill to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 92, nays 6, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 151 Ex.]

YEAS—92

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

NAYS—6

Cotton	Hawley	Paul
Cruz	Marshall	Tuberville

NOT VOTING—2

Rounds	Tillis

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 92, the nays are 6.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

COVID–19 HATE CRIMES ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Cloture having been invoked, the Senate will proceed to legislative session to consider the motion to proceed to S. 937, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. S. 937, a bill to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, Americans were horrified to witness a recent series of mass shootings involving the Asian-American and Pacific Islander community. On March 16, 2021, mass shootings occurred at three spas and massage parlors in the Atlanta metropolitan area. Eight people were killed, six of whom were Asian-American women, and one other person was wounded. The suspect was taken into custody that day and has been charged with multiple counts of murder. The investigation is continuing as to whether the suspect should be additionally charged with hate crimes, if he deliberately targeted Asian Americans with this senseless violence.

Unfortunately, this mass shooting is not an isolated incident in the United States in terms of hate speech, hate crimes, and violence against Asian Americans in our communities. Sadly, some political figures have used the ongoing COVID–19 pandemic to fan the flames of hate by promoting stereotypes, fear, and xenophobia. Irrationally blaming Asian and Asian-American neighbors for the pandemic is simply wrong and reprehensible and can have deadly consequences.

Let us remember that our Asian-American brothers and sisters are an integral part of the United Nations on so many levels. Our immigrant story and our diversity are some of our unique strengths, not weaknesses, of the United States of America.

There are about 23 million Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States, constituting 7 percent of the population of our country.

There are approximately 2 million Asian-American owned businesses that generate over $700 billion in annual revenue and employ millions of workers.

Two million Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are working on the frontlines of the COVID–19 pandemic as first responders and in healthcare, law enforcement, transportation, supermarkets, and other service industries. Our Asian-American brothers and sisters are putting their lives on the line every day to help protect our communities during the pandemic. That is why it is so despicable to see the rise of anti-Asian rhetoric and hate speech by political leaders and others, which inevitably gives oxygen to extremist groups and individuals and gives license to individuals to commit hate crimes and acts of violence.

The use of anti-Asian terminology and rhetoric related to COVID–19, such as the ''Chinese virus,'' the ''Wuhan virus,'' the ''Kung flu''—phrases often used by former President Trump and some of his followers—has perpetrated an anti-Asian stigma. The use of anti-Asian rhetoric has resulted in Asian Americans being harassed, assaulted, and scapegoated for the COVID–19 pandemic.

Since January 2020, there has been a dramatic increase in reports of hate crimes and incidents against those of Asian descent throughout the Nation. According to a recent report, there were nearly 3,800 reported cases of anti-Asian discrimination related to COVID–19 between March 2020 and February 2021.

On April 3, 2021, the New York Times ran an analysis article on the rising tide of Asian-American violence entitled ''Swelling Anti-Asian Violence: Who is Being Attacked Where.''

The article stated:

> Over the last year, in an unrelenting series of episodes . . . people of Asian descent have been pushed, beaten, kicked, spit on and called slurs. Homes and businesses have been vandalized. The violence has known no boundaries, spanning generations, income brackets and regions. . . . Those cases include the fatal attack of a Thai man in January, as well as the assaults of a 91-year-old man in Oakland's Chinatown and an 89-year-old woman in Brooklyn. Those episodes, and other[s] . . . have terrified the Asian community.

The article continues:

> But there is no ambiguity about the cases The Times collected: These are assaults in which the assailants expressed explicit racial hostility with their language, and in which nearly half included a reference to the coronavirus.

This article pointed out some sobering statistics when it comes to hate crimes. Over the last year, hate crimes as classified and reported by the police rose at a faster pace against people of Asian descent than hate crimes overall. In New York City and Boston, hate crimes overall fell while anti-Asian hate crimes spiked.

In New York City alone, the number of hate crimes with Asian-American victims reported to the New York Police Department jumped to 28 last year, up from 3 in 2019, and so far this year, the Department is actively investigating or has solved 35 anti-Asian bias crimes.

Congresswoman GRACE MENG, of New York, said:

> We've gone from being invisible to being seen as subhuman. We just want to be seen as American, like everyone else.

On April 9, 2021, the Washington Post ran an article examining the effect of mass shootings on marginalized groups and how trauma ripples through those communities.

The article stated:

> March 16 marked a turning point for many Asian Americans: It was the day their community was stricken by a mass shooting, becoming the latest minority group to suffer an attack that killed several of its own . . . There's a specific kind of grief that arises from being targeted, one that more and more marginalized people in the United States know too well. The shooting survivors and victims' family members span geographies, races and religions, but they are bonded by the shared trauma they have experienced.

The article continues:

> These tragedies often leave many in those communities who weren't directly affected feeling unsafe and traumatized. After a shooting, many members of these communities say they felt hyper-aware of their race and an escalated sense of fear that the same could happen to them or those they love. A mass shooting seems less senseless or inexplicable when it's directed at one of your own.

I recall with sorrow that in 2018 a gunman killed 11 Jewish worshipers at the Tree of Life in Pittsburgh.

The article continues:

> Tree of Life Rabbi Jeffrey Myers said his synagogue practices the ''ministry of presence''. . . . After mass shootings, synagogue members reach out to the affected communities and let them know that they're present, they're listening.

The Georgia massacre ''increases the fear level now of all Asian Americans who prayed, ''Am I next?'' I know how that feels to have your community wonder, ''Am I next?'' said Myers, a survivor of the deadliest attack against Jews on American soil.

In recent weeks, flyers have recirculated at Asian-American restaurants—posted in the synagogue's Squirrel Hill neighborhood after the 2018 Pittsburgh shooting—to show their support for the Jewish community.

One read:

> Many of our business members have thrived in this city, particularly in Squirrel Hill, and if we shared in this good fortune, then we bear the burdens.

It was a reminder that Asian Americans and Jews share similar status as minority communities in the United States and now as communities affected by mass shootings.

I was pleased that, shortly after taking office, President Biden issued a Presidential memorandum, ''Condemning and Combating Racism, Xenophobia, and Intolerance Against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States.''

We need to stop the hate. Referring to this global pandemic by anything other than its appropriate, medical names has inflamed the worst stereotypes, fear, and xenophobia in the face of a health crisis. Irrationally blaming Asian or Asian-American neighbors and random strangers is simply un-American. The Senate and every person in this country needs to call out the hate, bullying, and scapegoating whenever we see it and work together as one community to overcome COVID–19.

In my home State of Maryland, I was pleased to see that, last week, Governor Larry Hogan announced the formation of a statewide workgroup charged with developing strategies, recommendations, and actions to address the rise in violence and discrimination targeting the Asian-American community.

Governor Hogan named the former U.S. attorney for the District of Maryland, Robert K. Hur, to chair the workgroup and spearhead the effort. Mr. Hur was the first Asian American to serve as our U.S. attorney in Maryland's history, and I had the pleasure of working with him extensively on a number of criminal matters and civil rights issues during his tenure.

I also want to commend the work of our current acting U.S. attorney in Maryland and our FBI Special Agent in Charge, Jennifer C. Boone. They put out a recent statement which condemned bigotry and hatred against the Asian-American and Pacific Islander community and encouraged members of the public to report to law enforcement incidents of violence, threats, and harassment.

Shortly before the shootings in Atlanta, the U.S. Attorney's Office for Maryland, on March 10, 2021, launched its Civil Rights Unit to ensure that the full spectrum of criminal and civil statutes are employed in addressing hate crimes and discrimination; to conduct outreach to government, not-for-profit, and private entities in Maryland; and to help provide training and resources to local and State law enforcement in Maryland.

Today, I rise in support of S. 937, the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act, introduced by Senator HIRONO of Hawaii. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this important legislation. I urge the Senate to pass this legislation without further delay.

This legislation would direct the U.S. Department of Justice to designate a DOJ employee to assist with the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes reported to Federal, State, and/or local law enforcement. The legislation would provide guidance for State and local law enforcement agencies to establish the online reporting of hate crimes or incidents and to have online reporting available in multiple languages; expand culturally competent and appropriate public education and the collection of data and public reporting of hate crimes; and issue guidance detailing best practices to mitigate racially discriminatory language in describing the COVID–19 pandemic, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the COVID–19 Health Equity Task Force, and community-based organizations.

In the 117th Congress, I was privileged to be named as the chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, also known as the Helsinki Commission. I additionally serve as the Special Representative on Anti-Semitism, Racism, and Intolerance for the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

Over the past year, the world has suffered the crippling impact of COVID–19, which has disproportionately affected our most vulnerable citizens. Racist violence has, once again, reared its ugly head in many OSCE participating States, including our own. I pledge to continue working with the Helsinki Commission and the OSCE to shine a spotlight on discrimination, racism, and anti-Asian violence both at home and abroad as we work together with our partners in the United States and around the world to share best practices and combat this scourge against our democracy and freedoms we hold so dear.

In 2019, at the annual meeting of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in Luxembourg, I chaired a section dealing with anti-Semitism. One of the key findings that came out of that section was that every community needs to work together. We are all in this together. An attack on one community is an attack on all of us and the freedom of all of us, and we must join in unity to speak with a clear, strong voice against any of these hate activities.

We now need an all-hands-on-deck approach to combat anti-Asian bias, prejudice, discrimination, hate crimes, and violence. In working together—all communities—with our local, State, national, and international partners, along with our allies in the private sector and faith community, we can stem this dangerous trend and give a sense of peace and security back to our Asian-American brothers and sisters. It starts with our taking up the legislation before us and passing it promptly.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, we are very pleased that the Senate just took an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote—92 to 6—to move forward with legislation to fight the surge of anti-Asian violence across our country in the wake of the COVID–19 pandemic.

Anti-Asian bigotry and violence is a very serious issue that has deep roots in our country's history. Regrettably, it has grown far worse over the last year. It is something that affects constituents in all of our States and has proud Asian-American citizens fearing for their safety. I have been told stories that make me ache: an older Asian gentleman afraid to go outside because he would be cursed at, berated, even spat upon. A young lady told me she would no longer take the subway to work because the stares at her were so angry and intense that it was just unnerving. Then it is worse with assaults and violence and even a death.

We need to do something, and I am so glad that our Republican colleagues have voted with us to proceed with this legislation. This was never intended as gotcha legislation. It was always intended as bipartisan legislation, and for the information of the Senate, we are making good progress on reaching a bipartisan agreement with sensible, germane, and constructive amendments coming from Republican colleagues—the Senator from Kansas, the Senator from Maine—that, I believe, make the bill even stronger. So we want to continue with this bipartisan process.

I intend the first amendment to the bill to be an amendment offered by Senators Moran and Blumenthal. We are working with the Republican leader to determine if and how many other amendments to the bill there will be so that we can consider them and vote on final passage without any gotcha or not germane amendments, but we are moving this bill forward because it does need to go forward with a sense of urgency.

The legislation will send a loud and clear message that racism and violence against Asian Americans have no place—no place—in American society. We should endeavor to finish our work as quickly as possible and without delay.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Madam President, the United States is a beacon of democracy in the world, and our Nation was founded on free and fair elections, but if the American people don't have confidence in our elections, we don't have a sustainable democracy.

What we saw this past election was confusion and chaos caused by inconsistent standards and last-minute changes to established election laws by State officials and activist judges. Yet it is not just the chaos from this past election that troubles Americans across the country. For more than a decade, growing numbers of Americans have become less confident that their votes were accurately cast and counted. If we want to continue as a thriving democracy, we have to reverse this trend and take action so Americans trust in free and fair elections. There is no other option.

That is why I have joined my colleagues in introducing the Save Democracy Act to restore faith in our Federal elections and guarantee that voters decide the outcomes of elections, not the courts, and that is why I am here today to ask my colleagues to join me in passing one specific section of the Save Democracy Act—the Promoting Election Integrity by Proving Voter Identity Act—to require voter ID.

It is pretty simple. If you want to vote in person, you will need to bring your current and valid ID. If you want to vote by mail, you will need to provide a copy of your ID. Like I said, it is pretty simple and straightforward. We want 100 percent participation in our elections and zero percent fraud. We want it to be easy to vote and hard to cheat. Voter ID helps us to meet that goal.

Of course, the Democrats will do anything to fight against these commonsense reforms. It is absurd. You have to have ID to drive a car, board a plane, open a bank account, and pick up a prescription. Do they object to that? Of course not. These are much needed, commonsense reforms to our election systems.

Just look at what is happening in Georgia. Two recent news articles show that President Biden and the Democrats spread lies to pressure companies to boycott Georgia over commonsense voting laws even though the Washington Post gave President Biden four Pinocchios for his lies about the Georgia law.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the two articles I have with me today which outline how much the Democrats have been grossly misleading the public.

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

[From the Washington Post, Mar. 30, 2021]

BIDEN FALSELY CLAIMS THE NEW GEORGIA LAW 'ENDS VOTING HOURS EARLY'

(By Glenn Kessler)

''What I'm worried about is how un-American this whole initiative is. It's sick. It's sick . . . deciding that you're going to end voting at five o'clock when working people are just getting off work.''—President Biden, in remarks at a news conference, March 25

''Among the outrageous parts of this new state law, it ends voting hours early so working people can't cast their vote after their shift is over.''—Biden, in a statement ''on the attack on the right to vote in Georgia,'' March 26

During his first news conference, President Biden became especially passionate when discussing a law being pressed by Republican lawmakers in Georgia that he said was intended to make it harder for people to vote. He reiterated those concerns the next day in a written statement after Gov. Brian Kemp (R) signed the bill into law.

The law has come under fire for restricting the distribution of food and water to people standing in line, making it harder to cast absentee ballots, reducing drop boxes for mail ballots, barring mobile voting places and for making significant procedural changes that potentially give more power to the GOP-controlled legislature in the election process.

Biden has echoed many of those concerns. But there was one line in both his news conference and his statement that has kept us puzzling until our puzzler was sore. It also puzzled experts who have studied the new law.

Let's take a look.

THE FACTS

On Election Day in Georgia, polling places are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and if you are

in line by 7 p.m., you are allowed to cast your ballot. Nothing in the new law changes those rules.

However, the law did make some changes to early voting. But experts say the net effect of the new early-voting rules was to expand the opportunities to vote for most Georgians, not limit them.

''You can criticize the bill for many things, but I don't think you can criticize it for reducing the hours you can vote,'' said University of Georgia political scientist Charles S. Bullock III. He speculated that Biden may have been briefed on an early version of the bill—''there were 25 versions floating around''—and he did not get an update on the final version.

For instance, at one point lawmakers considered nixing all early voting on Sundays, thus eliminating ''souls to the polls,'' a get-out-the-vote initiative popular with predominantly Black churches. But that idea was scrapped in the end.

''One of the biggest changes in the bill would expand early voting access for most counties, adding an additional mandatory Saturday and formally codifying Sunday voting hours as optional,'' Stephen Fowler of Georgia Public Broadcasting said in an excellent and comprehensive report on the impact of the new law. ''Counties can have early voting open as long as 7 a.m. to7 p.m., or 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at minimum. If you live in a larger metropolitan county, you might not notice a change. For most other counties, you will have an extra weekend day, and your weekday early voting hours will likely be longer.''

Charles Stewart III, an election expert at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, said: ''I had also heard this generally reported as expanding early voting, so I'm surprised by the characterization.'' He studied the precise language changes at our request and said it indicated an expansion of hours, especially in rural counties.

So where would Biden get this perception that ordinary workers were getting the shaft because the state would ''end voting at five o'clock''? We have one clue.

The law used to say early ''voting shall be conducted during normal business hours.'' Experts said that generally means 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The new law makes it specific—''beginning at 9:00 AM and ending at 5:00 PM.'' A Georgia election official said the change was made in part because some rural county election offices only worked part time during the week, not a full eight-hour day, so the shift to more specific times makes it clear they must be open every weekday for at least eight hours.

But, as noted, the law also allows individual counties to set the hours anywhere between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. So the practical effect of the 5 p.m. reference in the law is minimal.

During the 2020 election, for instance, vote-rich Fulton County, with a substantial Black population, set early-voting hours at 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on most weekdays and two Saturdays, though the last weekdays had 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. voting hours. Voting was allowed on two Sundays between 12 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Under the new law, Fulton County could set the exact same hours for in-person early voting—or expand them from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. every day.

Bullock noted that one change in the law may impact early voting in runoff elections. The law reduced the period between the initial election and the runoff election, from nine to four weeks, potentially shortening the period for early voting.

We were curious what the early-voting rules were in Delaware, Biden's home state. It turns out Delaware did not allow any in-person early voting in 2020. A law signed in 2019 will permit early voting starting in 2022. (Voting hours are 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day.)

We sought an explanation from the White House for the reason for Biden's remarks but did not receive an on-the-record response.

THE PINOCCHIO TEST

Biden framed his complaint in terms of a slap at working people. The law would ''end voting at five o'clock when working people are just getting off work'' or ''ends voting hours early so working people can't cast their vote after their shift is over.''

Many listeners might assume he was talking about voting on Election Day, not early voting. But Election Day hours were not changed.

As for early voting, the law made a modest change, replacing a vague ''normal business hours''—presumed to be 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.—to a more specific 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. time period. But that's the minimum. Under the new law, counties have the option to extend the voting hours so voters can start casting ballots as early as 7 a.m. and as late as 7 p.m.—the same as Election Day in Georgia. Moreover, an additional mandatory day of early voting on Saturday was added and two days of early voting on Sunday were codified as an option for counties.

One could understand a flub in a news conference. But then this same claim popped up in an official presidential statement. Not a single expert we consulted who has studied the law understood why Biden made this claim, as this was the section of law that expanded early voting for many Georgians.

Somehow Biden managed to turn that expansion into a restriction aimed at working people, calling it ''among the outrageous parts'' of the law. There's no evidence that is the case. The president earns Four Pinocchios.

[From Fox News, Apr. 12, 2021]

WARNOCK ADMITS TO SIGNING EMAIL WITH FALSE INFORMATION ABOUT GEORGIA VOTING LAW

(By David Rutz)

Sen. Raphael Warnock, D–Ga., admitted to signing off on false information in a third-party advocacy group's email that went out about the Georgia voting law after it passed.

The Washington Post flagged an email Warnock signed from the liberal nonprofit 3.14 Action as an example of Democratic misinformation about the sweeping Georgia voting reforms, as it claimed the new law restricted weekend early voting and ended no-excuse mail voting.

''Sen. Raphael G. Warnock, one of two new Democratic senators representing Georgia, signed an email sent out by the advocacy group 3.14 Action after the law passed, which claimed it ended no-excuse mail voting and restricted early voting on the weekends—also early proposals that did not become law,'' the Post reported.

Those ideas were considered but did not make it into the final bill, which actually expands early voting in Georgia to 17 days, including two Saturdays. It also still allows no-excuse absentee voting, albeit with a shorter window of 67 days to apply.

The statement went out on March 30, five days after Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp, a Republican, signed the final bill into law.

A Warnock campaign spokesperson told Fox News it approved the text of the group's email before Kemp signed the bill, while the provisions were still under consideration. The spokesperson noted the Georgia Senate passed a bill to end no-excuse absentee voting earlier in March, and the Georgia House originally proposed restricting weekend early voting.

However, neither provision made it into the final bill, as the 3.14 Action statement Warnock signed appeared to claim.

The law has been the subject of fierce controversy, with President Biden and other Democrats likening it to racist ''Jim Crow''-era restrictions. Kemp and other state Republicans have pushed back on the criticism and said the reforms strengthen voting integrity.

Biden has also disseminated false information about the law, getting Four Pinocchios from The Washington Post's Fact-Checker for claiming the law limits voting hours.

The firestorm around the law has already economically hurt Georgia. Bowing to liberal pressure and outrage from Georgia-based corporations like Delta and Coca-Cola, Major League Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred pulled the 2021 All-Star Game out of Atlanta's Truist Park, costing the area up to an estimated $100 million in potential revenue.

Warnock said he was disappointed by MLB's decision but framed it as the fault of Republicans, calling it an ''unfortunate'' consequence of the voting bill.

''It is my hope that businesses, athletes, and entertainers can protest this law not by leaving Georgia but by coming here and fighting voter suppression head on, and hand-in-hand with the community,'' he said in a statement.

The new Georgia lawmaker is a staunch supporter of the For The People Act, a sweeping national voting bill which Republicans have slammed as a massive federal overreach and Democratic power grab.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. It just goes to show you how out of touch the Democrats really are.

All my Republican colleagues and I want to see is more Americans vote, and I am thankful Senators BARRASSO and CRAMER are joining me in this effort today. We want a vibrant democracy in which citizens are engaged and participating in government at every level.

Sadly, the Democrats are refusing to work with us to protect our voting systems. Instead, the Democrats want to make it easier to cheat and harder to stop election fraud. That is why the Democrats are pushing H.R. 1, which would perpetuate distrust in our elections, impose anti-democratic mandates, and further erode our country's institutions. H.R. 1 is the most radical piece of voting legislation this Nation has ever seen at a time when restoring confidence in elections has never been more important.

H.R. 1 removes the most basic safeguards against election fraud. The Democrat solution to election security is the same as their solution to all problems: a completely inept, big-government approach that fails at every level.

Before continuing, I would like to yield to my colleague from Wyoming and thank him for his leadership on this effort.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I come to join my colleague from Florida, former Governor and now U.S. Senator, and talk about the Save Democracy Act and the issues that are facing our Nation today, and I want to

do that because over the past several weeks, Democrats, the media, their corporate allies have been misleading the American people about our voting laws.

Democrats have been pushing a false narrative all around the country, trying to scare Americans into pushing and pressuring Congress into passing a Federal election takeover.

Federal election laws and State election laws, as guided by our Constitution, say that it is States that should be making the decisions about how we run our elections at home. But what you see coming out of the Democrats in their H.R. 1—that is called S. 1—is a law that changes things dramatically and takes decisions out of the folks at home in Wyoming and puts them in the hands of folks in Washington, DC. People in Wyoming, as I talked to them the last 2 weeks, don't want anything to do with that.

Now, Democrats have this listed as their No. 1 priority bill for the year; otherwise, why would they have listed it as No. 1? Not coronavirus, not pandemic, not infrastructure—no, taking elections away from the States, putting them in the hands of Washington.

The bill is over 800 pages long. Virtually every page would, I believe, make it easier to cheat. That is not what the American people want. They want to make it easier to vote and harder to cheat.

The bill, H.R. 1, now S. 1, expands ballot harvesting, which is where paid political operatives, unsupervised, can go door to door, nursing home bed to nursing home bed, picking up people's ballots and deciding which ballots to turn in and which ballots to destroy.

The bill would register people automatically when they sign up for Medicaid or assistance in other forms from the government. It would force taxpayers to fund political campaigns and political operatives. Paying for campaign ads, your tax dollars would go for that and things that—a candidacy you are not for, and you would be paying for their ads and their computer time and their web pages and their yard signs. People in Wyoming don't want that.

When I describe each one of these to the people of Wyoming, they say: Don't let that happen to America.

I think many Democrats haven't read the 800 pages, and I know if the American people read the 800 pages, they would be just as upset as the people in Wyoming who have heard what is in the bill.

The American people want security in elections. We want integrity, accountability, transparency in how it all works, and that is why I am so proud to be here and supporting Senator SCOTT and cosponsoring, along with Senator HYDE-SMITH and Senator LUMMIS, a bill that gives confidence to people in elections, because our bill—overall bill bans voter harvesting. It says no to automatic registration. It requires at least a Social Security number to register to vote. Under our bill, you could still vote by mail, as people have done year after year in Wyoming—done it very successfully. You just need to request a ballot, say your information is up-to-date, and then you get the ballot in the mail—basic commonsense measures to protect against fraud and against error.

So the differences between what we propose and what the Democrats propose could not be more clear. I believe the Democrat bill makes it easier to commit fraud; the Republican bill makes it harder to commit fraud.

If the Democrat bill were good, they wouldn't need to use scare tactics, which they have been using all across the country, and wouldn't need to spread false information.

So the people of Wyoming tell me they want elections to be fair. They want them to be free from voter fraud. They want it to be easier to vote, as I said, harder to cheat, and just basically using an identification card or a means to identify yourself when you go to vote would make common sense. That is what we do in Wyoming, and it should be continued to be allowed so when someone shows up to vote, they can just confirm that they are who they say they are.

And that is why I am proud to stand here today with Senator SCOTT and support him on the floor.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Madam President, we can and must pass commonsense reforms to restore confidence in our elections.

The easiest thing we can do right now is require voter ID. Americans agree this is a necessary step.

If we are serious about working together to move our country forward, restore public trust, and protect the democracy our Nation cherishes, we need to pass my bill today, and I look forward to all my colleagues joining me to protect our democracy.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 1130, introduced earlier today. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. MERKLEY. Madam President, my colleagues have talked about free and fair elections, but I am quite concerned that this bill does quite the opposite.

I am really quite stunned that one would think that a bill that dictates exactly how every State has to use an ID law affects the access to the ballot box for every single American, that it would be requested that it would be passed with no process, no possibility of a committee to examine the fact that every single American voter is impacted by this effort to erect a barricade between the voter and the ballot box.

I was thinking about how, when we were here on January 6, the boxes that had the electoral college votes—gorgeous, ornate, old wooden boxes were here on the counter, and they are just a symbol of the pulsating heart of our Republic, the ability of every citizen to participate in the vision for their country, how their country will operate, how their children will have an opportunity to thrive—that ballot box.

So here is a bill designed to make it harder to get your voice heard, harder to get your ballot counted, being asked to be considered by this Chamber with absolutely no process of committee deliberation.

If we had such a process, it would be pointed out that currently millions of Americans don't have the IDs required in this measure. Well, that makes it a lot harder for millions of Americans to vote.

It would also be pointed out in the committee process that of those who don't have those IDs, about three times as many Black Americans don't have those IDs as White Americans, even though Black Americans are a much smaller percentage of the American population, which means that this measure is hugely discriminatory against Black Americans. And it is just wrong to engage in that type of discrimination in an effort to manipulate the outcome of elections.

Now, it would be quite a different conversation if we had evidence that there were an actual, real problem being addressed. But, fortunately, this has been studied time and time and time again. We had the Governor of Michigan testifying here on Capitol Hill just a few days ago, and we asked when they did the study—the investigation because of the lawsuits that were filed related to the last election—how many people voted illegally in vote by mail. And that effort to find the evidence of fraud turned out, she said, zero. Zero.

And I asked her a question because I was stunned that it was zero. Certainly one person who thought they were a citizen but wasn't a citizen and voted who was found? Zero. Zero.

And there is study after study after study. So we understand what this is, and that is what would be explored in committee. It is an effort to make it harder for Americans to vote.

It is not about security because there is not a security problem. It is about the fact that this disproportionately affects low-income Americans and Black Americans.

So I stand here today considering whether to object because I believe in that vision of Americans having a full, free, fair chance to be involved in their elections, defending the ballot box for every single American, and this bill does the opposite.

I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Florida.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Madam President, my goal is 100 percent participation and zero percent fraud. It is not voter suppression or racist to prove your identity for in-person voting. It is not voter suppression or racist to prove your identity for mail-in voting. It is not voter suppression or racist to require ballot boxes to be monitored. It is not voter suppression or racist to make sure your vote is in on time.

My colleague wants to call any attempt to fight fraud in our elections voter suppression. My colleague wants to call any attempt to fight fraud in elections racist. That is just not accurate.

Voter ID should not be controversial. You need an ID to get on a plane, open a bank account, drive a car—even an ID to get into the White House. But we shouldn't have an ID to vote for the President? It just doesn't make sense.

Americans believe in voter ID. It is a logical step to make our elections more secure, and it is a simple change we can pass today.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

AMERICAN MANUFACTURING

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, first, I want to say I want to thank the Senator from Oregon for objecting to the previous motion, and I share his concerns.

I rise today to speak about some big choices our Nation has to make. Will we continue to limp along with an economy that works for only a few wealthy people or will we invest in making things in America and in our infrastructure and, most importantly, in our people?

Will we continue to allow other countries to outpace us on technology while remaining dependent on critical parts made on the other side of the globe or will we seize a future that is made in America?

And will we continue to ignore the climate crisis and leave it for the next generation to deal with and leave an even bigger catastrophe or will we take action right now—right now—to put our Nation on a path to a future of good-paying jobs fueled by clean energy?

I have often said that in Michigan we don't have an economy unless someone makes something and somebody grows something. That is what we do in Michigan. We make things and grow things. And I know that my friend, the Presiding Officer from Minnesota, feels the same—making things, growing things. That is how we have an economy. It has been the secret to our success in Michigan and in so many other places around the country. We need to make things, and we need to grow things.

Unfortunately, while we have been talking about making things for a long time, the rest of the world has actually been acting.

It is estimated that the Chinese Government has invested at least $100 billion to support its electric vehicle industry. That might be why they have hundreds of companies making electric vehicles.

You can't build a competitive auto industry without electric vehicles, and you can't build electric vehicles without a whole lot of batteries and a whole lot of other component parts. They could all be made here, but most of them aren't.

Right now, none of the major electric vehicle battery providers are American companies. They could be if we helped partner with them to make that happen.

And we have seen what happens when our automakers depend on semiconductors made overseas. Over the past few months, a shortage of computer chips no bigger than a Kellogg's cornflake have idled multiple plants and led to layoffs in Michigan and across the country.

In fact, the Alliance for Auto Innovation estimates that U.S. automakers will produce a million fewer cars this year because of this shortage of this little chip.

It is not enough to say we need to build things in America. We all know that. But we can't build things here without first investing in our capacity and having a national strategy to build things here in America. Thankfully, we have a President of the United States who understands that. He understands the moment we are in and is ready to meet the moment.

Now it is time for Congress to step up. Senate Democrats are excited and ready to take action, working with the President of the United States and hopefully working with our colleagues across the aisle, in this moment for America and America's future.

It is important to note that it won't be the first time that actions we have taken here have had lasting consequences. More than 100 years ago, Henry Ford and Thomas Edison partnered to build an affordable electric car. That was the first kind of car they wanted to make—an electric car. They even built several prototypes in Dearborn, MI. The challenge, Ford told the New York Times in 1914, was ''to build a storage battery of light weight which would operate for long distances without recharging.'' Sound familiar? That is a challenge most of our automakers are very familiar with.

Interestingly, around the same time, in 1916, Congress passed a change to the tax laws that in effect provided oil and gas companies interest-free loans. It was America's first fossil fuel subsidy.

Perhaps it is no surprise, then, that given the various issues and struggles and costs, Ford chose to focus on an internal combustion engine.

Just thinking about it, more than 100 years later, we are still lighting prehistoric plants and animals on fire to get to the grocery store and to get to work.

Now, it is true that my home State of Michigan benefited from these choices. We put the world on wheels. We are extremely proud of our place in history and extremely proud of the wonderful workers, the skill and ability of our workers. But I also understand that we would have been better off today if the issues of carbon pollution had been addressed at the very beginning.

The good news is that we have the opportunity now to fulfill Ford and Edison's electric vision. Just last week, I toured GM's new Factory ZERO, which soon will be building electric Hummers and electric Chevy Silverado trucks. These are big vehicles, and they are going to be all electric. It is very exciting. Stellantis has plans to build four new electric hybrid Jeeps in Detroit, and Henry Ford's company is investing more than $22 billion to introduce electric versions of its vehicles, including Mustangs, Ford F–150 trucks, and commercial vans—all very exciting.

These changes are what we need right now, but our car companies can't do it without a partnership with us, with the Federal Government. Just as companies around the world have not had to do it alone, we need to make sure we are partnering with them to actualize this vision for the future.

You know, the oil companies like to say—whenever we talk about various incentives for wind or solar or electric vehicles or batteries, they always like to say: We shouldn't be picking winners and losers in our country. But I would argue that in 1916, with the first fossil fuel subsidy, our country picked a winner, and they have been subsidized over and over again and winning the energy race ever since. In fact, that subsidy is to the tune of at least $20 billion every year. Even in the tax cuts in 2017, the Republican tax cuts for the wealthiest and most well-connected people in the country, there was even another new foreign oil tax break in there.

I would argue it is time to give equal opportunity to competing technology and level the playing field. At the same time, we can create good-paying jobs here at home, revitalize American manufacturing, and put America in the driver's seat of the clean energy future. That, we can do—that is so exciting to do—if we work with our President to get this done.

If we are going to build back better, it is time to start building. The first thing we can do is to pass the American Jobs Plan, which invests in American manufacturing, creates an American supply chain for products and technologies, and strengthens ''Buy American'' laws. This plan has been long overdue, I can tell you, and it is just the start of what we need to do.

My bipartisan American Jobs in Energy Manufacturing Act, which I introduced with Senator MANCHIN and Senator DAINES, would provide incentives for manufacturers to build and retool existing plants to make advanced energy parts like semiconductors and batteries and retool for electric vehicle

facilities. It builds on the successful 48C advanced energy manufacturing tax credit, which I authored in 2009. That helped boost U.S. manufacturing and create good-paying jobs then, and we can do it now.

On the Finance Committee, we are also working on legislation that would provide an investment tax credit for building American battery, semiconductor, and solar cell plants and a corresponding tax credit for producing these key components.

I am so pleased that President Biden's American Jobs Plan includes electric charging stations as part of our infrastructure investment—it certainly is part of our infrastructure for the future, for today and tomorrow—and consumer incentives to purchase electric vehicles.

We also need to make sure that American taxpayer dollars are spent on American products. You know, that sounds simple, but that is actually not what is being done in every case right now, even though we have had laws on the books for decades and decades and decades.

My bipartisan Make It in America Act with Senator BRAUN makes it harder for Federal Agencies to use waivers to get around ''Buy American'' rules to purchase foreign-made products. Right now, there has not been enough accountability and structure to make sure that waivers are not being given so that purchases can be made of foreign cars. That needs to stop.

I also want to thank Senator TAMMY BALDWIN for her leadership on these ''Buy American'' issues as well.

The Federal Government is an enormous consumer, and we are set to make big infrastructure investments. ''Buy American'' rules means that American dollars flow into local economies when we purchase American-made PPE and American-made iron and steel and great American-made electric vehicles. These rules also create good jobs, and we will need highly trained workers to fill them. By investing in our workforce, which is an important part of this plan, we will help the 18 million Americans currently on unemployment find new opportunities—and others as well—new opportunities for good jobs and will ensure that our young people are on a path for good-paying jobs, including skilled trades, after high school.

I am laser-focused on supporting our community colleges and uplifting and expanding registered apprenticeship programs because these institutions and programs help build our middle class and ensure working people have the skills they need to thrive, not just survive. These are great-paying jobs, professional jobs, licensed, highly skilled jobs, and we need to be encouraging more and more young people to be able to choose these jobs.

Henry Ford once said this, one of my favorite quotes:

What's right about America is that, although we have a mess of problems, we have great capacity—intellect and resources—to do something about them.

There is no doubt that we face big challenges, but Henry Ford was right: We do have great capacity, intellect, and resources to do something about them. Now is the time to do that, to act. People in Michigan have been waiting long enough, waiting way too long, and people across the country have waited far too long for us to act on what we know we can do to make things in America, to remake things in America, to build back better. We can make this an American moment, or we can sit back and wait for the future to happen to us.

This is the moment to invest in our workers who build our country's infrastructure, including those things we need today that they didn't need 100 years ago, like high-speed internet and electric charging stations, and the things that we will need to make us successful and global leaders moving forward.

We need to rebuild our supply chains in America so we are not being held up because of a really important part that is made only in one country halfway around the world. That is absurd. We can do that. We can do that. We can do that by deciding we are going to invest in America. And we need to use the power of American ingenuity to ensure a livable and prosperous future for everyone.

This is the moment to act. I am excited about that. I know that we have this moment right now to be able to jump-start the future, to be able to build our economy back better, to make things in America, and I hope we will seize this moment.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

COVID–19 HATE CRIMES ACT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, today I express my concern over the rise in violent crime and in particular the hate crimes against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Every single one of us ought to be horrified to see our fellow Americans attacked because of their race or ethnicity. We are united in our opposition to this hateful violence. We are united in seeing it investigated and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. I introduced a resolution to this effect, and I will welcome all my Senate colleagues to join me.

I am very happy to see that Attorney General Garland has turned his attention to this problem. On March 30, he directed the Department of Justice to engage in a 30-day review of the Department's response to hate crimes. I hope the Senate will benefit from the results of that review. However, our responses to the problem of hate crimes must be guided by the facts and a pursuit of sound policy. I am not sure that we have done the legwork to arrive at a legislative solution that will make a difference to preventing, deterring, and punishing these crimes.

Along with my colleague Senator COTTON, the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice and Counterterrorism, we are requesting a full or subcommittee hearing on the issue, and we should do that after the Attorney General's review has been completed.

We now have before the Senate S. 937, the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act, being introduced before the Attorney General's review began and appears to be duplicative or even in conflict with some of the DOJ's existing efforts. This does not seem to me to be the best path, but that is the path the Senate is on now, and I voted to proceed hours ago to S. 937. I am thankful that it is coming up. I know that Members of the Republican caucus have amendments that will hopefully improve the bill and make it a very useful piece of legislation.

We hope these amendments will be listened to and fairly considered by our Democratic colleagues. This is too important of an issue to get wrong.

ELECTION SECURITY

Madam President, now, on another point. Between Democrats who believe Russia rigged the vote to elect Trump in 2016 and Republicans who believe various theories questioning Biden's election victory, they all add up to what seems to be a bipartisan supermajority of Americans casting doubt about our elections. In fact, one prominent claim by some Trump supporters that a particular brand of voting machine switched Trump votes to Biden appears to have been plagiarized from the Democratic Party's playbook from the election of 2004.

I heard from many left-leaning Iowans at that time who questioned President Bush's victory based on claims that a particular brand of voting machine switched votes in Ohio. That was 2004. It seems kind of similar, doesn't it, today.

Those totally unsubstantiated claims ultimately led Democrats to force a vote in a joint session of Congress in 2005 to reject Ohio's electoral votes cast for President Bush. There are still Democratic Members of Congress in both Chambers who voted to overturn Ohio State's certified election in 2004.

Now, after the 2018 gubernatorial election in Georgia, the losing Democratic candidate refused to concede, claiming, without evidence that would stand up in court, that she, as a Democratic candidate for Governor of Georgia, would have won but for voting irregularities. Now, rather than distance itself from questioning a certified election in 2018, the Democratic Party invited her to speak at their convention in 2020.

Two years later, the tables are now turned. Trump lost Georgia by a far smaller margin than that Democratic candidate for Governor in Georgia in 2018 did, but we are now told that to suggest that there were flaws in the 2020 Georgia election is somehow unacceptable and undermining democracy.

It is pretty obvious, after this history, that we need to break the cycle of partisans questioning elections when their side lost or it is OK to complain when their side lost, but if the other side does the same thing, there is something wrong with it. So there is a lesson for both Republicans and Democrats. Both parties must stop finger-pointing, stop blaming, and stop the partisan accusations. We all need to work together to restore Americans' faith in elections.

So that brings me to something very current because it passed the House of Representatives. So that brings me to the Democrats' so-called For the People Act. Incidentally, don't you find that name a little creepy? So often in history, when people claim to speak for ''the people,'' they were just seeking power.

For the People Act was introduced after the 2018 elections as a clear political statement to build the hyperpartisan narrative that Democratic defeats were due to widespread voter suppression.

Now, we always hear about voter suppression before and since the 2020 election, but just think of the historic turnout—not only the historic turnout that the losing candidate had but the historic turnout that the winning candidate had. And yet we have voter suppression.

H.R. 1 was then, and remains, a hastily cobbled together collection of every Democratic proposal for new election mandates. No care was taken to make it cohesive or workable. It is evident that State and local election officials were not consulted in its drafting.

You know, just to consider the size of the bill, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, I think, was only two pages. For the People Act, the bill introduced—or heard—before the Senate Rules Committee is 800 pages.

Now, that bill that I just talked about had actually passed the House in 2019 on party lines and was placed directly on the Senate calendar at Senator SCHUMER's request. Now, this is very typical of political messaging bills so the minority leader can force a vote to proceed. I assume, in 2019, that Senator SCHUMER did not force the Senate vote to take up the bill because partisan activists got more traction out of blaming Leader MCCONNELL for not bringing it up. Regardless, in 2019, it was clearly designed as a messaging bill and not one designed to ever get to the President's desk.

Now, in 2021, we are back at it again, considering a totally partisan messaging bill that would radically rework all States' election systems, where it has been in the Constitution the primary concern of the State legislators and Congress seldomly intervening. I suppose the most obvious is that on a certain date in November we all have Presidential elections and congressional elections on the same date in all 50 States, but beyond that, it is pretty much up to each State how they want to conduct their elections.

So how does this bill, passing the House, once again, over here in the Senate—how does that jibe with the message from Democrats just a couple of months ago that State-run elections are beyond reproach? Don't you remember? Because all 50 States had State-certified elections, that gave Biden his win.

Now, it is pretty common sense. Either State-run elections are fundamentally flawed and unfair, requiring massive Federal intervention and Americans who question the outcome are taking a moral stand, or State-run elections are, by and large, very fair, and Americans can have confidence in the outcomes.

Either way, the same principle should apply to the last several elections whether Republicans or Democrats were relatively more successful in each case. I get it. I get it that having unleashed this partisan tiger—the bill that came from the House of Representatives—it is very hard to get that partisan tiger back in the cage.

But when this bill fails, as it must, we need to tamp down the partisan accusations and work across party lines to restore faith in American elections. Now, the way the environment here is in Washington and in Congress, it isn't going to be easy, but the alternative is unthinkable.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I come to the floor today to oppose the Democrats' latest liberal spending spree. Just over a month ago, Democrats put $2 trillion onto America's credit card. They said it was for coronavirus. That was false advertising, and that is because only $1 out of every $11 in the $2 trillion being spent was actually going to public health.

The bill turned out to be a big payoff to the people who run the Democratic Party: the union bosses, the DC bureaucrats, and the bankrupt blue States. Democrats crammed the bill through the Senate with just 50 votes. Democrats haven't even finished their victory lap.

Yet, at this time, they want another $2.3 trillion. They have already told us they are going to cram it through with just 50 votes, once again, and, once again, they are using more false advertising.

President Biden calls this an infrastructure bill. Well, that is a new definition of the word ''infrastructure.'' Only about $1 out of every $20 would go to roads and bridges.

Now, here are just a few other items that the Democrats call infrastructure: $100 billion for so-called workforce development and over $300 billion on housing and upgrading of Federal buildings—Federal buildings—the ones we work in. It includes $100 billion for something called the greening of schools, which, when you go through and see what does that include, it includes making greener lunches. It includes eliminating paper products in the cafeterias and making the cafeteria trays that people use to carry their food, makes each one of those into trays that can be recycled.

Call it what you will, this is not infrastructure. The largest spending part of the bill is $400 billion to expand Medicaid. The list goes on and on. That is just the tip of the iceberg.

Now, some of the spending in the overall bill may have merit. That spending should go through regular order, going through committees and coming to the floor of the Senate for amendments and then votes.

But it is still not infrastructure. This isn't an infrastructure bill. Even the White House Press Secretary admitted it. She said this. She said it is partly infrastructure—partly infrastructure.

Now, the bill includes another big payoff to the union bosses because it forces long-term healthcare facilities to unionize if they want to receive the funding in the bill. There is Medicaid expansion. That would hurt States like Wyoming and others that protect and believe in the right to work.

The bill would also hurt Wyoming because of its attack on American energy. Representative ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ has compared the bill to the Green New Deal. One Democratic Senator admitted it. He said it is a way of accomplishing many of the goals of the Green New Deal.

Out of all the payoffs in the bill, one of the biggest goes to the electric car industry. The bill would spend more money on electric cars than it does on roads, bridges, ports, airports, and waterways combined—an astonishing amount of money.

President Biden announced the bill in one of America's greatest energy-producing regions, which is Western Pennsylvania. Yet energy-producing States like Pennsylvania and Wyoming have a lot to lose from this bill.

The bill would spend $10 billion on something called the Civilian Climate Corps. These are taxpayer-funded activists who would advance environmental justice. That is what it says: $10 billion to Civilian Climate Corps to advance environmental justice.

And then there is another $35 billion on climate innovation and $27 billion in clean energy and sustainability accelerator. It just seems that they are throwing money and names onto things. These are slush funds. They are going to give government bureaucrats more power to pick winners and losers in our economy.

We all remember the disaster called Solyndra. It was a Silicon Valley startup. The last time Joe Biden was in the White House, his administration, along with Barack Obama, gave them $500 million—taxpayer dollars—for so-called clean energy. We later found out that Solyndra lied on their loan application form, and, apparently, no one in

the administration caught it. The company went bankrupt—500 million taxpayer dollars gone forever.

President Biden is bringing back this kind of central planning. It is all in the name, he says, of green energy. If we pass this bill, I will tell you that we are going to see another Solyndra and another one after that and another one after that.

So how are Democrats going to pay for this piece of legislation? Well, they are going to cram through the largest tax increase of the century. They are going to use 15 years' worth of tax increases to pay for 8 years of spending. So the spending is temporary, but the tax increases will be permanent.

If the bill becomes law, it will be harder for American companies to compete with companies in other countries, and the concern is that means more companies are going to move overseas because taxes there will be lower. When they do, they are going to take good American jobs with them.

You know, with the Republican tax cuts that we did in 2017, we saw $1 trillion flow back into this country in just 2 years. President Biden is ready to send all of that money back overseas.

The official name of the bill is the American Jobs Plan. Yet it is not much of a jobs bill. The jobs this bill would allegedly create would cost $800,000 each job. It is a lot to pay for a single job when communities all across the country have outside of their businesses ''Help wanted'' signs.

I saw one in Afton, WY, last week. A small community in western Wyoming there is a convenience store, and the sign said:

Your father called. He said you need a job. We're hiring.

There are signs like that all over the country. Small businesses and small business owners I have talked to continue to say: We cannot find people to hire. And yet the administration has a jobs plan, they say, where it is going to cost taxpayers $800,000 for each job to create. At the same time, the bill is going to eliminate many good-paying energy jobs, and that is a real concern.

Democrats are cramming this through at a time when our economy is already recovering. The pandemic is coming to an end. The experts say we are going to create 11 million more jobs over the next 4 years even if we don't pass the bill. And there are jobs available today.

One analysis from the Wharton Business School said the bill would actually slow down the economy. That is because the bill would discourage businesses from investing. It is not an infrastructure bill, not much of a jobs bill. It is a slush fund for more liberal spending. That is what is on the minds of the Democrats who are pushing this bill forward.

It is not what the United States needs right now. We need real infrastructure improvements. We need a real infrastructure bill—one that will build road, bridges, our waterways, and allow us to do things faster and better and cheaper and smarter. If Democrats want to do that, Republicans are ready to support it.

Last Congress, I worked with Senator TOM CARPER of Delaware on a bipartisan infrastructure bill in the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. I chaired it in the last Congress. Our bill was so bipartisan that Senator BERNIE SANDERS voted for it, and so did I. It passed the committee unanimously, 21 to 0. When we went to work with Democrats in the House on the legislation, they ignored it and replaced it with the Green New Deal.

That is what President Biden is doing right now as well. He is ignoring the bill we passed and trying to sneak the Green New Deal into law.

So I would urge my Democratic colleagues to reverse course, to throw out this liberal wish list, this slush fund of liberal spending, and start over working in a bipartisan way with Republicans.

We should start with a bipartisan bill that the Senate Committee on EPW passed last year. Instead of paying off the unions and the climate activists, let's rebuild our roads and our bridges and do it in a way that works for all Americans.

Thank you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. OSSOFF). The Senator from North Carolina.

REMEMBERING ALVIN SYKES

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of a gentleman named Alvin Sykes, who passed away on March 19, 2021, in Kansas City, MO.

Teddy Roosevelt once famously said, in life, ''The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again . . . but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, [the] great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause.''

Alvin Sykes was the man in the arena. He was a man who knew great devotion, who dedicated himself to a worthy cause, and who helped move our Nation even closer to our founding promise of ''liberty and justice for all.''

Alvin was born to a teenage mother. He ended his public school enrollment after the eighth grade, but he never ended his education. In his own words, Alvin transferred from public school to the public library.

In the coming decades, Alvin immersed himself in learning about civil rights crimes and cold cases, becoming an expert on an often overlooked issue. He researched the history of these tragic crimes, the relevant laws, and the statutes of jurisdiction.

Alvin was so well versed, when he testified about such cases before Congress in 2007, one Member mistakenly assumed he was an attorney. Alvin replied that he was not an attorney, but it was evident the knowledge and insight he possessed on these issues surpassed even the best-educated lawyers in this town.

What made Alvin so remarkable, however, wasn't the knowledge he acquired but what he did with it. As he learned more about unsolved civil rights crimes—the ones no one talked about, the ones no one looked into—Alvin realized we needed a system in place to investigate those cold cases and uncover the truth.

I met Alvin Sykes in 2016 through Senator Tom Coburn, a great and dear and missed friend today. Dr. Coburn ran into Alvin Sykes and heard this story and built a relationship that wasn't just personal—it was professional—because he wanted to help Alvin fix these wrongs.

Through Alvin's advocacy and guidance, I joined Congressman John Lewis—a civil rights icon who, sadly, also passed away this last year—to introduce the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crimes Reauthorization Act. The legislation was named for 14-year-old Emmett Till, who was brutally murdered in Mississippi in 1955 and whose killers were acquitted.

After we introduced the bill, Alvin did what he had been doing for years: He went to work. He got in the arena. And he did not stop until there was legislation authorizing a Department of Justice unit dedicated to investigating and prosecuting cold cases that remained unsolved from the civil rights era.

To date, the Justice Department has investigated 152 cases under this program. And while many others were dedicated to making this a reality as well, Alvin's expertise, his passion, and his persistence were second to none.

Last year, Alvin reached out to me again, seeking to posthumously recognize Emmett Till and his mother Mamie Till-Mobley for their role in starting the civil rights movement. His advocacy led me to introduce legislation with Senator BOOKER to award Emmett Till and Mamie the Congressional Gold Medal, the Nation's highest civilian honor. I can't think of two individuals more worthy of it than them.

This bill is also a worthy coda for Alvin Sykes' life and his legacy. You see, Alvin was born only a year after Emmett Till's mother. And when he first became involved in that case, he heard Emmett's mother Mamie say she had been fighting to get justice since 1956.

Alvin said he thought to himself: I was born in 1956. That means she has been trying to do one thing my entire life.

Now Alvin is no longer with us, but the pursuit of justice for the Till family continues. My hope is that Congress will soon pass this legislation to recognize and honor their legacy. Today, though, I want to give Alvin the credit and the honor he deserves. His passion, his advocacy, and his high achievements made our Nation a better place.

Personally, I learned from Alvin Sykes. I admire Alvin Sykes. I mourn his passing. I pay tribute to him today and thank God that he created Alvin Sykes.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate 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.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES REPORT

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for the legislative activities report of the Committee on Rules and Administration during the 116th Congress be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

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

REVIEW OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY DURING THE 116TH CONGRESS

FOREWORD

This report reviewing the legislative activity during the 116th Congress of the Committee on Rules and Administration is submitted pursuant to paragraph 8(b) of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate. Paragraph 8 provides that standing committees of the Senate shall review and study, on a continuing basis, the application, administration, and execution of those laws, or parts thereof, the subject matter of which is within their jurisdiction, and submit to the Senate, not later than March 31 of each odd-numbered year, a report detailing the activities of that committee for the preceding Congress. The text of paragraph 8(b) of rule XXVI is as follows:

8.(b) In each odd-numbered year, each such committee shall submit, not later than March 31, to the Senate, a report on the activities of that committee under this paragraph during the Congress ending at noon on January 3 of such year.

AMY KLOBUCHAR, *Chairwoman*.

JURISDICTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

The jurisdiction of the Committee on Rules and Administration is set forth in paragraph 1(n)(1) of rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate. The following are excerpts from that paragraph.

RULE XXV

STANDING COMMITTEES

1. The following standing committees shall be appointed at the commencement of each Congress, and shall continue and have the power to act until their successors are appointed, with leave to report by bill or otherwise on matters within their respective jurisdictions:

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(n)(1) Committee on Rules and Administration, to which committee shall be referred all proposed legislation, messages, petitions, memorials, and other matters relating to the following subjects:

1. Administration of the Senate Office Buildings and the Senate wing of the Capitol, including the assignment of office space.

2. Congressional organization relative to rules and procedures, and Senate rules and regulations, including floor and gallery rules.

3. Corrupt practices.

4. Credentials and qualifications of Members of the Senate, contested elections, and acceptance of incompatible offices.

5. Federal elections generally, including the election of the President, Vice President, and Members of the Congress.

6. Government Publishing Office, and the printing and correction of the Congressional Record, as well as those matters provided for under rule XI.

7. Meeting of the Congress and attendance of Members.

8. Payment of money out of the contingent fund of the Senate or creating a charge upon the same (except that any resolution relating to substantive matter within the jurisdiction of any other standing committee of the Senate shall be first referred to such committee).

9. Presidential succession.

10. Purchase of books and manuscripts and erection of monuments to the memory of individuals.

11. Senate Library and statuary, art, and pictures in the Capitol and Senate Office Buildings.

12. Services to the Senate, including the Senate restaurant.

13. United States Capitol and congressional office buildings, the Library of Congress, the Smithsonian Institution (and the incorporation of similar institutions), and the Botanic Gardens.

(2) Such committee shall also—

(A) make a continuing study of the organization and operation of the Congress of the United States and shall recommend improvements in such organization and operation with a view toward strengthening the Congress, simplifying its operations, improving its relationships with other branches of the United States Government, and enabling it better to meet its responsibilities under the Constitution of the United States; and

(B) identify any court proceeding or action which, in the opinion of the Committee, is of vital interest to the Congress as a constitutionally established institution of the Federal Government and call such proceeding or action to the attention of the Senate.

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RULES OF PROCEDURE

MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

Rule 1. The regular meeting dates of the Committee shall be the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, at 10:00 a.m., in Room 301, Russell Senate Office Building. Additional meetings of the Committee may be called by the Chairman as he may deem necessary or pursuant to the provision of paragraph 3 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Rule 2. Meetings of the committee, including meetings to conduct hearings, shall be open to the public, except that a meeting or series of meetings by the committee on the same subject for a period of no more than 14 calendar days may be closed to the public on a motion made and seconded to go into closed session to discuss only whether the matters enumerated in subparagraphs (a) through (f) would require the meeting to be closed followed immediately by a recorded vote in open session by a majority of the Members of the committee when it is determined that the matters to be discussed or the testimony to be taken at such meeting or meetings:

(a) will disclose matters necessary to be kept secret in the interests of national defense or the confidential conduct of the foreign relations of the United States;

(b) will relate solely to matters of the committee staff personnel or internal staff management or procedure;

(c) will tend to charge an individual with crime or misconduct, to disgrace or injure the professional standing of an individual, or otherwise to expose an individual to public contempt or obloquy, or will represent a clearly unwarranted invasion of the privacy of an individual;

(d) will disclose the identity of any informer or law enforcement agent or will disclose any information relating to the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that is required to be kept secret in the interests of effective law enforcement;

(e) will disclose information relating to the trade secrets or financial or commercial information pertaining specifically to a given person if:

(1) an Act of Congress requires the information to be kept confidential by Government officers and employees; or

(2) the information has been obtained by the Government on a confidential basis, other than through an application by such person for a specific Government financial or other benefit, and is required to be kept secret in order to prevent undue injury to the competitive position of such person; or

(f) may divulge matters required to be kept confidential under the provisions of law or Government regulations. (Paragraph 5(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules.)

Rule 3. Written notices of committee meetings will normally be sent by the committee's staff director to all Members of the committee at least a week in advance. In addition, the committee staff will telephone or e-mail reminders of committee meetings to all Members of the committee or to the appropriate assistants in their offices.

Rule 4. A copy of the committee's intended agenda enumerating separate items of legislative business and committee business will normally be sent to all Members of the committee and released to the public at least 1 day in advance of all meetings. This does not preclude any Member of the committee from discussing appropriate non-agenda topics.

Rule 5. After the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member, speaking order shall be based on order of arrival, alternating between Majority and Minority Members, unless otherwise directed by the Chairman.

Rule 6. Any witness who is to appear before the committee in any hearing shall file with the clerk of the committee at least 3 business days before the date of his or her appearance, a written statement of his or her proposed testimony and an executive summary thereof, in such form as the chairman may direct, unless the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member waive such requirement for good cause.

Rule 7. In general, testimony will be restricted to 5 minutes for each witness. The time may be extended by the Chairman, upon the Chair's own direction or at the request of a Member. Each round of questions by Members will also be limited to 5 minutes.

QUORUMS

Rule 8. Pursuant to paragraph 7(a)(1) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules, a majority

of the Members of the committee shall constitute a quorum for the reporting of legislative measures.

Rule 9. Pursuant to paragraph 7(a)(1) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules, one-third of the Members of the committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, including action on amendments to measures prior to voting to report the measure to the Senate.

Rule 10. Pursuant to paragraph 7(a)(2) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules, 2 Members of the committee shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of taking testimony under oath and 1 Member of the committee shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of taking testimony not under oath; provided, however, that in either instance, once a quorum is established, any one Member can continue to take such testimony.

Rule 11. Under no circumstances may proxies be considered for the establishment of a quorum.

VOTING

Rule 12. Voting in the committee on any issue will normally be by voice vote.

Rule 13. If a third of the Members present so demand a roll call vote instead of a voice vote, a record vote will be taken on any question by roll call.

Rule 14. The results of roll call votes taken in any meeting upon any measure, or any amendment thereto, shall be stated in the committee report on that measure unless previously announced by the committee, and such report or announcement shall include a tabulation of the votes cast in favor of and the votes cast in opposition to each such measure and amendment by each Member of the committee. (Paragraph 7(b) and (c) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules.)

Rule 15. Proxy voting shall be allowed on all measures and matters before the committee. However, the vote of the committee to report a measure or matter shall require the concurrence of a majority of the Members of the committee who are physically present at the time of the vote. Proxies will be allowed in such cases solely for the purpose of recording a Member's position on the question and then only in those instances when the absentee committee Member has been informed of the question and has affirmatively requested that he be recorded. (Paragraph 7(a)(3) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules.)

AMENDMENTS

Rule 16. Provided at least five business days' notice of the agenda is given, and the text of the proposed bill or resolution has been made available at least five business calendar days in advance, it shall not be in order for the Committee to consider any amendment in the first degree proposed to any measure under consideration by the Committee unless such amendment has been delivered to the office of the Committee and by at least 5:00 p.m. the day prior to the scheduled start of the meeting and circulated to each of the offices by at least 6:00 p.m.

Rule 17. In the event the Chairman introduces a substitute amendment or a Chairman's mark, the requirements set forth in Rule 16 shall be considered waived unless such substitute amendment or Chairman's mark has been made available at least five business days in advance of the scheduled meeting.

Rule 18. It shall be in order, without prior notice, for a Member to offer a motion to strike a single section of any bill, resolution, or amendment under consideration.

Rule 19. This section of the rule may be waived by agreement of the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member.

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Rule 20. The Chairman is authorized to sign himself or by delegation all necessary vouchers and routine papers for which the committee's approval is required and to decide on the committee's behalf all routine business.

Rule 21. The Chairman is authorized to engage commercial reporters for the preparation of transcripts of committee meetings and hearings.

Rule 22. The Chairman is authorized to issue, on behalf of the committee, regulations normally promulgated by the committee at the beginning of each session.

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

Rule 23. The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member, acting jointly, are authorized to approve on behalf of the committee any rule or regulation for which the committee's approval is required, provided advance notice of their intention to do so is given to Members of the committee.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

* passed Senate; + obviated

Bills and Resolutions Considered by the Senate

S. 959, a bill to establish in the Smithsonian Institution a comprehensive women's history museum, and for other purposes.

S. 5086, a bill to allow Senators, Senators-elect, committees of the Senate, leadership offices, and other offices of the Senate to share employees, and for other purposes.*

S. Con. Res. 6, a concurrent resolution authorizing the printing of a commemorative document in memory of the late President of the United States, George Herbert Walker Bush.*

S. Con. Res. 7, a concurrent resolution authorizing the printing of the 26th edition of the pocket version of the Constitution of the United States.*

S. Con. Res. 14, a concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha I.*

S. Con. Res. 27, a concurrent resolution providing for the use of the catafalque situated in the Exhibition Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center in connection with memorial services to be conducted in the House wing of the Capitol for the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, late a Representative from the State of Maryland.*

S. Con. Res. 38, a concurrent resolution to establish the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies for the inauguration of the President-elect and Vice President-elect of the United States on January 20, 2021.*

S. Con. Res. 45, a concurrent resolution providing for the use of the catafalque situated in the crypt beneath the Rotunda of the Capitol in connection with memorial services to be conducted in the Supreme Court Building and the Capitol for the late honorable Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court.*

S.J. Res. 65, a joint resolution providing for the reappointment of John Fahey as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution. Public Law No: 116–118.

S.J. Res. 66, a joint resolution providing for the appointment of Denise O'Leary as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution. Public Law No: 116–138.

S.J. Res. 67, a joint resolution providing for the reappointment of Risa Lavizzo-Mourey as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution. Public Law No: 116–119.

S.J. Res. 72, a joint resolution providing for the reappointment of Michael M. Lynton as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.*

S.J. Res. 73, a joint resolution providing for the appointment of Franklin D. Raines as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

S. Res. 50, a resolution improving procedures for the consideration of nominations in the Senate.+

S. Res. 86, a resolution providing for members on the part of the Senate of the Joint Committee on Printing and the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library.*

S. Res. 87, a resolution authorizing the printing of a collection of the rules of the committees of the Senate.*

S. Res. 200, a resolution authorizing the taking of a photograph in the Senate Chamber.*

S. Res. 428, a resolution authorizing the taking of pictures and filming in the Chamber of the Senate for use by the Capitol Visitor Center.*

S. Res. 446, a resolution authorizing the printing of tributes and other related materials in honor of the late Senator Janet Kay Hagan.*

S. Res. 619, a resolution to provide for the printing of the Senate Manual for the One Hundred Sixteenth Congress.*

S. Res. 801, a resolution authorizing the use of the atrium in the Philip A. Hart Senate Office Building for a piano performance by Senator Lamar Alexander.*

S. Res. 803, a resolution designating Room S–124 of the United States Capitol as the ''U.S. Senator Margaret Chase Smith Room'' and designating Room S–115 of the United States Capitol as the ''U.S. Senator Barbara A. Mikulski Room'', in recognition of their service to the Senate and the people of the United States.*

H.R. 1623, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for the treatment of payments for child care and other personal use services as an authorized campaign expenditure, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1980, to establish in the Smithsonian Institution a comprehensive women's history museum, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2420, to establish within the Smithsonian Institution the National Museum of the American Latino, and for other purposes.*

H.R. 2722, an Act to protect elections for public office by providing financial support and enhanced security for the infrastructure used to carry out such elections, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4617, to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to clarify the obligation to report acts of foreign election influence and require implementation of compliance and reporting systems by Federal campaigns to detect and report such acts, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4990, to direct the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the National Science Foundation to carry out research and other activities to promote the security and modernization of voting systems, and for other purposes.

H. Con. Res. 10, authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol to honor the last surviving Medal of Honor recipient of the Second World War upon death.

H. Con. Res. 16, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition.*

H. Con. Res. 19, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby.*

H. Con. Res. 31, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust.

H. Con. Res. 44, directing the Joint Committee on the Library to revise the statue commemorating women's suffrage which is located in the rotunda of the United States Capitol, commonly known as the ''Portrait Monument'', by placing on the statue an inscription which is based on the original inscription which was on the statue when the statue was delivered to the United States Capitol in 1921, and for other purposes.

H. Con. Res. 53, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall for an event to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the first African slaves to the territory that would become the United States.*

H. Con. Res. 57, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall for an event to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the first African slaves to the territory that would become the United States.*

H. Con. Res. 87, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust.*

H. Con. Res. 90, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition.

H. Con. Res. 91, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony to present the Congressional Gold Medal collectively to the Chinese-American veterans of World War II.*

H. Con. Res. 92, authorizing the printing of a revised and up-dated version of the House document entitled ''Women in Congress, 1917–2006''.*

H. Con. Res. 94, authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to present the statue of Mary McLeod Bethune from the people of Florida for placement in National Statuary Hall.

H. Con. Res. 96, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby.

H. Con. Res. 105, permitting the remains of the Honorable John Lewis, late a Representative from the State of Georgia, to lie in state in the rotunda of the Capitol.*

H. Con. Res. 106, directing the Architect of the Capitol to transfer the catafalque situated in the Exhibition Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center to the rotunda of the Capitol for use in connection with services conducted for the Honorable John Lewis, late a Representative from the State of Georgia.*

Original Resolutions from the Committee

S. Res. 70, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by committees of the Senate for the periods March 1, 2019 through September 30, 2019, October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020, and October 1, 2020 through February 28, 2021.*

Resolutions Related to Committee Funding

S. Res. 40, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Finance.+

S. Res. 41, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Environment and Public Works.+

S. Res. 42, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Armed Services.+

S. Res. 45, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.+

S. Res. 46, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Environment and Public Works.+

S. Res. 47, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.+

S. Res. 48, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.+

S. Res. 49, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.+

S. Res. 51, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Select Committee on Intelligence.+

S. Res. 52, a resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Indian Affairs.+

S. Res. 54, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.+

S. Res. 55, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.+

S. Res. 56, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Foreign Relations.+

S. Res. 57, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on the Judiciary.+

S. Res. 58, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Special Committee on Aging.+

S. Res. 60, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on the Budget.+

S. Res. 62, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.+

S. Res. 64, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.+

Bills and Resolutions Referred to Committee

S. 20, Presidential Tax Transparency Act

S. 26, Vote By Mail Act of 2019

S. 507, Save Voters Act

S. 547, CLEAR Act

S. 549, Voter Empowerment Act

S. 550, Register America to Vote Act

S. 621, PROVE Act

S. 624, Same Day Registration Act

S. 625, Students VOTE Act

S. 728, a bill to direct the Joint Committee on the Library to obtain a statue of Shirley Chisholm for placement in the United States Capitol.

S. 823, a bill to require information sharing with respect to the ownership of election service providers.

S. 825, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require all states to take steps to ensure domestic ownership and control of election service providers, and for other purposes.

S. 890, Senate Cybersecurity Protection Act.

S. 942, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require all political committees to notify the Federal Election Commission within 48 hours of receiving cumulative contributions of $1,000 or more from any contributor during a calendar year, and for other purposes.

S. 955, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to reduce waiting times for voters in Federal elections.

S. 956, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require the disclosure of all donations.

S. 957, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to establish minimum requirements for early voting.

S. 958, a bill to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to save eligible voters from voter purging, and for other purposes.+

S. 1147, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for additional disclosure requirements for corporations, labor organizations, Super PACs and other entities, and for other purposes.

S. 1247, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require reporting to the Federal Election Commission and the Federal Bureau of Investigation of offers by foreign nationals to make prohibited contributions, donations, expenditures, or disbursements, and for other purposes.

S. 1267, a bill to establish within the Smithsonian Institution the National Museum of the American Latino, and for other purposes.

S. 1274, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act to provide for public financing for Federal elections through vouchers directed by eligible voters to the candidates of their choice.

S. 1319, a bill to establish an Election Security grant program.

S. 1356, a bill to enhance transparency and accountability for online political advertisements by requiring those who purchase and publish such ads to disclose information about the advertisements to the public, and for other purposes.

S. 1397, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to provide for a national Federal write-in absentee ballot for domestic use.

S. 1454, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to add a representative of the Department of Homeland Security from the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency on the Technical Guidelines Development Committee.

S. 1472, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require paper ballots and risk limiting audits in all Federal elections, and for other purposes.

S. 1540, a bill to protect elections for public office by providing financial support and enhanced security for the infrastructure used to carry out such elections, and for other purposes.

S. 1562, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to clarify the obligation to report acts of foreign election influence and require implementation of compliance and reporting systems by Federal campaigns to detect and report such acts.

S. 1566, a bill to require information and opportunities for registration for voting and absentee ballot requests for members of the Armed Forces who are undergoing deployment overseas, and for other purposes.

S. 1569, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to allow certain expenditures for cybersecurity-related services or assistance.

S. 1692, a bill to provide grants to support continuing education in election administration or cybersecurity for election officials and employees.

S. 1962, a bill to prevent foreign adversaries from influencing elections by prohibiting foreign nationals from purchasing at any time a broadcast, cable, or satellite communication that mentions a clearly identified candidate for Federal office, and for other purposes.

S. 2053, a bill to protect elections for public office by providing financial support and enhanced security for the infrastructure used to carry out such elections, and for other purposes.

S. 2232, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to reduce the number of members of the Federal Election Commission from 6 to 5, to revise the method of selection and terms of service of members of the Commission, to distribute the powers of the Commission between the Chair and the remaining members, and for other purposes.

S. 2238, a bill to protect elections for public office by providing financial support and enhanced security for the infrastructure used to carry out such elections, and for other purposes.

S. 2242, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to clarify the obligation to report acts of foreign election influence and require implementation of compliance and reporting systems by Presidential campaigns to detect and report such acts.

S. 2398, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to ensure privacy with respect to voter information.

S. 2509, a bill to rename the Office of Technology Assessment as the Congressional Office of Technology, to revise the functions and duties of the Office, and for other purposes.

S. 2639, a bill to restore integrity to America's Election.

S. 2656, a bill to disclose access to election infrastructure by foreign nationals.

S. 2669, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to clarify the obligation to report acts of foreign election influence and require implementation of compliance and reporting systems by Federal campaigns to detect and report such acts, and for other purposes.

S. 2726, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for the treatment of payments for child care and other personal use services as an authorized campaign expenditure, and for other purposes.

S. 2851, a bill to amend section 442 of title 18, United States Code, to exempt certain interests in mutual funds, unit investment trusts, employee benefit plans, and retirement plans from conflict of interest limitations for the Government Publishing Office.

S. 3206, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to increase voting accessibility for individuals with disabilities and older individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 3268, Determining Election Blunders and Correcting Logical Errors Act.

S. 3340, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to support state and local governments making a transition to ranked choice voting.

S. 3423, a bill to direct the Joint Committee on the Library, in accordance with section 1831 of the Revised Statutes, to accept a statue depicting Harriet Tubman from the Harriet Tubman Statue Commission of Maryland and display the statue in a prominent location in the Capitol.

S. 3440, Resilient Elections During Quarantines and Natural Disasters Act of 2020.

S. 3529, Natural Disaster and Emergency Ballot Act of 2020.

S. 3725, a bill to expand vote by mail and early voting, and to improve the safety, accessibility, and efficiency of in-person voting during elections for Federal office.

S. 3778, a bill to permit the Election Assistance Commission to waive the matching requirement for payments made to states for election security grants under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act.

S. 3822, a bill to establish DemocracyCorps to assist state and local governments administer elections and to promote democracy, to establish special procedures and authorize funding for Federal election in 2020 in response to COVID—19, to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to establish additional permanent requirements for Federal elections, and for other purposes.

S. 3845, a bill to end the practice of including more than one subject in a single bill by requiring that each bill enacted by Congress be limited to only one subject, and for other purposes.

S. 3863, a bill to direct the Architect of the Capitol to replace the bust of Roger Brooke Taney in the Old Supreme Court Chamber of the United States Capitol with a bust of Thurgood Marshall to be obtained by the Joint Committee on the Library, and for other purposes.

S. 3879, a bill to preserve the constitutional authority of Congress and ensure accountability and transparency in legislation.

S. 3950, a bill to establish a panel of constitutional experts to recommend to Congress an appropriate process for providing for the case of the death of a candidate in a contingent presidential or vice-presidential selection.

S. 3957, a bill to remove all statues of individuals who voluntarily served the Confederate States of America from display in the Capitol of the United States.

S. 3961, a bill to require states and local jurisdictions to allow absentee voting in the November 2020 general election for Federal office for individuals impacted by coronavirus disease 2019, and for other purposes.

S. 4033, a bill to require states to establish contingency plans for the conduct of elections for Federal office in response to national disasters and emergencies, and for other purposes.

S. 4132, a bill to establish the Commission on the COVID—19 Pandemic in the United States.

S. 4146, a bill to require the Federal Election Commission to conduct a study on the classification of political campaign emails as spam.

S. 4193, a bill to develop and nationally disseminate accurate, relevant, and accessible resources to promote understanding about African-American history.

S. 4382, a bill to direct the Joint Committee on the Library to replace the bust of Roger Brooke Taney in the Old Supreme Court Chamber of the Capitol with a bust of Thurgood Marshall to be obtained by the Joint Committee on the Library and to remove certain statues from areas of the Capitol which are accessible to the public, to remove all statues of individuals who voluntarily served the Confederate States of America from display in the Capitol, and for other purposes.

S. 4517, a bill to provide states additional time relating to the appointment of electors and for the meeting of electors for the 2020 election for President and Vice President.

S. 4540, Poll Worker Recruitment Act of 2020.

S. 4652, a bill to require the United States Postal Service to treat election mail as first-class mail and deliver such mail at no cost to the sender, and for other purposes.

S. 4668, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to ensure that voters in elections for Federal office do not wait in long lines in order to vote.

S. 4707, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to provide Federal standards for mail-in ballots and reporting of election results with respect to elections for Federal office.

S. 4710, a bill to obtain and direct the placement in the Capitol or on the Capitol Grounds of a monument to honor Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

S. 4721, a bill to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to increase the criminal penalties under such Act.

S. 4893, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to provide for the establishment of election integrity measures by states and to prohibit ballot harvesting in Federal elections.

S. 4895, a bill to establish a Bipartisan Advisory Committee to analyze the integrity and the administration of the 2020 general election for Federal office.

S. 4925, a bill to provide for additional space and resources for the protection and preservation of national collections held by the Smithsonian Institution and the National Gallery of Art.

S. 5028, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require each authorized committee or leadership PAC of a former candidate for election for Federal office to disburse all of the remaining funds of the committee or PAC after the election, and for other purposes.

S. Con. Res. 8, a concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha I.

S. Con. Res. 17, a concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for the lying in state of the remains of the last Medal of Honor recipient of World War II, in order to honor the Greatest Generation and the more than 16,000,000 men and women who served in the Armed Forces of the United States from 1941 to 1945.

S. Con. Res. 49, a concurrent resolution mandating procedures to ensure adequate precautions against COVID—19 in Senate buildings.

S. Res. 18, a resolution authorizing the Senate Legal Counsel to represent the Senate in Texas v. United States No. 4:18—cv—00167— O (N.D. Tex.).

S. Res. 80, a resolution establishing the John S. McCain III Human Rights Commission.

S. Res. 97, a resolution establishing the Select Committee on the Climate Crisis.

S. Res. 98, SFC Sean Cooley and SPC Christopher Horton Congressional Gold Star Family Fellowship Program Resolution.

S. Res. 207, a resolution congratulating the Senate GLASS Caucus staff association for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Senate staff on the 15-year anniversary of the association.

S. Res. 378, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the House of Representatives should, consistent with longstanding practice and precedent, prior to proceeding any further with its impeachment investigation into President Donald J. Trump, vote to open a formal impeachment inquiry and provide President Trump with fundamental constitutional protections.

S. Res. 410, a resolution establishing a McCain-Mansfield Fellowship Program in the Senate.

S. Res. 463, a resolution amending the Rules of Procedure and Practice in the Senate When Sitting on Impeachment Trials.

S. Res. 467, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the House of Representatives should, consistent with its constitutional obligations, immediately transmit the 2 articles of impeachment against President Donald J. Trump passed by the House of Representatives on December 18, 2019, under House Resolution 755.

S. Res. 501, a resolution amending the Rules of Procedure and Practice in the Senate When Sitting on Impeachment Trials to ensure adequate access to witnesses and documents in impeachment trials of a President or Vice President, and for other purposes.

S. Res. 538, a resolution authorizing the use of the atrium in the Philip A. Hart Senate Office Building for the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, a semiannual event for the Drug Enforcement Administration.

S. Res. 548, a resolution amending the Standing Rules of the Senate to enable the participation of absent Senators during a national crisis.

S. Res. 551, a resolution providing that the salaries of Senators shall be held in escrow until the Senate has passed legislation that appropriately addresses the COVID—19 outbreak.

S. Res. 604, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Senate should not vote on the nomination of Michael Pack to be Chief Executive Officer of the United States Agency for Global Media unless and until Michael Pack corrects his false statements to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Internal Revenue Service.

S. Res. 605, a resolution providing for sufficient time for legislation to be read.

S. Res. 725, a resolution establishing the Senate Human Rights Commission.

S. Res. 158, a resolution authorizing the use of the atrium in the Philip A. Hart Senate Office Building for the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, a semiannual event of the Drug Enforcement Administration.

COMMITTEE HEARINGS AND BUSINESS MEETINGS

December 3, 2020—Business Meeting: Members of the Federal Election Commission, S. 959, and H.R. 2420

November 18, 2020—Nomination Hearing: Nomination Hearing for Members of the Federal Election Commission

November 17, 2020—Committee Hearing: To Review S. 959, Smithsonian American Women's History Museum Act; and S. 1267, National Museum of the American Latino Act

July 22, 2020—Committee Hearing: 2020 General Election Preparations

June 30, 2020—Organizational Meeting: Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies

May 7, 2020—Business Meeting: Nomination of James E. Trainor

March 10, 2020—Nomination Hearing: Nomination Hearing for a Member of the Federal Election Commission

December 16, 2019—Business Meeting: Nomination of James Brett Blanton

December 12, 2019—Nomination Hearing: Nomination Hearing for the Architect of the Capitol

November 18, 2019—Business Meeting: Nomination of Hugh Nathanial Halpern, of Virginia, to be Director of the Government Publishing Office

November 14, 2019—Nomination Hearing: Nomination Hearing for Director of the Government Publishing Office

November 14, 2019—Committee Hearing: Annual Oversight Hearing of the Smithsonian Institution

November 7, 2019—Committee Hearing: Library of Congress Modernization Oversight

July 24, 2019—Committee Hearing: Oversight of the Government Publishing Office—Office of the Inspector General

May 15, 2019—Committee Hearing: Oversight of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission

April 30, 2019—Organizational Meeting: Joint Committee on the Library

March 27, 2019—Committee Hearing: Annual Oversight of the Smithsonian Institution

March 6, 2019—Committee Hearing: Annual Oversight of the Library of Congress

February 13, 2019—Business Meeting: Improving Procedures for the Consideration of Nominations in the Senate

NOMINATIONS

PN2303 Sean J. Cooksey, of Missouri, to be a Member of the Federal Election Commission for a term expiring April 30, 2021, vice Lee E. Goodman, term expired.

Latest Action: December 9, 2020—Confirmed by the Senate by Yea–Nay Vote. 50–46. Record Vote Number: 260.

PN2302 Shana M. Broussard, of Louisiana, to be a Member of the Federal Election Commission for a term expiring April 30, 2023, vice Ann Miller Ravel, term expired.

Latest Action: December 9, 2020—Confirmed by the Senate by Yea—Nay Vote. 92–4. Record Vote Number: 259.

PN2237 Allen Dickerson, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Election Commission for a term expiring April 30, 2025, vice Caroline C. Hunter, resigned.

Latest Action: December 9, 2020—Confirmed by the Senate by Yea–Nay Vote. 49–47. Record Vote Number: 258.

PN1600 James E. Trainor III, of Texas, to be a Member of the Federal Election Commission for a term expiring April 30, 2023, vice Matthew S. Petersen, term expired.

Latest Action: May 19, 2020—Confirmed by the Senate by Yea–Nay Vote. 49–43. Record Vote Number: 96.

PN1324 J. Brett Blanton, of Virginia, to be Architect of the Capitol for the term of ten years, vice Stephen T. Ayers.

Latest Action: December 19, 2019—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.

PN1245 Hugh Nathanial Halpern, of Virginia, to be Director of the Government Publishing Office, vice Davita Vance-Cooks.

Latest Action: December 4, 2019—Confirmed by the Senate by Voice Vote.

PN198 Robert C. Tapella, of Virginia, to be Director of the Government Publishing Office, vice Davita Vance-Cooks.

Latest Action: June 24, 2019—Received message of withdrawal of nomination from the President.

PN197 James E. Trainor III, of Texas, to be a member of the Federal Election Commission for a term expiring April 30, 2023, vice Matthew S. Petersen, term expired.

Latest Action: January 3, 2020—Returned to the President under the provisions of Senate Rule XXXI, paragraph 6 of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

COMMITTEE PUBLICATIONS

S. Prt. 116–8—Congressional Pictorial Directory

S. Rept. 116–68—Review of Legislative Activity during the 115th Congress

S. Pub. 116–4—The Congressional Directory

S. Doc. 116–1—United States Senate Manual

S. Doc. 116–6—Authority and Rules of Senate Committees, 2019–2020

S. Doc. 116–21—Tributes Delivered in Congress: Lamar Alexander, United States Senator—2003–2021

S. Doc. 116–22—Tributes Delivered in Congress: Michael B. Enzi, United States Senator—1997–2021

S. Doc. 116–23—Tributes Delivered in Congress: Cory Gardner, United States Senator—2015–2021

S. Doc. 116–24—Tributes Delivered in Congress: Johnny Isakson, United States Senator—2004–2019

S. Doc. 116–25—Tributes Delivered in Congress: Doug Jones, United States Senator—2018–2021

S. Doc. 116–26—Tributes Delivered in Congress: Martha McSally, United States Senator—2019–2020

S. Doc. 116–27—Tributes Delivered in Congress: Pat Roberts, United States Senator—1997–2021

S. Doc. 116–28—Tributes Delivered in Congress: Tom Udall, United States Senator—2009–2021

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

POM158 Senate Rules and Administration (November 18, 2019)

A bill adopted by the Legislature of the State of Florida requesting the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress to approve the replacement of the statute of Confederate General Edmund Kirby

Smith in the National Statuary Hall Collection with a statue of Mary McLeod Bethune; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

POM159 Senate Rules and Administration (November 18, 2019)

A petition from a citizen of the State of Texas relative to impeachment protocols; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC71 Senate Rules and Administration (January 10, 2019)

A communication from the Chair of the Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to eleven (11) legislative recommendations; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC162 Senate Rules and Administration (January 24, 2019)

A communication from the Executive Director, Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, transmitting, pursuant to Section 201(b) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 Reform Act, a report relative to amounts previously paid with public funds in connection with violations of sections 201(a) or 207 of the Congressional Accountability Act, received in the office of the President pro tempore of the Senate; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC323 Senate Rules and Administration (February 13, 2019)

A communication from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Commission's competitive sourcing efforts during fiscal year 2018; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC344 Senate Rules and Administration (February 25, 2019)

A communication from the Executive Director, Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, transmitting, pursuant to Section 201(b) of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 Reform Act, a biennial report entitled ''Recommendations for Improvements to the Congressional Accountability Act'' received in the office of the President pro tempore of the Senate; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC529 Senate Aging and other committees . . . (March 7, 2019)

A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''OMB Final Sequestration Report to the President and Congress for Fiscal Year 2019''; to the Special Committee on Aging; Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Appropriations; Armed Services; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; the Budget; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Energy and Natural Resources; Environment and Public Works; Select Committee on Ethics; Finance; Foreign Relations; Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; Indian Affairs; Select Committee on Intelligence; the Judiciary; Rules and Administration; Small Business and Entrepreneurship; and Veterans' Affairs.

EC703 Senate Aging and other committees . . . (March 27, 2019)

A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''OMB Sequestration Preview Report to the President and Congress for Fiscal Year 2020''; to the Special Committee on Aging; Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Appropriations; Armed Services; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; the Budget; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Energy and Natural Resources; Environment and Public Works; Select Committee on Ethics; Finance; Foreign Relations; Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; Indian Affairs; Select Committee on Intelligence; the Judiciary; Rules and Administration; Small Business and Entrepreneurship; and Veterans' Affairs.

EC704 Senate Aging and other committees . . . (March 27, 2019)

A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''OMB Report to the Congress on the Joint Committee

Reductions for Fiscal Year 2020''; to the Special Committee on Aging; Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Appropriations; Armed Services; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; the Budget; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Energy and Natural Resources; Environment and Public Works; Select Committee on Ethics; Finance; Foreign Relations; Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; Indian Affairs; Select Committee on Intelligence; the Judiciary; Rules and Administration; Small Business and Entrepreneurship; and Veterans' Affairs.

EC778 Senate Rules and Administration (March 27, 2019)

A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report from the Attorney General to Congress relative to the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC2598 Senate Rules and Administration (September 17, 2019)

A communication from the Chair, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to its budget request for fiscal year 2021; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC3278 Senate Rules and Administration (November 20, 2019)

A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)'' (RIN0790–AI27) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 13, 2019; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC3870 Senate Rules and Administration (February 3, 2020)

A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Report on Fiscal Year 2019 Competitive Sourcing Efforts as required by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of Fiscal Year 2004; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC3871 Senate Appropriations and other committees . . . (February 3, 2020)

A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report from the Attorney General to Congress relative to the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act; to the Committees on Rules and Administration; Armed Services; and Appropriations.

EC3922 Senate Aging (Special) and other committees . . . (February 5, 2020)

A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''OMB Final Sequestration Report to the President and Congress for Fiscal Year 2020''; to the Special Committee on Aging; Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Appropriations; Armed Services; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; the Budget; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Energy and Natural Resources; Environment and Public Works; Select Committee on Ethics; Finance; Foreign Relations; Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; Indian Affairs; Select Committee on Intelligence; the Judiciary; Rules and Administration; Small Business and Entrepreneurship; and Veterans' Affairs.

EC4002 Senate Aging (Special) and other committees . . . (February 24, 2020)

A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''OMB Sequestration Preview Report to the President and Congress for Fiscal Year 2021''; to the Special Committee on Aging; Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Appropriations; Armed Services; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; the Budget; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Energy and Natural Resources; Environment and Public Works; Select Committee on Ethics; Finance; Foreign Relations; Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; Indian Affairs; Select Committee on Intelligence; the Judiciary; Rules and Administration; Small Business and Entrepreneurship; and Veterans' Affairs.

EC4003 Joint Committee on Taxation and other committees . . . (February 24, 2020)

A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''OMB Report to the Congress on the Joint Committee Reductions for Fiscal Year 2021''; to the Special Committee on Aging; Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Appropriations; Armed Services; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; the Budget; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Energy and Natural Resources; Environment and Public Works; Select Committee on Ethics; Finance; Foreign Relations; Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; Indian Affairs; Select Committee on Intelligence; Joint Committee on Taxation; the Judiciary; Rules and Administration; Small Business and Entrepreneurship; and Veterans' Affairs.

EC4233 Senate Rules and Administration (March 9, 2020)

A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)'' (RIN0790–AK90) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2020; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC4234 Senate Rules and Administration (March 9, 2020)

A communication from the Chairman, Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the memorial construction; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

VAISAKHI AND THE 400TH BIRTHDAY OF GURU TEG BAHADUR

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. President, I rise today to join my Sikh friends, Pennsylvania's Sikh community, and Sikhs around the world in recognizing two important Sikh celebrations taking place this week: (the holiday of Vaisakhi and the 400th anniversary of the birth of Guru Teg Bahadur.

Sikhism traces its origins to the Punjab region of India and has flourished around the world for nearly 600 years. The Sikh tradition is built upon ideals of peace, respect, and equality. Further, Sikhs are dedicated to the principle that every person is created equal before God, no matter their race, gender, religion, or creed. Today, Sikhs number 30 million globally, making Sikhism one of the world's major religions. Nearly 700,000 Sikhs live in the United States, and many of them have made Pennsylvania their home.

Sikhs share a strong sense of community, family, and selfless service, as evidenced by their commitment to welcoming and serving individuals from all religious, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds. During the COVID–19 pandemic, Sikh communities across the country, including in Pennsylvania, mobilized to deliver meals, groceries, masks, and other supplies to tens of thousands of families in need. In my own travels across the Commonwealth, I have witnessed firsthand the spirit of this community when meeting with Sikh constituents. It is clear they have enriched their neighborhoods and contributed in numerous ways to the growth and vitality of Pennsylvania and the United States.

As a proud member of the American Sikh Congressional Caucus, each year, I join many voices across Congress and the United States in commemorating the holiday of Vaisakhi, which took place on April 13 this year. Vaisakhi marks the spring harvest and serves as a day of reflection of Sikhism's origins. During Vaisakhi, Sikhs commemorate the founding in 1699 of the Khalsa Panth, an order of devout Sikhs who played a fundamental role in cultivating the religion's history and identity.

Traditionally, Sikhs recognize Vaisakhi with parades, dancing, singing, and other festivities. Sikhs also commemorate this special day with community service, both organizing and volunteering in various community projects. In years past, Sikhs from around the country have organized a parade here in Washington, DC to commemorate Vaisakhi as National Sikh Day. While the pandemic has prevented such largescale, public celebrations both last year and this year, I look forward to welcoming Pennsylvania's Sikh community back to D.C. in the years to come.

In addition to celebrating Vaisakhi, Sikhs will also mark the 400th anniversary of the birth of spiritual leader Guru Teg Bahadur on April 18. The Ninth Guru of Sikhism, Guru Teg Bahadur is remembered as a champion of religious liberty for all. In 1675, Guru Teg Bahadur confronted Moghul Emperor Aurangzeb against the forced religious conversation of Hindus, an act for which he was publicly beheaded in Delhi. In giving his life to protect a religion that was not his own, he is fondly remembered by Sikhs as Dhram Di Chadar, or Shield of the Religions.

I extend my best wishes to the Sikh community for the joyous celebrations of Vaisakhi and the 400th anniversary of the birth of Guru Teg Bahadur.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:32 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to

the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1868) to prevent across-the-board direct spending cuts, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 1868. An act to prevent across-the-board direct spending cuts, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC–663. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''2,2-Dimethyl-1,3-dioxolane-4-methanol; Exemption From the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 10015–73–OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 8, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–664. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Spinosad; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 10020–23–OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 8, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–665. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Penthiopyrad; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 10017–27–OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 8, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–666. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''2,2-Dimethyl-1, 3-dioxolane-4-methanol; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 10015–73–OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 8, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–667. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Pyriofenone; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 10019–55–OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 1, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–668. A communication from the Army Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of the Army, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Admission to the United States Military Academy'' (RIN0702–AB09) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 8, 2021; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–669. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Somalia that was declared in Executive Order 13536 of April 12, 2010; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–670. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the issuance of an Executive Order that terminates the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13928 of June 11, 2020, and revokes that Executive Order; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–671. A communication from the Executive Director, Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of the Comptroller's 2020 Office of Minority and Women Inclusion Annual Report to Congress; to the Committee on Banking, Housing , and Urban Affairs.

EC–672. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Statement of Policy Regarding Prohibition on Abusive Acts or Practices; Rescission'' (12 CFR Chapter X) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 25, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–673. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Air Plan Approval; Texas; Interstate Visibility Transport'' (FRL No. 10021–20–Region 6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 1, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–674. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; South Dakota; Control of Emissions from Existing Municipal Solid Waste Landfills'' (FRL No. 10020–22–Region 8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 1, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–675. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Extension of Compliance and Attest Engagement Reporting Deadlines for 2019 and 2020 Renewable Fuel Standards'' (FRL No. 10021–95–OAR) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 1, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–676. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Partial Approval and Partial Disapproval of Air Quality State Implementation Plans; California; Infrastructure Requirements for Ozone'' (FRL No. 10015–36–Region 9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 1, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–677. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Air Plan Approval; Maine; Infrastructure State Implementation Plan Requirements for the 2015 Ozone Standard and Negative Declaration for the Oil and Gas Industry for the 2008 and 2015 Ozone Standards'' (FRL No. 10021–93–Region 1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 1, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–678. A communication from the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Fiscal Year 2020 Superfund Five-Year Review Report to Congress''; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–679. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.240, 'Fresh and Spent Fuel Pool Criticality Analyses' '' received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 25, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–680. A communication from the Acting Director of the Human Resources Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, eighteen (18) reports relative to vacancies in the Environmental Protection Agency, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 25, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–681. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''2019 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report''; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–682. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Computation of Annual Liability Insurance (Including Self-Insurance), No-Fault Insurance, and Worker's Compensation Settlement Recovery Threshold''; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–683. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Medicare Coverage of Innovative Program; Medicare Coverage of Innovative Technology (MCIT) and Definition of 'Reasonable and Necessary'; Delay of Effective Date and Reopening of Comment Period (CMS–3372–IFC)'' (RIN0938–AT88) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 25, 2021; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–684. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''2021 Calendar Year Resident Population Figures'' (Notice 2021–19) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 25, 2021; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–685. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2021–0044—2021–0051); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–686. A communication from the Secretary of the Army, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Annual Report to Congress on the Activities of the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC) for fiscal year 2020''; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–687. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of

the national emergency with respect to significant malicious cyber-enabled activities that was declared in Executive Order 13694 on April 1, 2015; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–688. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2021–0052 - 2021–0055); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–689. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the submission of the 2021 Report on Implementation of the New START Treaty, and the 2021 Certification and Report on Technical Collection for the New START Treaty (OSS–2021–0177); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–690. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Securing Updated and Necessary Statutory Evaluations Timely; Administrative Delay of Effective Date; Correction'' (RIN0991–AC24) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 1, 2021; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–691. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fraud and Abuse; Removal of Safe Harbor Protection for Rebates Involving Prescription Pharmaceuticals and Creation of New Safe Harbor Protection for Certain Point-of-Sale Reductions in Price on Prescription Pharmaceuticals and Certain Pharmacy Benefit Manager Service Fees; Additional Delated Effective Date'' (RIN0936–AA08) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 1, 2021; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–692. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Fiscal Year 2019 Performance Report to Congress for the Office of Combination Products''; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–693. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Medicare National Coverage Determinations for Fiscal Year 2019''; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–694. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Implementation of Executive Order on Access to Affordable Life-Saving Medications'' (RIN0906–AB25) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 1, 2021; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–695. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24–38, ''Workplace Safety During the COVID–19 Pandemic Temporary Amendment Act of 2021''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–696. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24–39, ''Homeland Security Fusion Center and Law Enforcement Authority Temporary Amendment Act of 2021''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–697. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24–38, ''Adams Morgan Business Improvement District Temporary Amendment Act of 2021''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–698. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24–38, ''Fair Meals Delivery Temporary Act of 2021''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–699. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 24–38, ''TOPA COVID–19 Tolling Exemption for Low Income Housing Tax Credit Transfers Temporary Amendment Act of 2021''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–700. A communication from the Managing Director of Congressional Affairs, U.S. International Development Finance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's fiscal year 2020 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–701. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Financial Report of the United States Government for Fiscal Year 2020''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–702. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, two (2) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Homeland Security, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 1, 2021; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–703. A communication from the Director, Office of Civil Rights, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency's fiscal year 2020 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–704. A communication from the Report to the Nation Delegation Director, Boy Scouts of America, transmitting, pursuant to law, the organization's 2020 annual report; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–705. A communication from the Chief of the Regulatory Coordination Division, Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Security Bars and Processing; Delay of Effective Date'' (RIN1615–AC57) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 25, 2021; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–706. A communication from the Chief of the Regulatory Coordination Division, Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Asylum Interview Interpreter Requirement Modification Due to COVID–19; Extension'' (RIN1615–AC59) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 25, 2021; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. SCHATZ, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

S. 108. A bill to authorize the Seminole Tribe of Florida to lease or transfer certain land, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117–10).

S. 314. A bill to repeal the Klamath Tribe Judgment Fund Act (Rept. No. 117–11).

S. 325. A bill to amend the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children Act to extend the deadline for a report by the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117–12).

S. 548. A bill to convey land in Anchorage, Alaska, to the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117–13).

S. 549. A bill to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Tanana Tribal Council located in Tanana, Alaska, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117–14).

S. 550. A bill to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium located in Sitka, Alaska, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117–15).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 208. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 West Main Street, Suite 102 in Tupelo, Mississippi, as the ''Colonel Carlyle 'Smitty' Harris Post Office'' .

H.R. 264. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1101 Charlotte Street in Georgetown, South Carolina, as the ''Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office Building'' .

S. 566. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 42 Main Street in Slatersville, Rhode Island, as the ''Specialist Matthew R. Turcotte Post Office'' .

By Mr. CARPER, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 914. A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize programs under those Acts, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. PETERS for the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

*Jason Scott Miller, of Maryland, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget.

*Deanne Bennett Criswell, of New York, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

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

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first

and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. REED, Ms. WARREN, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. KING, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. CARPER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. COONS, Ms. SMITH, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. CASEY, Mr. KAINE, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 1108. A bill to regulate large capacity ammunition feeding devices; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 1109. A bill to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, in consultation with the National Director of the Minority Business Development Agency, to establish a grant program to create or expand programs at minority-serving institutions and historically Black colleges and universities that promote minority business ownership and entrepreneurship, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. ROMNEY (for himself and Mr. BENNET):

S. 1110. A bill to amend the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 with respect to preagreement costs of emergency watershed protection measures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. RUBIO, and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 1111. A bill to subject professional baseball clubs to the antitrust laws; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MORAN:

S. 1112. A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Chisholm National Historic Trail and the Western National Historic Trail, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself and Mr. KELLY):

S. 1113. A bill to require Federal agencies to timely respond to right-of-way requests for the build out of broadband service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 1114. A bill to increase vaccination rates among pregnant women enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. WARREN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 1115. A bill to prohibit drilling in the outer Continental Shelf, to prohibit coal leases on Federal land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KING, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 1116. A bill to amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to create a presumption that a disability or death of a Federal employee in fire protection activities caused by any of certain diseases is the result of the performance of such employees duty, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 1117. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require Medicaid coverage of approved vaccines for pregnant women; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 1118. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to add definitions for the terms ''common carrier'' and ''personal operator'', and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 1119. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to prohibit certain unfair credit practices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MURPHY, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 1120. A bill to establish minimum standards of disclosure by franchises whose franchisees use loans guaranteed by the Small Business Administration; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. ROUNDS, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 1121. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish and maintain a registry for certain individuals who may have been exposed to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances due to the environmental release of aqueous film-forming foam on military installations; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN:

S. 1122. A bill to provide protection for survivors of domestic violence or sexual violence under the Fair Housing Act; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN:

S. 1123. A bill to preserve non-interference under the Medicare part D Prescription Drug Benefit program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 1124. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to add a definition for the term ''common carrier'', and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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

S. 1125. A bill to recommend that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation test the effect of a dementia care management model, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 1126. A bill to amend the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 and the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002 to strengthen research in adult education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 1127. A bill to require the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to make certain operational models available to the public, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 1128. A bill to provide for the continuation of higher education through the conveyance to the University of Alaska of certain public land in the State of Alaska, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 1129. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to give preferential consideration to individuals who have successfully completed air traffic controller training when hiring air traffic control specialists, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. BARRASSO):

S. 1130. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to promote integrity in the casting of ballots in elections for Federal office; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. KELLY, Ms. ROSEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. Res. 155. A resolution honoring the accomplishments and legacy of Cesar Estrada Chavez; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. JOHNSON, and Mr. HAWLEY):

S. Res. 156. A resolution commending the officers and personnel of Federal, State, and local agencies deployed by air, ground, and marine, and as tactical border security, for their work during the crisis at the Southern border; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 65

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) were added as cosponsors of S. 65, a bill to ensure that goods made with forced labor in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China do not enter the United States market, and for other purposes.

S. 98

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 98, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against tax for neighborhood revitalization, and for other purposes.

S. 127

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 127, a bill to support library infrastructure.

S. 212

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) 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. 285

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 285, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to allow States to make medical assistance available to inmates during the 30-day period preceding their release.

S. 321

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 321, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the members of the Women's Army Corps who were assigned to the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, known as the ''Six Triple Eight'' .

S. 403

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 403, a bill to preserve open competition and Federal Government neutrality towards the labor relations of Federal Government contractors on Federal and federally funded construction projects, and for other purposes.

S. 408

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 408, a bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to publish guidance for States on strategies for maternal care providers participating in the Medicaid program to reduce maternal mortality and severe morbidity with respect to individuals receiving medical assistance under such program.

S. 456

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 456, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the new markets tax credit, and for other purposes.

S. 480

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) were added as cosponsors of S. 480, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the deduction for qualified business income.

S. 488

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 488, a bill to provide for congressional review of actions to terminate or waive sanctions imposed with respect to Iran.

S. 527

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 527, a bill to protect victims of stalking from gun violence.

S. 611

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 611, a bill to deposit certain funds into the Crime Victims Fund, to waive matching requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 617

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 617, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the estate and generation-skipping transfer taxes, and for other purposes.

S. 634

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 634, a bill to support and expand civic engagement and political leadership of adolescent girls around the world, and other purposes.

S. 657

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 657, a bill to modify the presumption of service connection for veterans who were exposed to herbicide agents while serving in the Armed Forces in Thailand during the Vietnam era, and for other purposes.

S. 659

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 659, a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to promulgate regulations relating to commercial motor vehicle drivers under the age of 21, and for other purposes.

S. 697

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of 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.

S. 736

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 792

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 792, a bill to amend the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999 to modify certain agricultural exemptions for hours of service requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 834

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 834, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the distribution of additional residency positions, and for other purposes.

S. 884

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 884, a bill to close loopholes in the immigration laws that serve as incentives to aliens to attempt to enter the United States unlawfully, and for other purposes.

S. 892

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) were added as cosponsors of S. 892, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that kombucha is exempt from any excise taxes and regulations imposed on alcoholic beverages.

S. 896

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 896, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to establish additional criteria for determining when employers may join together in a group or association of employers that will be treated as an employer under section 3(5) of such Act for purposes of sponsoring a group health plan, and for other purposes.

S. 1053

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1053, a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to establish a working group to study regulatory and legislative improvements for the livestock, insect, and agricultural commodities transport industries, and for other purposes.

S. 1076

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1076, a bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program to plug, remediate, and reclaim orphaned oil and gas wells and surrounding land, to provide funds to State and Tribal government to plug, remediate, and reclaim orphaned oil and gas wells and surrounding land, and for other purposes.

S. 1081

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1081, a bill to authorize the Department of Labor's voluntary protection program.

S. 1084

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1084, a bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to

provide for the portability of professional licenses of members of the uniformed services and their spouses, and for other purposes.

S. 1086

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1086, a bill to provide incentives for hate crime reporting, provide grants for State-run hate crime hotlines, and establish alternative sentencing for individuals convicted under the Matthew Shephard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act.

S. RES. 31

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 31, a resolution expressing the Senate's opposition to the current, ineffective JCPOA.

S. RES. 72

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 72, a resolution opposing the lifting of sanctions imposed with respect to Iran without addressing the full scope of Iran's malign activities, including its nuclear program, ballistic and cruise missile capabilities, weapons proliferation, support for terrorism, hostage-taking, gross human rights violations, and other destabilizing activities.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 1127. A bill to require the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to make certain operational models available to the public, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 1127

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Learning Excellence and Good Examples from New Developers Act of 2021'' or the ''LEGEND Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATION.—The term ''Administration'' means the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(2) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ''Administrator'' means the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(3) EARTH PREDICTION INNOVATION CENTER.—The term ''Earth Prediction Innovation Center'' means the community global weather research modeling system described in paragraph (5)(E) of section 102(b) of the Weather Research Forecasting and Innovation Act of 2017 (15 U.S.C. 8512(b)), as redesignated by section 4(g).

(4) MODEL.—The term ''model'' means any vetted numerical model and associated data assimilation of the Earth's system or its components—

(A) developed, in whole or in part, by scientists and engineers employed by the Administration; or

(B) otherwise developed using Federal funds.

(5) OPERATIONAL MODEL.—The term ''operational model'' means any model that has an output used by the Administration for operational functions.

(6) SUITABLE MODEL.—The term ''suitable model'' means a model that meets the requirements described in paragraph (5)(E)(ii) of section 102(b) of the Weather Research Forecasting and Innovation Act of 2017 (15 U.S.C. 8512(b)), as redesignated by section 4(g), as determined by the Administrator.

SEC. 3. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to support innovation in modeling by allowing interested stakeholders to have easy and complete access to the models used by the Administration, as the Administrator determines appropriate; and

(2) to use vetted innovations arising from access described in paragraph (1) to improve modeling by the Administration.

SEC. 4. PLAN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN TO MAKE CERTAIN MODELS AND DATA AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall develop and implement a plan to make available to the public the following:

(1) Operational models developed by the Administration.

(2) Models that are not operational models, including experimental and developmental models, as the Administrator determines appropriate.

(3) Applicable information and documentation for models described in paragraphs (1) and (2).

(4) Subject to section 7, all data owned by the Federal Government and data that the Administrator has the legal right to redistribute that are associated with models made available to the public pursuant to the plan and used in operational forecasting by the Administration, including—

(A) relevant metadata;

(B) data used for operational models used by the Administration as of the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(C) a description of intended model outputs.

(b) ACCOMMODATIONS.—In developing and implementing the plan under subsection (a), the Administrator may make such accommodations as the Administrator considers appropriate to ensure that the public release of any model, information, documentation, or data pursuant to the plan does not jeopardize—

(1) national security;

(2) intellectual property or redistribution rights, including under titles 17 and 35, United States Code;

(3) any trade secret or commercial or financial information subject to section 552(b)(4) of title 5, United States Code;

(4) any models or data that are otherwise restricted by contract or other written agreement; or

(5) the mission of the Administration to protect lives and property.

(c) PRIORITY.—In developing and implementing the plan under subsection (a), the Administrator shall prioritize making available to the public the models described in subsection (a)(1).

(d) EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN MODELS.—In developing and implementing the plan under subsection (a), the Administrator may exclude models that the Administrator determines will be retired or superseded in fewer than 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(e) PLATFORMS.—In carrying out subsections (a) and (b), the Administrator may use government servers, contracts or agreements with a private vendor, or any other platform consistent with the purpose of this Act.

(f) SUPPORT PROGRAM.—The Administrator shall plan for and establish a program to support infrastructure, including telecommunications and technology infrastructure of the Administration and the platforms described in subsection (e), relevant to making operational models and data available to the public pursuant to the plan under subsection (a).

(g) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 102(b) of the Weather Research Forecasting and Innovation Act of 2017 (15 U.S.C. 8512(b)) is amended by redesignating the second paragraph (4) (as added by section 4(a) of the National Integrated Drought Information System Reauthorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–423; 132 Stat. 5456)) as paragraph (5).

SEC. 5. REQUIREMENT TO REVIEW MODELS AND LEVERAGE INNOVATIONS.

The Administrator shall—

(1) consistent with the mission of the Earth Prediction Innovation Center, periodically review innovations and improvements made by persons outside the Administration to the operational models made available to the public pursuant to the plan under section 4(a) in order to improve the accuracy and timeliness of forecasts of the Administration; and

(2) if the Administrator identifies an innovation for a suitable model, develop and implement a plan to use the innovation to improve the model.

SEC. 6. REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the implementation of this Act that includes a description of—

(1) the implementation of the plan required by section 4;

(2) the process of the Administration under section 5—

(A) for engaging with interested stakeholders to learn what innovations those stakeholders have found;

(B) for reviewing those innovations; and

(C) for operationalizing innovations to improve suitable models.

(b) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 7. PROTECTION OF NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, as appropriate, may withhold any model or data if the Administrator determines doing so to be necessary to protect the national security interests of the United States.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to supersede any other provision of law governing the protection of the national security interests of the United States.

SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act $2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

(b) DERIVATION OF FUNDS.—Funds to carry out this section shall be derived from amounts authorized to be appropriated to the National Weather Service that are enacted after the date of the enactment of this Act.

By Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 1126. A bill to amend the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 and the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002 to strengthen research in adult education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce the bipartisan Strengthening Research in Adult Education Act with my colleague, Senator YOUNG. We are in urgent need of identifying and disseminating innovative and effective methods for supporting adult learners. Our legislation will ensure that there is a strong research base to improve the teaching provided for, and the learning of, adults seeking to advance their literacy, numeracy, and digital literacy skills.

The most recent data from the Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies show an urgent need for action in adult education with an estimated 19 percent of adults ages 16–65 in the United States performing at the lowest levels of literacy; twenty-nine percent at the lowest levels of numeracy; and 24 percent at the lowest levels of digital problem solving. This is a dire situation. These are essential skills for postsecondary education and the workplace. Beyond their value in the labor market, these skills are also correlated with health and civic participation, making adult education critically important to the health and well-being of our people, our economy, and our democracy.

In Rhode Island, it is estimated that nearly 82,000 working age adults have less than a high school education. Over 55,000 have limited English proficiency. Yet, we are reaching just over 5,000 through the current adult education program. Clearly, we need more resources and innovative, research-based ways to reach more people.

The Strengthening Research in Adult Education Act will support the key reforms to adult education in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act by ensuring that adult education is included in our national education research priorities. Specifically, the Strengthening Research in Adult Education Act will amend the Education Sciences Reform Act to require the Institute for Education Sciences and the National Center for Education Statistics to collect data and carry out research on: successful State and local adult education and literacy activities, the characteristics and academic achievement of adult learners, and access to and opportunity for adult education, including digital literacy skills development, in communities across the Nation. It will also ensure that the Institute of Education Sciences draws on the expertise of adult educators when developing policies and priorities. Finally, the legislation would require that at least one research center would focus on adult education.

These straightforward amendments to the Education Sciences Reform Act will go a long way to strengthening the research base that will support the improvement of adult education across the country. I was pleased to work with the adult education community, and particularly, the Coalition of Adult Basic Educators and the National Coalition for Literacy in developing this legislation. I urge my colleagues to support the Strengthening Research in Adult Education Act and to work with me to ensure that its provisions are included in the reauthorization of the Education Sciences Reform Act.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 155—HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND LEGACY OF CÉSAR ESTRADA CHÁVEZ

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. KELLY, Ms. ROSEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. LUJÁN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.:

S. RES. 155

Whereas César Estrada Chávez was born on March 31, 1927, near Yuma, Arizona;

Whereas César Estrada Chávez spent his early years on a family farm;

Whereas, at the age of 10, César Estrada Chávez joined the thousands of migrant farm workers laboring in fields and vineyards throughout the Southwest after a bank foreclosure resulted in the loss of the family farm;

Whereas César Estrada Chávez, after attending more than 30 elementary and middle schools and achieving an eighth grade education, left school to work full-time as a farm worker to help support his family;

Whereas, at the age of 17, César Estrada Chávez entered the United States Navy and served the United States with distinction for 2 years;

Whereas, in 1948, César Estrada Chávez returned from military service to marry Helen Fabela, whom he had met while working in the vineyards of central California;

Whereas César Estrada Chávez and Helen Fabela had 8 children;

Whereas, as early as 1949, César Estrada Chávez was committed to organizing farm workers to campaign for safe and fair working conditions, reasonable wages, livable housing, and the outlawing of child labor;

Whereas, in 1952, César Estrada Chávez joined the Community Service Organization, a prominent Latino civil rights group, and worked with the organization to coordinate voter registration drives and conduct campaigns against discrimination in East Los Angeles;

Whereas César Estrada Chávez served as the national director of the Community Service Organization;

Whereas, in 1962, César Estrada Chávez left the Community Service Organization to establish the National Farm Workers Association, which eventually became the United Farm Workers of America;

Whereas, under the leadership of César Estrada Chávez, the United Farm Workers of America organized thousands of migrant farm workers to fight for fair wages, health care coverage, pension benefits, livable housing, and respect;

Whereas César Estrada Chávez was a strong believer in the principles of nonviolence practiced by Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.;

Whereas César Estrada Chávez effectively used peaceful tactics that included fasting for 25 days in 1968, 25 days in 1972, and 38 days in 1988 to call attention to the terrible working and living conditions of farm workers in the United States;

Whereas, through his commitment to nonviolence, César Estrada Chávez brought dignity and respect to the organized farm workers and became an inspiration to and a resource for individuals engaged in human rights struggles throughout the world;

Whereas the influence of César Estrada Chávez extends far beyond agriculture and provides inspiration for individuals working to better human rights, empower workers, and advance the American Dream, which includes all people of the United States;

Whereas César Estrada Chávez died on April 23, 1993, at the age of 66 in San Luis, Arizona, only miles from his birthplace;

Whereas more than 50,000 people attended the funeral services of César Estrada Chávez in Delano, California;

Whereas César Estrada Chávez was laid to rest at the headquarters of the United Farm Workers of America, known as ''Nuestra Señora de La Paz'', located in the Tehachapi Mountains in Keene, California;

Whereas, since the death of César Estrada Chávez, schools, parks, streets, libraries, and other public facilities, as well as awards and scholarships, have been named in his honor;

Whereas more than 10 States and dozens of communities across the United States honor the life and legacy of César Estrada Chávez each year on March 31;

Whereas March 31 is recognized as an official State holiday in California, Colorado, and Texas, and there is growing support to designate the birthday of César Estrada Chávez as a national day of service to memorialize his heroism;

Whereas, during his lifetime, César Estrada Chávez was a recipient of the Martin Luther King Jr. Peace Prize;

Whereas, on August 8, 1994, César Estrada Chávez was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom;

Whereas, on October 8, 2012, President Barack Obama authorized the Secretary of the Interior to establish a César Estrada Chávez National Monument in Keene, California;

Whereas President Joseph R. Biden Jr. honored the life and service of César Estrada Chávez by proclaiming March 31, 2021, to be '' César Chávez Day'' and by asking all people of the United States to observe March 31 with service, community, and education programs to honor the enduring legacy of César Estrada Chávez; and

Whereas the United States should continue the efforts of César Estrada Chávez to ensure equality, justice, and dignity for all people of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the accomplishments and example of César Estrada Chávez, a great hero of the United States;

(2) pledges to promote the legacy of César Estrada Chávez; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to commemorate the legacy of César Estrada Chávez and to always remember his great rallying cry, ''¡Sí, se puede!'', which is Spanish for ''Yes, we can!''.

SENATE RESOLUTION 156—COMMENDING THE OFFICERS AND PERSONNEL OF FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL AGENCIES DEPLOYED BY AIR, GROUND, AND MARINE, AND AS TACTICAL BORDER SECURITY, FOR THEIR WORK DURING THE CRISIS AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. JOHNSON, and Mr. HAWLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

S. RES. 156

Whereas U.S. Customs and Border Protection (referred to in this preamble as ''CBP'') is charged with protecting the borders of the United States and facilitating travel and trade;

Whereas President Biden promised a humane approach to immigration but the Biden Administration was woefully unprepared for a surge of migrants from Central America, including a record number of vulnerable, unaccompanied children unlawfully crossing the unsecured United States-Mexico border (referred to in this preamble as the ''Southern border'');

Whereas the Southern border is experiencing a humanitarian crisis with unprecedented numbers of vulnerable individuals attempting to unlawfully enter the United States;

Whereas, on March 13, 2021, the Department of Homeland Security directed the Federal Emergency Management Agency to support a government-wide response effort to address the surge of unlawful crossings at the Southern border;

Whereas, in February 2021, 100,441 individuals were apprehended at the Southern border, which is a 28 percent increase from January 2021;

Whereas a total of 458,088 individuals were encountered at the Southern border in fiscal year 2020, which is only 61,130 encounters more than the number recorded in the first half of the current fiscal year;

Whereas, in all of fiscal year 2020, 33,239 unaccompanied minors were encountered at the Southern border, which is only 3,510 encounters more than the number recorded in the first half of the current fiscal year;

Whereas CBP has conducted more than 3,000 daily apprehensions, while still maintaining a posture to secure the border of the Nation and facilitate international trade and travel;

Whereas the immigration policies of President Biden are—

(1) luring hundreds of thousands of migrants to unlawfully cross the Southern border;

(2) leading to an alarming increase in human trafficking and drug smuggling by cartels and transnational criminal organizations; and

(3) putting unaccompanied minors at risk of human trafficking, violence, sexual abuse, and separation from the families of the unaccompanied minors;

Whereas numerous acts of selfless heroism by CBP agents occur on a daily basis, as the agents face dangerous conditions but continue to risk their lives during a global health pandemic to rescue migrants attempting to unlawfully enter the United States along the Southern border;

Whereas the selfless heroism by CBP agents has been on full display as the crisis at the Southern border grows and thousands of aliens attempt to unlawfully enter the United States each day, including recently reported rescues—

(1) in February 2021, of a migrant woman from Mexico abandoned by human smugglers and left to die in a freezing winter storm as they attempted to unlawfully enter Texas;

(2) in March 2021, of a migrant man and a 2-year-old child swept away by a swift current in a canal as they attempted to unlawfully enter Arizona;

(3) in March 2021, of a migrant man who was abandoned by human smugglers unlawfully entering California, remained missing for 8 days, and had to be carried out of the mountainous terrain on the shoulders of a CBP agent; and

(4) in March 2021, of a migrant man in severe distress in a remote desert location who was abandoned by human smugglers attempting to unlawfully enter New Mexico and who required serious medical attention;

Whereas faced with inadequate Federal resources to manage the surge of illegal border crossings, States along the Southern border have installed their own border protection patrols, such as Arizona Border Strike Force and Operation Lone Star in Texas; and

Whereas resources from Federal, State, and local agencies will need to be diverted from other areas to handle the surge of migrants unlawfully entering the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that there is an ongoing and growing crisis on our Southern border; and

(2) commends the men and women of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, including Border Patrol personnel, Office of Field Operations personnel, Air and Marine Operations personnel, Office of Trade personnel, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and all support personnel and allies of such agencies from State and local governments for the work of such men and women during the crisis at the Southern border.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1414. Mr. CRUZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1415. Mr. CRUZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1416. Mr. CRUZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1417. Mr. CRUZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1418. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1419. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1420. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1421. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1422. Mr. COTTON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1423. Mr. COTTON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1424. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1425. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1426. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1427. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1428. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1429. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1430. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1431. Ms. ERNST (for herself and Mrs. CAPITO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1432. Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1433. Mr. TUBERVILLE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1434. Mr. TUBERVILLE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1435. Mr. TUBERVILLE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1436. Mr. TUBERVILLE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1437. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1438. Mr. MARSHALL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1439. Mr. MARSHALL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1440. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1414. Mr. CRUZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by

him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. TASK FORCE ON DISCRIMINATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION OF ASIAN AMERICANS.

The Attorney General, in coordination with the Secretary of Education, shall establish a task force to investigate, and provide proposals for remedies to, discrimination by institutions of higher education (as defined in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)) against Asian Americans in recruitment, applicant review, and admissions.

SA 1415. Mr. CRUZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. RESTRICTION ON THE RELEASE OF INDIVIDUALS WHO UNLAWFULLY ENTER THE UNITED STATES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) There was a 71 percent increase in the number of illegal immigrant encounters by U.S Customs and Border Protection agents between February and March 2021.

(2) In March 2021, more than 172,000 illegal immigrants were intercepted by U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents, including 53,000 illegal immigrants who entered the United States as part of a family group.

(3) Although Federal law requires the Department of Homeland Security to detain, pending the completion of removal proceedings, any alien who is not ''clearly and beyond a doubt entitled to be admitted'', as of April 2021, the Department of Homeland Security is releasing many such individuals into communities in Texas and other border States, which has caused a significant strain on such communities and on State and local governments that lack the resources and infrastructure to care for so many individuals.

(b) RESTRICTION.—The Department of Homeland Security may not release any individual who unlawfully entered the United States into any State, county, or city in the United States unless the governor of such State and the governing body of such county and city expressly consent to such release.

(c) CAUSE OF ACTION.—A violation of subsection (b) shall give rise to a cause of action against the Federal Government by a State, county, or city into which jurisdiction such individual was released.

SA 1416. Mr. CRUZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 4. PROHIBITION OF FEDERAL FUNDS FOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST ASIAN AMERICANS.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no institution of higher education (as defined in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)) may receive any Federal funding if the institution has a policy in place or engages in a practice that discriminates against Asian Americans in recruitment, applicant review, or admissions.

SA 1417. Mr. CRUZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. LIMITATION ON RELEASE OF ALIENS DETAINED FOR UNLAWFULLY ENTERING THE UNITED STATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Department of Homeland Security may not release from custody any alien who is detained for unlawfully entering the United States unless such alien tests negative for COVID–19 during the 24-hour period immediately preceding the alien's release.

(b) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this Act may be construed to authorize the release any person from the custody of the Department of Homeland Security who is not otherwise authorized by law to be released.

SA 1418. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 3, line 3, strike ''or disability'' and insert ''disability, or status as a law enforcement officer or member of the armed forces''.

SA 1419. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 4. DEATH PENALTY ELIGIBILITY.

Section 3592(c) is amended by inserting after paragraph (16) the following:

''(17) COVID–19 HATE CRIMES.—The defendant committed a COVID–19 hate crime, as defined in section 2 of the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act.''.

SA 1420. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 4. INCREASE STATUTORY PENALTIES FOR COVID–19 HATE CRIMES.

Section 249(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking ''paragraph (3)'' and inserting ''paragraph (4)'';

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively;

(3) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

''(3) OFFENSES INVOLVING COVID–19 HATE CRIMES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Whoever, whether or not acting under color of law, in any circumstance described in subparagraph (B) or paragraph (4), willfully causes bodily injury to any person or, through the use of fire, a firearm, a dangerous weapon, or an explosive or incendiary device, attempts to cause bodily injury to any person, because of—

''(i) the actual or perceived religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability of any person; and

''(ii) the actual or perceived relationship to the spread of COVID–19 of any person because of the characteristic described in clause (i),

shall be fined under this title and imprisoned for not less than 10 years or for life, or, if death results, shall be sentenced to not less than 30 years and not more than life, or may be punished by death.

''(B) CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the circumstances described in this subparagraph are that—

''(i) the conduct described in subparagraph (A) occurs during the course of, or as the result of, the travel of the defendant or the victim—

''(I) across a State line or national border; or

''(II) using a channel, facility, or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce;

''(ii) the defendant uses a channel, facility, or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce in connection with the conduct described in subparagraph (A);

''(iii) in connection with the conduct described in subparagraph (A), the defendant employs a firearm, dangerous weapon, explosive or incendiary device, or other weapon that has traveled in interstate or foreign commerce; or

''(iv) the conduct described in subparagraph (A)—

''(I) interferes with commercial or other economic activity in which the victim is engaged at the time of the conduct; or

''(II) otherwise affects interstate or foreign commerce.''; and

(4) in paragraph (4), as so redesignated—

(A) by striking ''(1) or in paragraph (2)(A)'' and inserting ''(1), in paragraph (2)(A)''; and

(B) by inserting '', or in paragraph (3)(A) (without regard to whether that conduct occurred in a circumstance described in paragraph (3)(B))'' after ''paragraph (2)(B))''

SA 1421. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 4. ENHANCED PENALTIES FOR COVID–19 HATE CRIMES.

(a) DEATH PENALTY ELIGIBILITY.—Section 3592(c) is amended by inserting after paragraph (16) the following:

''(17) COVID–19 HATE CRIMES.—The defendant committed a COVID–19 hate crime, as defined in section 2 of the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act.''.

(b) INCREASE STATUTORY PENALTIES FOR COVID–19 HATE CRIMES.—Section 249(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking ''paragraph (3)'' and inserting ''paragraph (4)'';

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively;

(3) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

''(3) OFFENSES INVOLVING COVID–19 HATE CRIMES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Whoever, whether or not acting under color of law, in any circumstance described in subparagraph (B) or paragraph (4), willfully causes bodily injury to any person or, through the use of fire, a firearm, a dangerous weapon, or an explosive

or incendiary device, attempts to cause bodily injury to any person, because of—

''(i) the actual or perceived religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability of any person; and

''(ii) the actual or perceived relationship to the spread of COVID–19 of any person because of the characteristic described in clause (i),

shall be fined under this title and imprisoned for not less than 10 years or for life, or, if death results, shall be sentenced to not less than 30 years and not more than life, or may be punished by death.

''(B) CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the circumstances described in this subparagraph are that—

''(i) the conduct described in subparagraph (A) occurs during the course of, or as the result of, the travel of the defendant or the victim—

''(I) across a State line or national border; or

''(II) using a channel, facility, or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce;

''(ii) the defendant uses a channel, facility, or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce in connection with the conduct described in subparagraph (A);

''(iii) in connection with the conduct described in subparagraph (A), the defendant employs a firearm, dangerous weapon, explosive or incendiary device, or other weapon that has traveled in interstate or foreign commerce; or

''(iv) the conduct described in subparagraph (A)—

''(I) interferes with commercial or other economic activity in which the victim is engaged at the time of the conduct; or

''(II) otherwise affects interstate or foreign commerce.''; and

(4) in paragraph (4), as so redesignated—

(A) by striking ''(1) or in paragraph (2)(A)'' and inserting ''(1), in paragraph (2)(A)''; and

(B) by inserting '', or in paragraph (3)(A) (without regard to whether that conduct occurred in a circumstance described in paragraph (3)(B))'' after ''paragraph (2)(B))''

SA 1422. Mr. COTTON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 3, strike subsection (b).

SA 1423. Mr. COTTON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 4. REVIEW OF ANTI-ASIAN DISCRIMINATION IN INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPLICABLE PERIOD.—The term ''applicable period'' means the 5-year period beginning on the date on which the officer or employee is designated under subsection (b).

(2) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term ''institution of higher education'' has the meaning given the term in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002).

(b) DESIGNATION.—Not later than 1 day after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall designate an officer or employee of the Department of Justice whose sole responsibility during the applicable period shall be to review and investigate allegations of anti-Asian discrimination in the admissions policies of institutions of higher education in the United States.

(c) REPORTS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and once every 180 days thereafter until the end of the applicable period, the Attorney General shall submit a report to Congress on the allegations described in subsection (b) reviewed during the reporting period, which shall include—

(1) a summary of each allegation received; and

(2) information about the status of each allegation, including whether the Department of Justice filed or declined to file an action based on the allegation.

SA 1424. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 4. REPORT ON RELIGIOUS RESTRICTIONS DURING THE COVID–19 PANDEMIC.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report on the restrictions on religious exercise imposed by States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and any other territory or possession of the United States during the COVID–19 pandemic.

(b) CONTENTS.—The report required to be submitted under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) an analysis of whether the same restrictions applied to religious institutions also applied equally to secular organizations or businesses; and

(2) an analysis of whether each imposed restriction complies with the ruling of the Supreme Court of the United States in Tandon v. Newsom, No. 20A151, 539 U.S. _____ (2021).

SA 1425. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 3 and insert the following:

SEC. 3. REPORT ON RELIGIOUS RESTRICTIONS DURING THE COVID–19 PANDEMIC.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report on the restrictions on religious exercise imposed by States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and any other territory or possession of the United States during the COVID–19 pandemic.

(b) CONTENTS.—The report required to be submitted under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) an analysis of whether the same restrictions applied to religious institutions also applied equally to secular organizations or businesses; and

(2) an analysis of whether each imposed restriction complies with the ruling of the Supreme Court of the United States in Tandon v. Newsom, No. 20A151, 539 U.S. _____ (2021).

SA 1426. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 3 and insert the following:

SEC. 3. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION REPORT ON EFFECTS OF PANDEMIC-RELATED SCHOOL CLOSINGS ON CHILDREN.

The Secretary of Education shall submit a report to Congress on the effects of pandemic-related school closings on the educational development of children during the pandemic.

SA 1427. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 3 and insert the following:

SEC. 3. REPORT ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION'S RESPONSE TO THE COVID–19 PANDEMIC.

The Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shall submit a report to Congress on the effectiveness of the World Health Organization's response to the COVID–19 pandemic.

SA 1428. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 3 and insert the following:

SEC. 3. REPORT ON THE HEALTH EFFECTS OF LOCKDOWNS.

The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit a report to Congress on the effects that State and local lockdowns in 2020 had on the mental, emotional, and physical health of the people of the United States.

SA 1429. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 3 and insert the following:

SEC. 3. REPORT ON HOW STATE AND LOCAL LOCKDOWNS AFFECTED SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS AND EMPLOYEES.

The Secretary of Commerce shall submit a report to Congress that details the effects the State and local lockdowns implemented in 2020 had on small business owners and employees.

SA 1430. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 3 and insert the following:

SEC. 3. REPORT ON ENFORCEMENT OF MASK MANDATES AND SOCIAL DISTANCING RESTRICTIONS DURING PROTEST ACTIVITIES.

The Attorney General shall submit a report to Congress on whether Federal, State, or local law enforcement officers enforced COVID–19 related social distancing restrictions and mask mandates during protest activities occurring in States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and any other territory or possession of the United States in 2020.

SA 1431. Ms. ERNST (for herself and Mrs. CAPITO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. COVID–19 VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) According to the American Journal of Emergency Medicine, during the COVID–19 pandemic, police departments across the country reported increases in domestic violence.

(2) One study, published in the journal Radiology, found that at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, radiology scans and superficial wounds consistent with domestic abuse from March 11 to May 3 of last year exceeded the totals for the same period in 2018 and 2019 combined.

(3) Lockdowns associated with the COVID–19 pandemic increased the isolation of survivors of domestic violence and abusers have taken advantage of that isolation to further exert power and coercive control.

(4) Domestic violence programs and hotlines across the country have seen a substantial increase in contacts since the beginning of the COVID–19 pandemic.

(5) Especially in rural areas, survivors are often far from shelter and services, and steps taken to mitigate the spread of COVID–19 have only exacerbated that disparity.

(6) Survivors across the country have tragically experienced greater abuse and isolation due to lockdowns associated with the COVID–19 pandemic and are in desperate need of increased support.

(7) An extension of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113–4; 127 Stat. 54) that lasts through the COVID–19 pandemic ensures that survivors can have their needs met, and ensures that their abusers are subjected to justice.

(b) AUTHORITY.—Any program, authority, or provision, including any pilot program, authorized under the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113–4; 127 Stat. 54) shall continue in effect through the date that is 6 months after the date on which the public health emergency for COVID–19, as declared by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d), expires.

SA 1432. Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. JABARA-HEYER NO HATE ACT.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''Khalid Jabara and Heather Heyer National Opposition to Hate, Assault, and Threats to Equality Act of 2021'' or the ''Jabara-Heyer NO HATE Act''.

(b) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The incidence of violence known as hate crimes, or crimes motivated by bias, poses a serious national problem.

(2) According to data obtained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the incidence of such violence increased in 2019, the most recent year for which data is available.

(3) In 1990, Congress enacted the Hate Crime Statistics Act (Public Law 101–275; 28 U.S.C. 534 note) to provide the Federal Government, law enforcement agencies, and the public with data regarding the incidence of hate crime. The Hate Crime Statistics Act and the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act (division E of Public Law 111–84; 123 Stat. 2835) have enabled Federal authorities to understand and, where appropriate, investigate and prosecute hate crimes.

(4) A more complete understanding of the national problem posed by hate crime is in the public interest and supports the Federal interest in eradicating bias-motivated violence referenced in section 249(b)(1)(C) of title 18, United States Code.

(5) However, a complete understanding of the national problem posed by hate crimes is hindered by incomplete data from Federal, State, and local jurisdictions through the Uniform Crime Reports program authorized under section 534 of title 28, United States Code, and administered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(6) Multiple factors contribute to the provision of inaccurate and incomplete data regarding the incidence of hate crime through the Uniform Crime Reports program. A significant contributing factor is the quality and quantity of training that State and local law enforcement agencies receive on the identification and reporting of suspected bias-motivated crimes.

(7) The problem of crimes motivated by bias is sufficiently serious, widespread, and interstate in nature as to warrant Federal financial assistance to States and local jurisdictions.

(8) Federal financial assistance with regard to certain violent crimes motivated by bias enables Federal, State, and local authorities to work together as partners in the investigation and prosecution of such crimes.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) HATE CRIME.—The term ''hate crime'' means an act described in section 245, 247, or 249 of title 18, United States Code, or in section 901 of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3631).

(2) PRIORITY AGENCY.—The term ''priority agency'' means—

(A) a law enforcement agency of a unit of local government that serves a population of not less than 100,000, as computed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation; or

(B) a law enforcement agency of a unit of local government that—

(i) serves a population of not less than 50,000 and less than 100,000, as computed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and

(ii) has reported no hate crimes through the Uniform Crime Reports program in each of the 3 most recent calendar years for which such data is available.

(3) STATE.—The term ''State'' has the meaning given the term in section 901 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10251).

(4) UNIFORM CRIME REPORTS.—The term ''Uniform Crime Reports'' means the reports authorized under section 534 of title 28, United States Code, and administered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation that compile nationwide criminal statistics for use—

(A) in law enforcement administration, operation, and management; and

(B) to assess the nature and type of crime in the United States.

(5) UNIT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The term ''unit of local government'' has the meaning given the term in section 901 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10251).

(d) REPORTING OF HATE CRIMES.—

(1) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General may make grants to States and units of local government to assist the State or unit of local government in implementing the National Incident-Based Reporting System, including to train employees in identifying and classifying hate crimes in the National Incident-Based Reporting System.

(B) PRIORITY.—In making grants under subparagraph (A), the Attorney General shall give priority to States and units of local government with larger populations.

(2) REPORTING.—

(A) COMPLIANCE.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), in each fiscal year beginning after the date that is 3 years after the date on which a State or unit of local government first receives a grant under paragraph (1), the State or unit of local government shall provide to the Attorney General, through the Uniform Crime Reporting system, information pertaining to hate crimes committed in that jurisdiction during the preceding fiscal year.

(ii) EXTENSIONS; WAIVER.—The Attorney General—

(I) may provide a 120-day extension to a State or unit of local government that is making good faith efforts to comply with clause (i); and

(II) shall waive the requirements of clause (i) if compliance with that subparagraph by a State or unit of local government would be unconstitutional under the constitution of the State or of the State in which the unit of local government is located, respectively.

(B) FAILURE TO COMPLY.—If a State or unit of local government that receives a grant under paragraph (1) fails to substantially comply with subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, the State or unit of local government shall repay the grant in full, plus reasonable interest and penalty charges allowable by law or established by the Attorney General.

(e) GRANTS FOR STATE-RUN HATE CRIME HOTLINES.—

(1) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall make grants to States to create State-run hate crime reporting hotlines.

(B) GRANT PERIOD.—A grant made under subparagraph (A) shall be for a period of not more than 5 years.

(2) HOTLINE REQUIREMENTS.—A State shall ensure, with respect to a hotline funded by a grant under paragraph (1), that—

(A) the hotline directs individuals to—

(i) law enforcement if appropriate; and

(ii) local support services;

(B) any personally identifiable information that an individual provides to an agency of the State through the hotline is not directly or indirectly disclosed, without the consent of the individual, to—

(i) any other agency of that State;

(ii) any other State;

(iii) the Federal Government; or

(iv) any other person or entity;

(C) the staff members who operate the hotline are trained to be knowledgeable about—

(i) applicable Federal, State, and local hate crime laws; and

(ii) local law enforcement resources and applicable local support services; and

(D) the hotline is accessible to—

(i) individuals with limited English proficiency, where appropriate; and

(ii) individuals with disabilities.

(3) BEST PRACTICES.—The Attorney General shall issue guidance to States on best practices for implementing the requirements of paragraph (2).

(f) INFORMATION COLLECTION BY STATES AND UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

(A) APPLICABLE AGENCY.—The term ''applicable agency'', with respect to an eligible entity that is—

(i) a State, means—

(I) a law enforcement agency of the State; and

(II) a law enforcement agency of a unit of local government within the State that—

(aa) is a priority agency; and

(bb) receives a subgrant from the State under this section; and

(ii) a unit of local government, means a law enforcement agency of the unit of local government that is a priority agency.

(B) COVERED AGENCY.—The term ''covered agency'' means—

(i) a State law enforcement agency; and

(ii) a priority agency.

(C) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ''eligible entity'' means—

(i) a State; or

(ii) a unit of local government that has a priority agency.

(2) GRANTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General may make grants to eligible entities to assist covered agencies within the jurisdiction of the eligible entity in conducting law enforcement activities or crime reduction programs to prevent, address, or otherwise respond to hate crime, particularly as those activities or programs relate to reporting hate crimes through the Uniform Crime Reports program, including—

(i) adopting a policy on identifying, investigating, and reporting hate crimes;

(ii) developing a standardized system of collecting, analyzing, and reporting the incidence of hate crime;

(iii) establishing a unit specialized in identifying, investigating, and reporting hate crimes;

(iv) engaging in community relations functions related to hate crime prevention and education such as—

(I) establishing a liaison with formal community-based organizations or leaders; and

(II) conducting public meetings or educational forums on the impact of hate crimes, services available to hate crime victims, and the relevant Federal, State, and local laws pertaining to hate crimes; and

(v) providing hate crime trainings for agency personnel.

(B) SUBGRANTS.—A State that receives a grant under subparagraph (A) may award a subgrant to a priority agency of a unit of local government within the State for the purposes under that subparagraph.

(3) INFORMATION REQUIRED OF STATES AND UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—For each fiscal year in which an eligible entity receives a grant under paragraph (2), the eligible entity shall—

(i) collect information from each applicable agency summarizing the law enforcement activities or crime reduction programs conducted by the agency to prevent, address, or otherwise respond to hate crime, particularly as those activities or programs relate to reporting hate crimes through the Uniform Crime Reports program; and

(ii) submit to the Attorney General a report containing the information collected under clause (i).

(B) SEMIANNUAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY REPORT.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—In collecting the information required under subparagraph (A)(i), an eligible entity shall require each applicable agency to submit a semiannual report to the eligible entity that includes a summary of the law enforcement activities or crime reduction programs conducted by the agency during the reporting period to prevent, address, or otherwise respond to hate crime, particularly as those activities or programs relate to reporting hate crimes through the Uniform Crime Reports program.

(ii) CONTENTS.—In a report submitted under clause (i), a law enforcement agency shall, at a minimum, disclose—

(I) whether the agency has adopted a policy on identifying, investigating, and reporting hate crimes;

(II) whether the agency has developed a standardized system of collecting, analyzing, and reporting the incidence of hate crime;

(III) whether the agency has established a unit specialized in identifying, investigating, and reporting hate crimes;

(IV) whether the agency engages in community relations functions related to hate crime, such as—

(aa) establishing a liaison with formal community-based organizations or leaders; and

(bb) conducting public meetings or educational forums on the impact of hate crime, services available to hate crime victims, and the relevant Federal, State, and local laws pertaining to hate crime; and

(V) the number of hate crime trainings for agency personnel, including the duration of the trainings, conducted by the agency during the reporting period.

(4) COMPLIANCE AND REDIRECTION OF FUNDS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), beginning not later than 1 year after the date of this Act, an eligible entity receiving a grant under paragraph (2) shall comply with paragraph (3).

(B) EXTENSIONS; WAIVER.—The Attorney General—

(i) may provide a 120-day extension to an eligible entity that is making good faith efforts to collect the information required under paragraph (3); and

(ii) shall waive the requirements of paragraph (3) for a State or unit of local government if compliance with that subsection by the State or unit of local government would be unconstitutional under the constitution of the State or of the State in which the unit of local government is located, respectively.

(g) REQUIREMENTS OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.—

(1) INFORMATION COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS; REPORT.—In order to improve the accuracy of data regarding the incidence of hate crime provided through the Uniform Crime Reports program, and promote a more complete understanding of the national problem posed by hate crime, the Attorney General shall—

(A) collect and analyze the information provided by States and units of local government under subsection (f) for the purpose of developing policies related to the provision of accurate data obtained under the Hate Crime Statistics Act (Public Law 101–275; 28 U.S.C. 534 note) by the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and

(B) for each calendar year beginning after the date of enactment of this Act, publish and submit to Congress a report based on the information collected and analyzed under subparagraph (A).

(2) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—A report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) a qualitative analysis of the relationship between—

(i) the number of hate crimes reported by State law enforcement agencies or priority agencies through the Uniform Crime Reports program; and

(ii) the nature and extent of law enforcement activities or crime reduction programs conducted by those agencies to prevent, address, or otherwise respond to hate crime; and

(B) a quantitative analysis of the number of State law enforcement agencies and priority agencies that have—

(i) adopted a policy on identifying, investigating, and reporting hate crimes;

(ii) developed a standardized system of collecting, analyzing, and reporting the incidence of hate crime;

(iii) established a unit specialized in identifying, investigating, and reporting hate crimes;

(iv) engaged in community relations functions related to hate crime, such as—

(I) establishing a liaison with formal community-based organizations or leaders; and

(II) conducting public meetings or educational forums on the impact of hate crime, services available to hate crime victims, and the relevant Federal, State, and local laws pertaining to hate crime; and

(v) conducted hate crime trainings for agency personnel during the reporting period, including—

(I) the total number of trainings conducted by each agency; and

(II) the duration of the trainings described in subclause (I).

(h) ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING.—Section 249 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) SUPERVISED RELEASE.—If a court includes, as a part of a sentence of imprisonment imposed for a violation of subsection (a), a requirement that the defendant be placed on a term of supervised release after imprisonment under section 3583, the court may order, as an explicit condition of supervised release, that the defendant undertake educational classes or community service directly related to the community harmed by the defendant's offense.''.

SA 1433. Mr. TUBERVILLE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 3, line 16, strike ''and'' and insert the following:

(2) include information relating to the race, ethnicity, immigration status, and political affiliation of the alleged perpetrator of a hate crime or incident in the online reporting described in paragraph (1); and

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SA 1434. Mr. TUBERVILLE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 4, line 2, insert the following: ''Any guidance issued under this subsection shall not preclude an educator, government official, or any other individual in a position of authority from describing the COVID–19 pandemic as having originated in and subsequently spread from China.''.

SA 1435. Mr. TUBERVILLE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 3, line 14, after ''incidents,'' insert the following: ''including establishing criminal penalties for any online reporting of a hate crime that is fraudulent, illegitimate, or retaliatory in nature,''.

SA 1436. Mr. TUBERVILLE submitted an amendment intended to be

proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 4. COVID–19 HATE CRIME STUDY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the earlier of 1 year after the date on enactment of this Act or 180 days after the date on which the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention determines that COVID–19 mitigation measures are no longer necessary, the Attorney General, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall conduct a study on whether there is a correlation between—

(1) the frequency of COVID–19 hate crimes; and

(2) the existence of more restrictive COVID–19 mitigation measures.

(b) POPULATION ADJUSTMENT.—In conducting the study required under subsection (a), the Attorney General shall adjust data based on the population of a particular area, as appropriate.

SA 1437. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. 4. PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION IN ADMISSION TO POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS.

Section 601 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d) is amended—

(1) by inserting ''(a)'' before ''No person''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) ADMISSION TO POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS.—It shall be unlawful for an employee of a postsecondary institution referred to in section 606(2)(A) and receiving Federal financial assistance, to use, or refer an applicant to, an informal or formal quota system based on race, ethnicity, color, or national origin, during any step of the admissions process, to determine whether the applicant involved shall be admitted to the institution.''.

SA 1438. Mr. MARSHALL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. REQUIREMENT TO INVESTIGATE INCIDENCE OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ASIAN AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE APPLICANTS.

Not later than 1 day after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall designate an officer or employee of the Department of Justice whose sole responsibility shall be to investigate selective high schools and institutions of higher education in the United States accused of discriminating against Asian American applicants.

SA 1439. Mr. MARSHALL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. REQUIREMENT TO DISSEMINATE SECOND AMENDMENT INFORMATION TO THE ASIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY.

Not later than 1 day after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall designate an officer or employee of the Department of Justice whose sole responsibility shall be to disseminate information to Asian Americans in the United States regarding—

(1) rights provided under the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States; and

(2) legal protections for individuals who defend themselves against acts of violence.

SA 1440. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. REPORT ON DISCRIMINATION BY RECIPIENTS OF COVID–19 RELIEF BENEFITS BASED ON ACTUAL OR PERCEIVED COVID–19 STATUS.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) all forms of hatred against all people and the rise in violence in the wake of COVID–19 be condemned; and

(2) physical and verbal attacks against Asian American and Pacific Islander persons, such as those resulting in the killing an 84-year old Thai immigrant in San Francisco, California, the setting on fire of an 89-year old Chinese woman in Brooklyn, New York, and the slashing of a 61-year old Filipino American's face with a box cutter while in the New York Subway, are reprehensible, contrary to American values as well as the sanctity of human life, and must be stopped.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term ''COVID–19 relief benefits''—

(A) means any benefit from the Federal Government relating to the COVID–19 pandemic; and

(B) includes any grant, funds, loan, loan guarantee, bankruptcy relief, mortgage, rent, or eviction relief, or other benefit received under the American Rescue Plan (Public Law 117–2), the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116–260), the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act (Public Law 116–139; 134 Stat. 620), the CARES Act (Public Law 116–136; 134 Stat. 281), the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (Public Law 116–127; 134 Stat. 178), the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116–123; 134 Stat. 146), or an amendment made by any such Act; and

(2) the term ''crime of violence'' has the meaning given that term in section 16 of title 18, United States Code.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report that studies—

(1) crimes of violence motivated by the actual or perceived relationship of any individual to the spread of COVID–19 for any reason, including appearance, mask wearing, or vaccination status; and

(2) the extent to which businesses that received COVID–19 relief benefits discriminated against individuals who are perceived to have spread COVID–19, which shall specifically detail the extent to which businesses that received COVID–19 relief benefits, or agents thereof, denied goods, services, or travel, or committed a crime of violence, because of the actual or perceived relationship of any individual to the spread of COVID–19 for any reason, including appearance, mask wearing, or vaccination status.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I have 10 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 COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 14, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 14, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 14, 2021, at 9:45 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 14, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Indian Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 14, 2021, at 2:30 p.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 Wednesday, April 14, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 14, 2021, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 14, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct an open hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 14, 2021, at 1 p.m., to conduct an open hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CYBERSECURITY

The Subcommittee on Cybersecurity of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 14, 2021, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

MILITARY RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 148.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 148) recognizing the importance of paying tribute to those individuals who have faithfully served and retired from the Armed Forces of the United States, designating April 18, 2021, as ''Military Retiree Appreciation Day'', and encouraging the people of the United States to honor the past and continued service of military retirees to their local communities and the United States.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and 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. 148) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of April 12, 2021, under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

WILLIAM T. COLEMAN, JR., DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION HEADQUARTERS ACT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 14, S. 400.

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 400) to designate the headquarters building of the Department of Transportation located at 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, in Washington, DC, as the ''William T. Coleman, Jr., Federal Building''.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon table.

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

The bill (S. 400) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 400

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''William T. Coleman, Jr., Department of Transportation Headquarters Act''.

SEC. 2. WILLIAM T. COLEMAN, JR., FEDERAL BUILDING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The headquarters building of the Department of Transportation located at 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, in Washington, DC, shall be known and designated as the ''William T. Coleman, Jr., Federal Building''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the building referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''William T. Coleman, Jr., Federal Building''.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2021

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Thursday, April 15; 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; that upon conclusion of morning business, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 13, S. 937; finally, that at 12 noon, all postcloture time be considered expired and the motion to proceed to S. 937 be agreed to.

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

Mr. DURBIN. For the information of Senators, we expect the first rollcall vote at approximately 12 noon on Thursday.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:27 p.m. adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate April 14, 2021:

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

GARY GENSLER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING JUNE 5, 2021 .

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

BRENDA MALLORY, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF SANDRA L. FENWICK'S SERVICE AS CEO OF BOSTON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

HON. KATHERINE M. CLARK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sandra Fenwick's achievements as the Chief Executive Officer of Boston Children's Hospital. Ms. Fenwick, known to most as Sandi, has served as CEO of Boston Children's since 2013 and for fourteen years prior, served as the hospital's Chief Operating Officer. Sandi has led the hospital's efforts to control costs and adapt to a changing health care environment. As CEO, she leads a team of 20,000 people dedicated to improving and advancing child health through the delivery of high quality clinical care, advancing groundbreaking biomedical research, providing medical education to the next generation of pediatric providers and investments in the community. Boston Children's is the primary pediatric teaching affiliate for Harvard Medical School and the largest pediatric training program in the nation. The hospital is the largest pediatric research entity in the world. Each year, they care for children from all 50 states and more than 100 countries, seeing more pediatric patients with rare diseases and complex conditions than any other hospital in the world. Boston Children's has been ranked the No. 1 children's hospital by U.S. News and World report every single year since Sandi has been the CEO.

As a Member of Congress who represents children and families in the Boston area, and as a parent myself, I am deeply grateful to have an institution like Boston Children's in my home state. It is the leadership, provided over the years by Sandi Fenwick and the fantastic team that she has cultivated, that has led this institution to thrive and become one of the greatest resources for children in our local communities and around the world.

My work with Sandi goes back many years to my time at the Massachusetts State House and more recently, here in Congress. In the face of growing threats to our children's health and well-being, there is no better advocate for them than Sandi Fenwick. She has walked with patients and families through the State House and the halls of Congress, to help tell their stories and she has worked passionately behind the scenes to ensure investments in their care every day for years. Her voice for children reaches beyond the walls of the hospital and indeed, beyond Boston—in particular through her service as the Chair of the Public Policy Committee of the Children's Hospital Association.

Sandi had planned to announce her retirement a year ago and chose to remain at the helm of the hospital to see them through the most intense part of the COVID–19 pandemic. We all know what challenges that hospitals have faced in the past year. Under Sandi's leadership, Boston Children's has been a constant presence for our children and this month, she leaves the institution poised and ready to work on the challenges of the future. I applaud her achievements and want to wish her well in her retirement and all future endeavors.

MAYRA A. HERNANDEZ DIAZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Mayra A. Hernandez Diaz for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Mayra A. Hernandez Diaz is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. H.S. and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Mayra A. Hernandez Diaz is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Mayra A. Hernandez Diaz for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING KATIE HEINE AND MORGAN NOTTINGHAM 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

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize two young women from Norfolk, Virginia, Katie Heine and Morgan Nottingham, who were awarded the Medal of Honor—Lifesaving Award from the Girls Scouts of the USA.

While setting up a booth to sell Girl Scout cookies, Morgan and Katie noticed a man collapse nearby. Inferring that the man was having a seizure, the two Girl Scouts sprang into action. Morgan rolled the man on his side and placed a jacket under his head to stabilize him. Meanwhile, Katie quickly called 911 and alerted a nearby security officer for assistance. The two young women cared for the man until the paramedics arrived at the scene.

Terri Nottingham, Katie and Morgan's troop leader and Morgan's mother, credited 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 Katie 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 Katie and Morgan on receiving this well-deserved honor.

HONORING CHARLES A. MOBURG

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Charles A. Moburg. Charles is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Charles has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Charles has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Charles A. Moburg for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING MADELYN SHELTON

HON. GREG PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Madelyn Shelton of Scott County, IN. Maddy is currently a student at Hanover College studying history and political science. Maddy has dedicated her time and youth to improving her community and helping get conservative officials elected.

I want to thank Maddy for serving in the role of Scott County Republican Vice-Chair. Maddy has helped move the conservative agenda forward and I appreciate all the work she has done for her community and her support.

ROSE DORN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Rose Dorn for

receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Rose Dorn is a student at Oberon Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Rose Dorn is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Rose Dorn for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING THE WALKER BROTHERS FOR THEIR YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. HUIZENGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the exemplary career of the Walker Brothers on their selfless acts of service in the United States Military. This family embodies the definition of the all-American family and I would like to express my appreciation and gratitude for this West Michigan family.

All graduates of Fremont High School, these 11 brothers split between the branches of the Air force, the Marines, and the Army. Serving in places like Germany, Vietnam, Korea, and Thailand as well as domestically at bases across the United States.

I would like to celebrate these men:

Brothers: James Walker, Norman Walker, Charles Walker, Stephen Walker, Mark Walker, Richard Walker, Dennis Walker, David Walker, Gerald Walker, Frank Walker, and Robert Walker.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Walker family for their years of dedicated services to our country. Indeed, our country would not hold the cherished freedoms we have today if not for the bravery demonstrated by the Walker family.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAYOR LAURA HILL

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the distinguished career of Laura Hill, the current Mayor of Southlake, Texas. A true model of civic leadership, Mayor Hill has endeavored to serve her community to her fullest capacity for almost two decades. As her second mayoral term comes to a close, it is my privilege to recognize her estimable accomplishments.

Mayor Hill's public service began with her election to the Southlake City Council in 2004. During her tenure on the Council, Mayor Hill worked to improve the quality of life for the citizens, especially the children, of her community. She founded the Students and Parents Against Risks to our Kids (S.P.A.R.K.) organization. S.P.A.R.K. enabled Mayor Hill and her fellow community activists to promote sound public policies to safeguard the youth of Southlake.

In order to promote the intellectual as well as the physical well-being of the children in her community, Mayor Hill also established S.A.S.O. (Scholars and Athletes Serving Others) and S.K.I.L. (Southlake Kids Interested in Leadership) during her years as a City Councilwoman. With her election as Mayor in 2015, she has continued to promote the interests of the community's youth through school safety initiatives, the "Mayor for the Day" program and cooperative working groups with local high school students.

Mayor Hill has championed the city's businesses and citizens with her leadership efforts to enhance the quality of life through sound fiscal management, excellent recreational offerings, public improvements, promotion of unity and cultural diversity, and strengthening communication within her community during the pandemic through outreach programs, virtual town halls, and a cohesive and coordinated approach to reopening municipal government. Her tireless efforts in bolstering the efficiency and efficacy of municipal operations and its workforce have been invaluable to her constituency.

It is with great appreciation for her tremendous contributions of time and effort to Southlake and North Texas that I offer Mayor Hill congratulations on the completion of her second mayoral term. Her selfless devotion towards the good of our community and region is a reflection of her compassionate service ethic. Mayor Laura Hill has been an exemplary model of civic service.

HONORING PAYNE CARR

HON. JAMES COMER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. COMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Payne Carr of Union County on his decision to serve our country and attend the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis.

During his time at Union County High School, Mr. Carr excelled in the classroom and athletically. Among his many wrestling feats are winning the 2021 Kentucky State High School Athletic Association 152 Pound Wrestling Individual Championship, placing in three straight wrestling state tournaments, and leading the Union County High School Wrestling Team to its 6th consecutive state title this year.

Mr. Carr's discipline, strong work ethic, and unwavering dedication will serve him well as he begins this next chapter of his life. I was honored to nominate him for this appointment to the Naval Academy and am confident that with his commitment to leadership, he will be successful in his military career.

Once again, congratulations to Mr. Payne Carr for this incredible accomplishment. I look forward to seeing his many achievements at the United States Naval Academy and have no doubt he will continue to make Union County and the First Congressional District of Kentucky proud.

ORVILLE WILLIS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Orville Willis for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Orville Willis is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Orville Willis is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Orville Willis for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF JOAN MCFARLAND

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joan McFarland of Riverview on the occasion of her 100th birthday. Her contributions to our nation are worthy of commendation.

Mrs. McFarland was born in Canton, Ohio, and came to Ecorse, Michigan in 1933 when her father got a job at Great Lakes Steel during the Great Depression. A graduate of Ecorse High School, she was considered the class artist. At age 20, she married her husband but only a week after their wedding, Pearl Harbor was attacked and World War II began. He left to serve overseas, and Mrs. McFarland joined Ford Motor Company to build aircraft engines. As a Rosie the Riveter, Joan's hard work, grit, and patriotism not only sustained the American war effort, but paved a path for the next generation of working women.

When her husband returned from the war in 1947, the couple made their home in Lincoln Park, Michigan. Nineteen years later, the family moved to Southgate and purchased a party store. Together they had five children before her husband passed at the age of 51. Mrs. McFarland is known by family and friends for her kind spirit and caring personality.

A proud Rosie, she remained an active member of our community through her church, St. Pius X Catholic Church in Southgate. Her lifelong commitment to service in her church and neighborhood reminds us all of the impact that the Rosies have had on our state and nation.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating Joan McFarland on her 100th birthday. I join with her family and friends in extending my best and warmest wishes to her on this special day. I am proud to honor her life, her accomplishments, and her invaluable contributions to our Nation.

CONGRATULATING MAYOR ROY McDONALD

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mayor Roy McDonald on his retirement after 26 years of faithful service to the citizens of the City of West Orange, Texas.

Roy was born on June 30, 1944 in Glenmora, Louisiana to Jesse and Della McDonald and grew up in DeQuincy, Louisiana. After graduating from DeQuincy High School in 1962, he went on to serve his country in the United States Army from 1962 through 1965, where he earned the rank of Specialist 5th Class.

Following his time in the military, Roy moved to Texas in 1966 to work for Dupont, where he remained for 32 years until his retirement in 1998. It was in Orange, Texas that he met and married his wife LaVerne on January 7, 1967 and raised their children Beverly and Troy. His children remember fondly the road trips he planned for his family, how he mapped out every trip they took, and how he taught them to follow along on the map as they traveled across the country. His children remember these road trips being such fun experiences that they didn't even realize how their dad was teaching them at the time.

Roy and LaVerne share a strong faith in God and have been faithful, lifelong members of McDonald Memorial Baptist Church, where he has served as deacon, Trustee, and Sunday School teacher for many years. Roy has also served as a member of the Gideon International organization.

In 1987, Roy became involved in politics by serving on the West Orange City Council for five years before becoming Mayor of West Orange in May of 1995. During his time as a public servant, he worked on numerous local, regional, and state committees. Roy served on the Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission from 1999 to 2004, working in several different positions from Secretary to President. He also served on the Texas Association of Regional Councils as Chairman of the Budget and By-laws Committee and as President of the Association. In addition, he served on the Texas Municipal League Small Cities Advisory Council as Chairman. In 2002 and 2004, Roy was appointed by Governor Rick Perry to the Southeast Texas Regional Review Committee.

During his tenure as mayor, Roy oversaw the construction of a new City Hall, new Fire and Police Stations, and numerous drainage and street projects. He also helped organize the city's recovery efforts after several natural disasters, such as the ice storm in 1997, and as many as nine hurricanes and tropical storms over the last three decades.

I wish Roy well in this next phase of life and have no doubt he will enjoy spending more time with his bride LaVerne, his daughter Beverly and her husband Dr. Servet Satir, and with his son Troy McDonald and wife Rose, and especially his five grandchildren Troy McDonald II, Olivia Satir, Kyle McDonald, Micah Satir, and Megan McDonald.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank Mayor McDonald for his lifetime of dedicated service to the citizens of West Orange and wish him the very best during his well-deserved retirement.

COMMENDING PLACE OF HOPE

HON. BRIAN J. MAST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. MAST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an organization that is celebrating 20 years of service to our community. Place of Hope has been dedicated to providing a stable and loving environment for children, youth, and families that are suffering from abuse, neglect, homelessness, and human trafficking.

Place of Hope has served over 17,000 children, youth, and families in our community over the past 20 years. To date, a remarkable 320 "forever families" have been created via adoption. They are the largest, most diverse, residential children and families organization in Palm Beach County and on the Treasure Coast. Moreover, because of their work, more than 40,000 community members have been educated about human trafficking.

Organizations like Place of Hope are indispensable to making the world and community a better place, so I congratulate them on their 20 years of service and wish them continuing success in the future.

SAMANTHA BOWES

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Samantha Bowes for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Samantha Bowes is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Samantha Bowes is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Samantha Bowes for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING COLE R. SOUTHARD

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Cole R. Southard. Cole is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Cole has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Cole has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Cole R. Southard for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE FRONTLINE HEALTHCARE WORKERS OF SOUTH DAKOTA

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 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: Kelci Schulz, Staci Schulz, Chelsea Schulz, Becky Schulz, Kristina Schulz, Sheila Schumacher, Carol Schumacher, Cynthia Schumacher, Mary Schumacher, Mary Schumacher, Stacy Schumacher, Bette Schumacher, Kara Schumacher, Jennifer Schumacher, Kristy Schumacher, Alyssa Schumacher, Andrew Schumacher, Amanda Schumacher, Jacobb Schumacher, Janice Schuman, Cindy Schuman, Jill Schuman, Janiele Schumm, Wanda Schummer, Melanie Schuppan, Natosha Schurch, Luanne Schurger, Nancy Schuring, Mariah Schurman, Paige Schurman, Colleen Schurrer, Sarah Schuster, Thomas Schuster, Katherine Schuster, Stephanie Schuster, Hilary Schuster, Kathryn Schuster, Cynthia Schuttler, Marie Schutz, Courtney Schutz, Calley Schuyler, Rachael Schwab, Amanda Schwader, Mary Schwaegerl, Kimberly Schwan, Angela Schwan, Kayla Schwan, Jacalyn Schwan, Sarah Schwarten, Sylvia Schwarting, Anne Schwartz, Kristi Schwartz, Michele Schwartz, Colette Schwartz, Brooke Schwartz, Kelsey Schwartzle, Ellen Schwarz, Bonita Schwarz, Dawn Schwarze, Linda Schwebach, Claudia Schwebach, Katlyn Schweder, Mattie Schweers, Sara Schweigert, Nyree Schweigert, Kathy Schweitzer, Sandra Schweitzer, Linda Schweitzer, Carla Schweitzer, Kimm Schweitzer, Megan Schweitzer, Clay Schweitzer, Judith Schwerin, Heather Schwichtenberg, Paul Schwichtenberg, Joel Schwiesow, Peter Schwiesow, Staci Schwingler, Tammy Scollard, Linda Scott, Cheryl Scott, Pamela Scott, Julie Scott, Gina

Scott, Nancy Scott, Stephanie Scott, Gretchen Scott, Angela Scott, Nicole Scott, Lucas Scott, Marilyn Scott, Terry Ann Scott, Samantha Scott, Abigail Scott, Brooke Scott, D Scott, Jackie Scotting, Sandra Scotting, Glenn Scotting, Tate Scotting, Christine Scovill, Darla Scribner, Kaitlyn Scull, Jennifer Seale.

Amy Seales, Lilia Sears, Abigayle Sebbo, Julie Sebert, Kimberly Sebert, Donna Sebesta, Patricia Sechser, Deann Sechser, Morgan Sechser, Shelley Sedivy, Janice Sedlacek, Jessica Seehafer, Dawn Seeley, Becky Seeman, Andrea Sees, Darcie Sees, Terri Segeleon, Delores Seger, Amanda Sehnert, Kimberly Sehr, Rachel Sehr, Tiffany Sehr, Tammi Seibold-Schmitz, Marilyn Seidel, Jennifer Seidel, Mary Seieroe-Schlather, Kristy Seiler, Sarah Seiner, Bethany Seiter, Hannah Selan, Rylee Selberg, Ryan Selchert, Zacara Selchert, Abbie Seliski, Shelly Selland, Caitlyn Selland, Morgan Selland Barden, Dafina Selmani, Paul Selzler, MaKayla Selzler, Jolae Semmler, Jodi Semmler, Alexis Semmler, Rachel Semmler, Renata Semrad, Wade Sendelbach, Sean Sendelbach, Emily Sendelbach, Jennifer Senge, Cynthia Senger, Lisa Senger, Joni Sengos, Molly Senst, Jaehee Seo, Bruce Serbus, Michelle Serck, Alison Serck, Jody Serfling, Kathleen Serfoss, Heidi Semett, Danette Serr, Samantha Serr, Kristin Seruyange, Shauna Service, Tasha Seten, Meng Seth, Julie Seth, Peggy Seurer, Jennifer Seurer, Trent Sever, Rebecca Severson, Janice Severson, Delayne Severson, Nancy Severson, Jane Severson, Katie Severson, Stephanie Severson, Austin Severson, Haley Severson, Jenna Severson, Jeffrey Severson, Kathryn Severson, Caron Seward, Sandra Sexton Welling, Charissa Shackleton, Michelle Shafer, Melissa Shaffer, Jamie Shaffner, Karli Shama, Miah Shamblin, Patti Shangreaux, Geraldine Shangreaux, Patrick Shannon, Elizabeth Shape, Ethel Sharkey, Brittany Sharkey, Sarah Sharp, Becky Sharp, Ashley Sharpe, Leah Shatswell, Cori Shatto, Lynnette Shattuck, Warren Shaulis, Patricia Shaver, Melissa Shaw, Darla Shawd, Nelli Shchur, Katie Shea, Michelle Sheaffer, Lenora Shearer, Debra Sheckler, Sara Sheeley, Alyssa Sheesley, Victoria Sheldon, Sally Sheley, Theresa Shelnutt, Madonna Shelso, Candace Shelton, Darcela Sheneman, Marie Shepardson.

Francis Shepersky, Kala Shepherd, Carol Sheppard, Dana Sheppard, Danielle Sherard, Brooke Sherard, Libby Sherer, Celeste Sherk, Maryann Sherman, Tracey Sherman, Shana Sherman, Darcy Sherman Justice, Rebecca Sherrill, Veronica Sherwood, Kari Shields, Samantha Shields, Beletech Shiferaw, Meranda Shindelbower, Carissa Shinstine, Latoya Shirley, Tatyana Shkinder, Virginia Shockey, Autumn Shoemaker, Rhonda Shoen, Cynthia Shogren, Angela Shonblom, Nicole Shorb, Lema Shouldis, Kendra Shouldis, Pamela Shoultz, Carol Shoultz, Angela Shoup, Lora Shoup, Alexis Shoup, Sarah Shreeves, Shristi Shrestha, Susan Shuey, Andrew Shumake, Nicolle Shumaker, Sandra Shumaker, Curtis Shumaker, Tara Shuman, Judy Shupick, Stephen Shupick Jr, Kathleen Sibson, Tara Sichmeller, Annette Sichmeller, Judy Sickler, Kathleen Sickler, Kristi Sidel, Jeana Sides, Alaina Sides, Gina Siebdrath, Margaret Sieben, Sarah Siebert, Merilee Sieck, Char Siefken, Sara Siefken, Michael Siefker, Sarah Sieg, Caitlin Siegel, Amy Sieh, Emily Sieler, Deborah Siemens, Sharon Siemonsma, Mary Siemonsma, Kristin Siepkes, Heather Sierra, Michelle Sieveke, Koel Sievers, Katherine Sievers, Gail Sievert, Taylor Siewert, Nadine Siferd, Carolyn Sigel, Kathy Sigler, Michelle Sigman, Shauna Sigman, Peggy Sik, Cari Sikkink, Kristi Sikkink, Hannah Sikkink, Jordon Silbernagel, Doris Silling, Sarah Silvernail, Rebecca Sime, Patricia Simmons, Lucas Simmons, Cathy Simmons, Meghan Simmons, RiAnn Simmons, Kobe Simmons, Nicola Simms, Darrel Simon, Marietta Simon, Ramona Simon, Robert Simon, Jackie Simon, Sharon Simon, Latrina Simon, Kaylene Simon, Abigail Simon, Kristina Simonds, Scott Simonich, Sarah Simonich, Lynn Simons, Renae Simons, Anna Simons, Tanya Simonson, Lori Simonton, Melissa Simpson, Kathy Simpson, Donna Simpson, Julie Sims, Keri Simunek, Leanne Sinclair, Emily Sinclair, Malivone Singha, Cindy Sinkey, Twilla Sinning, Brooke Sinning, Marissa Sinsabaugh, Monique Sioux Bob, Lois Sipos, Cindy Sippel, Sandra Sippel, Alicia Sippel, Tara Sires, Kristi Sires-Cannon, Courtney Sirovy, Lora Sisk, Stacy Sithad, Mary Sittig, Lexy Sittig, Ashalyn Sittig, Thomas Sittig, Rebecca Sittig, Allison Sittner, Rhonda Siver, Leanne Siverhus, Elizabeth Sivertsen, Adam Sivertson, Catherine Sivertson, Michael Sjaarda, Shelby Sjaarda, Jennifer Sjaarda Dinger, Brooke Sjomeling, Sarah Skaalerud, Deborah Skaff, Hannah Skala, Sandra Skalland, Marcella Skatvold, Andrea Skavlem, Julie Skea, Susan Skeie, Julia Skelton, Ashley Skidmore, Jennifer Skiles, Donna Skinner, Sandra Skinner, Robin Skinner, Nyla Skipper, Lizabeth Skjervem, Michelle Skjoldal, Abbagail Skjoldal, Genevieve Skogberg, Ann Skoglund, Tara Skoglund, Amy Skoglund, Christeen Skogsberg, Magdalena Skon, Jean Skonhovd, Margaret Skoog, Jody Skoog, Patricia Skorey-Solberg, Russell Skovlund, Heidi Skovlund, Jordanna Skovlund, Nichole Skovly, Debra Skow, Samantha Skowron, Michelle Skroch, Teresa Skubic, Jessica Skyberg, Alisha Skyberg, Carol Slaba, Jessica Slaba, Tyler Slaba, Tanna Slaby, Cynthia Slack, Brenda Slade, Kati Slagle, Marjorie Slama, Lori Slathar, Melissa Slattery, Megan Slattery, Jill Sleger, Lindsay Slepikas, Jamie Slettedahl, Brenda Sletten, Suree Sletten, Casea Sletten, Melissa Sletten, Nicole Slevin, Nancy Slostad, Cheryl Slowey, Abragayle Slowey, Brande Slusser, Jordan Slusser, Tana Slykhuis, Wanda Slykhuis, Melissa Slykhuis, Aimee Smahel, Shannan Small, Misty Small, Heidi Small, Barbara Small, Jackie Smalley, Tammie Smart, Mark Smedsrud.

Sharon Smeenk, Audrey Smeenk, Renee Smethurst, Pam Smid, Janice Smidt, Joe Smidt, Marie Smidt, Stephanie Smidt, Luke Smidt, Alexandra Smiley, Karla Smit, Traci Smith, Audra Smith, Roxanne Smith, Carol Smith, Marlene Smith, Michele Smith, Sheryl Smith, Sherry Smith, Joyce Smith, Margaret Smith, Laraine Smith, Ruth Smith, Pamela Smith, Charlene Smith, Megan Smith, Wanita Smith, Dianne Smith, Jane Smith, Christopher Smith, Debra Smith, Margret Smith, Christine Smith, Rick Smith, Robyn Smith, Carla Smith, Lori Smith, Brandy Smith, Darnele Smith, Maris Smith, Kimberly Smith, Michelle Smith, Susan Smith, Emily Smith, Darren Smith, Jodi Smith, Janelle Smith, Tracy Smith, Danielle Smith,

Anthony Smith, Holly Smith, Angela Smith, Mindi Smith, Rebecca Smith, Elizabeth Smith, Sarah Smith, Julie Smith, Mark Smith, Sarah Smith, Joanne Smith, Amber Smith, Makayla Smith, Ashley Smith, Jennifer Smith, Brian Smith, Ashley Smith, Rochelle Smith, Josh Smith, Cheryl Smith, Ronda Smith, Charles Smith, Taylor Smith, Nicholas Smith, Samantha Smith, Diane Smith, Logan Smith, Linda Smith, Jaclyn Smith, Monica Smith, Summer Smith, Kaylie Smith, Katie Smith, Anna Smith, Carolyn Smith, John Smith, Caroline Smith, Bridgett Smith, Kacy Smith, Mikael Smith, Parker Smith, Kassie Smith, Jacob Smith, Michael Smith, Angela Smithhart, Debra Smoger, Joyce Smoak, Katelyn Smook, Vina Smoot, Marquerite Smotherman, Cari Snaza, Erin Snaza, Vanessa Snell, Aubrey Snell, Janelle Sneller, Lindsay Sneve, Julie Snitker, Lidiya Snizhko, Melissa Snoozy, Kathryn Snoozy, Marlette Snoozy, Laura Snover, Sara Snow, Kayla Snow, Jill Snuggerud, Frank Snyder, Debra Snyder, Michele Snyder, Amy Snyder.

Jessica Snyder, Justin Snyder, Elizabeth Snyder, Aleasha Snyder, Claire Snyder, Kelli Snyders, Cody Soard, Daniela Soberano, Jennifer Sobolik, Valerie Soderborg, Shea Soderlin, SaraBeth Soetmelk, Lynn Sogge, Deborah Soholt, Debra Sokolowski, Jaci Solaas, Paula Solaas, Haily Solberg, Michelle Solberg, Megan Solberg, Brienne Soldier, Marietta Soleminio, Ritchel Solilapsi, Devin Soliz, Sarah Solma, Nichole Solomon, Catherine Solomon, Heather Solon, Stacy Solum, Alisha Solum, Lori Sombke, Whitney Sombke, Gina Sommers, Bryan Sommervold, Katherine Sornsen, Stephanie Sones, Michelle Songer, Jessica Sonn, Mashell Sonne, Katelin Soodsma, Brenda Soper, Jerold Sorbel, Sharon Sorensen, Mary Sorensen, Roxanne Sorensen, Jon Sorensen, Kimberley Sorensen, Lori Sorensen, Danielle Sorensen, Michelle Sorensen, Jamie Sorensen, Dianna Sorenson, Beth Sorenson, Tracy Sorenson, Ashley Sorenson, Kristina Sorenson, Amy Sorestad, Debbie Sorg, Cassandra Soriano, Jana Sorlie, Brodie Sorlie, Tiffany Sorlie, Sarah Sorrell, Patricia Sortland, Lara Souhrada, Mary Soukup, Dawn Soukup, Marja Soukup, Kristi Soukup, Christopher Soukup, Justine Soukup, Jazmyn Soukup, Carmen Soulek, Kelly Soulek, Jocelyn Southern, Tasha Souvignier, Jon Savell, Carissa Savell, Sarah Soward, Jaclynn Sowards, Cathy Sowers, Sheri Spaans, Jeffrey Spaans, Kristie Spaans, Lori Spader, Jason Spah, Joan Spahr, Amy Spahr, Joseph Spahr, Emily Spaid, Nickolaus Spain, Chelsea Spain, Rachel Spalding, Jody Spangenberg, Carol Spangler, Michelle Spangler, Robert Spangler, Laura Sparby, Trisha Sparks, Hannah Spates, Michelle Spaulding, Nathanial Spawn, Staci Speam, Danielli Spears, Stephanie Specht, Jodean Speck, Amy Speck, Sarah Speck, Jaimee Speckels.

Samantha Speed, Lindsay Speer, Denise Speidel, Anna Speirs, Jaclyn Spencer, Lisa Spencer, Stephanie Spencer, Sarah Sperl, Terri Sperle, Hannah Sperle, Amanda Sperry, Paige Sperry, Leah Sperry, Sarah Sperry, Dustin Spieker, Kelly Spielman, Cari Spier, Travis Spier, Hope Spies, Crystal Spiger, Shanda Spilde, Tyler Spilde, April Spinar, Cindy Spindle, Alison Spindler, Devin Spindler, Holli Spitler, Jalisa Spittler, Elaine Spitzer, Sharon Spitzer, Brenda Spitzer, Mellissa Spitzer, Kassie Spoonemore, Sarah Sparrer, Kelly Spradlin, Misty Spraitz, April Sprang, Coleen Sprecher, Emily Sprecher, Abby Sprecher, Oksana Sprecher, Steven Sprecher,

Lisa Spreckels, Debra Springer, Kathryn Sprinkel, Debbie Spronk, Dawn Spurlin, Shannon Spurlin, Gregory Spurlin, Joseph Squillace, Anna Squillace, Peter Squyer, Amy St Aubin, Carol St Sauver, Hailey St.Amand, Lisa Staab, Rita Stacey, Corine Stach, Erika Stack, Colette Stadlman, Thomas Stadtfeld, Kimberly Staebell, Carol Staedtler, Rebecca Staedtler, Amber Staedtler, Patrick Staedtler, Jessica Stage, Peggy Stager, Kayla Stager, Dianne Staggs, Stacy Stahl, Dawn Stahl, Suzanne Stahl, Kipp Stahl, Sarah Stahl, Breanna Stahl, Debra Stahl, Laura Stahl, Cara Stahlecker, Kimeron Stahly, Janice Stahnke, Kathryn Stai, Laurie Stainbrook, Amy Stainbrook, Kathleen Stalder, Adam Stall, Jenny Stalley, Carol Stalzer, Mary Stam, Linda Stambaugh, Lisa Stammers, John Stamp, Paul Stamp, Elizabeth Stamper, Jo Stanage, Lisa Stanage, Jamie Standen, Lisa Standing Soldier, Heidi Stands, Christopher Stanford, Devaroux Stanga, Kay Stange, Brita Stange, Barbara Stangeland, Rhonda Stangl, Amanda Stangohr, Jennifer Stanhope, Jody Stanley, Lisa Stanley, Rhonda Stansbury, Erin Stansbury, Kara Stapert, Kaylee Staples, Jena Stapleton, Tina Star, Erin Stark, Sherilyn Starks, Lena Starovoytov, Emily Starr, Mary Starr, Jocelyn Starr, Lori Starr Stebbins, Joshua Statler, Terri Stauffacher, Alyssa Stauffacher.

Tara Stauffacher, Scott Stauffenecker, Jamie Staum, Keely Staus, Elizabeth Stauss, Joel Stauss, Susan Stava, Jennifer Stavenger, Andreas Staver, Bobette Stead, Brianna Steams, Jennifer Steams, Katie Steams, Lauren Steams, Tarra Stecher, Sandra Steck, Bridget Steckelberg, Kodi Steckelberg, Gwen Steckler, Alexandra Steckler, Kelly Steele, Cassidy Steele, Jillian Steele, Lynette Steen, Amber Steen, Kylie Steen, Darlene Steenholdt, Susanne Steenholdt, Lauren Steers, Melonie Steffen, Loree Steffen, Ronda Steffen, Andrea Steffen, Sarah Steffen, Heidi Steffen, Tara Steffen, Jade Steffen, Jennifer Steffes, Michele Steidl, Sadie Steiger, Hannah Stein, Taryn Steinbeck, Mark Steinborn, Jordan Steinborn, Gabriel Steinborn, Audra Steinborn, Jennifer Steiner, Michelle Steiner, Amber Steiner, Tina Steinert, Alicia Steinfurth, Samantha Steinhour, Jay Steinke, Dorothy Steinlicht, Roni Steinmeyer, Brian Stellinga, Ashley Stelzer, Michelle Stemper, Shannon Stemwedel, Jessica Stenen, Jacqueline Stengel, Patti Stensland, Kallie Stenson, Thomas Stenvig, Peyton Stenzel, Rachel Stephan, Michelle Stephens, Erin Stephens, Julie Stephens, Kelly Stephens, Michelle Stephens, Karen Stephenson, Chrystal Stephenson, Angela Steppan, Carla Steppat, Andrea Sterkel, Brett Sterkel, Georgia Stem, Laura Stema, Jody Sternberg, Rachel Sternberg, Jane Stemhagen, Kelli Stemhagen, Kalina Stemhagen, Gladys Sterud, Vicki Stethem, Joran Stetson, Abigail Stetzer, Krista Steuck, Cynthia Stevens, Justin Stevens, Sara Stevens, Laree Stevens, Samantha Stevens, Lori Stevenson, Lexi Stevenson, Lorie Stevicks, Mary Stewart, Gayla Stewart, Debra Stewart, Karen Stewart, Jolene Stewart, Ronette Stewart, Dolores Stewart, Janet Stewart, Jennifer Stewart, Carol Stewart, Dorothy Stewart, Pamela Stewart, Kari Stewart, Jennifer Stewart, Shannon Stewart, Cassandra Stewart.

Shane Stewart, Kari Stickelmyer, Nannette Stiefvater, Danica Stiehl, Jennifer Stiles, Stephanie Stiles, Jennifer Stillings, Michelle Stillwell, Kyla Stilwell, Katelyn Stimpson, Heaven Stinger, Sheryl Stinson, Matthew Stinson, Rebecca Stivers, Tessa Stob, Joni Stock, Suzanne Stockland, Kyle Stockland, Cynthia Stocks, Rita Stoddard, Brenda Stoebner, Sarah Stoebner, Kimberly Stoecker, Barbara Stoeckl, Dayna Stoeckman, Kathryn Stoeser, Erin Stofferahn, Devon Stoffers, Aaron Stoick, Priscilla Stokes, Kelly Stokes, LaToya Stokes, Mark Stokes, Eric Stokka, Sarah Stokke, Brenda Stokke, Michael Stokke, Deanna Stoll, Ellen Stoll, Juliann Stolle, Sara Stolp, Darcy Stolp, Poteet Stolte, Kelci Stoltenberg, Rebecca Stoltenburg, Robyn Stolz, Kristen Stolz, Shana Stone, Theresa Stone, Brandie Stoner, Kyla Stoops, Julie Stordahl, Jean Storer, Ann Storey, Carole Storgaard, Kristine Storhaug, Joan Stork, Rebecca Storly, Kendra Storm, Rebekah Storm, Dillon Storm, Marijo Storment, Ellen Storms, Elizabeth Storms, Karen Story, Lori Story, Trisha Story, Taylor Stotz, Micalyne Stough, Julie Stout, Tia Stout, Kallie Stout, Jenna Stoutland, Debra Stover, Denise Stover, Gina Strahan, Connie Strahl, Emily Straley, Jodi Strand, Kari Strand, Mahra Strand, Chelsey Strand, Michele Strasser, Andrea Strasser, Katelyn Strasser, Joslyn Strating, Peggy Stratman, Cassidy Stratman, McKayla Stratmeyer, Barbara Stratton, Melissa Street, Nicole Streeter, Teresa Streeter, Karla Strege, Mary Streitenberger, Amanda Strickland, Nataliya Strizhius, Susan Strobel, Rebecca Stroman, Kellye Stroman, Allyson Stromer, Crissy Strong, Anna Strong, Megan Strong, Gayle Stroschein, Delaney Stroschein, Denise Stroud, Joshua Stroup, Cresta Strub, Athena Strubbe, Danielle Strubbe, Tonya Struble, Tami Struble, Terri Struckman, Tammy Struwe, Kristena Struwe, Jessie Stubbe, Michelle Stuck.

Jamie Stucky, Sara Studer, Alyssa Studer, Gregory Studer, Steven Studzinski, Vicki Stuefen, Rebecca Stueven, Carly Stukel, Ann Stukel, Gabrielle Stukel, Chloe Stulken, Caroline Stulken, Alicia Stunes, Rhonda Sturgeon, Brenda Sturgeon, Mary Sturm, Joseph Stunna, Holly Sturtz, Shannon Stuwe, Krystal Stuwe, Ashley Styer, Abbie Styes, Nancy Styles, Dawn Styles, Breanne Styles, Alexa Suarez, Marie Subiate, Jennifer Subijano, Patricia Sudbeck, Jill Sudbeck, Kathryn Sudbeck, Emily Sudbeck, Darlene Suddeth, Lesleigh Sudenga, Deleight Sudmeier, Patricia Suedkamp, Susan Sueltz, Mariah Suess, Tessa Sufficool, Leah Suhr, Kaitlin Sulentic, Kimberley Sullivan, Brenda Sullivan, Deanne Sullivan, Joan Sullivan, Pamela Sullivan, Katherine Sullivan, Barbara Sullivan, Sarah Sullivan, Nichole Sullivan, Ryan Sullivan, Debra Sully, Mallory Summerer, Colette Summers, Tracy Summers, Chelsea Summerside, Karen Sumner, Nyssa Sumser, Laurel Sund, Chelsey Sundberg, Chelsey Sundberg, Brittany Sundblad, April Sundby, Brenna Sundby, Michelle Sunde, Julie Sunde, Sean Sundermann, James Sundet, Holly Sundet, Natasha Sundet, Heather Sundleaf, Charice Suomala, Corbin Surat, Kerry Surring, Sabrina Susanen, Rebecca Susemihl, Karen Sussman, Kelsey Sutera, Deeann Suther, Anita Sutherland, Lyle Sutherland, Linda Sutter, Norene Sutton, KaSara Sutton, Michelle Sutton, JaeShaun Sutton, Constance Svanda, Brenda Svatos, Douglas Svatos, Meghan Svatos, Nicole Svatos, Blair Svennes, Cindy Svoboda, Tammy Svoke, Roxanne Swab, JoBeth Swallow, Allen Faith Swancara, Carol Swaney, Kendra Swaney, Renee Swanhorst, Kenneth Swann, Donna Swanson, Marian Swanson, Shauna Swanson, Rebecca Swanson, Linda Swanson, Jill Swanson, Mardi Swanson, Judy Swanson, Kelly Swanson, Chelsey Swanson, Melissa Swanson.

Colleen Swanson, Carley Swanson, Dawn Swanson, Angala Swanson, Dayna Swanson, Josiah Swanson, Angela Swartos, Sara Swartz, Jill Swatek, Lois Swaving, Donna Swearingen, Vicki Swedlund, Sara Swedlund, Breanna Swee, Taylor Sweeney, Jennifer Sweeter, Mary Swenson, Karin Swenson, Renee Swenson, Terri Swenson, Mark Swenson, Marie Swenson, Stacey Swenson, Lacey Swenson, Jane Swenson, Madison Swenson, Allison Swenson, Stacy Swier, Nicole Swier, Mariah Swier, Kellie Swier, Kaylee Swier, Angela Swift, Anne Swift, Ashley Syhre, Mary Sykora, Lindsay Symens, Julie Symes, Danielle Syrovatka, Jeanine Syverson, Alicia Syverson, Sydney Syverson, Marqui Szczesny, Adrienne Szinger, Deann Szymonski, Shiela Szymonski, Elizabeth Szymonski, Dreely Tabor, Sarah Tacke, Michael Tadlock, Rebecca Taffe, Samantha Taft, Lindsey Taft, Rhonda Tagtow, Catherine Taite, Stacey Tait-Goodale, Timothy Takahashi, Heather Taken Alive, Erika Taken Alive, Sarah Talbott, Musa Tamhla, Jeremy Tamisiea, Jennifer Tamura, Elisiana Tandoc, Edmar Tanguilig, Whitney Tanis, Jordan Tanis, Allison Tank, Stephanie Tanner, Leah Tapia, Yvonne Tapio, James Tapken, Sandra Ann Tappe, Lynette Tarnowski, Holly Taschner, Tamara Tasseff, Brenna Tate, Ryan Tatro, Theresa Tatten, Cynthia Taverna, Marcia Taylor, Vanessa Taylor, Tennille Taylor, Amy Taylor, Sarah Taylor, Emily Taylor, Tania Taylor, Abbey Taylor, Kelly Taylor, Christina Taylor, Robin Taylor, Alexandra Taylor, Andrew Taylor, Laura Taylor, Aaron Taylor, Spencer Taylor, Nathan Taylor, Danielle Taylor, Cassandra Taylor, Austin Taylor.

Ashley Taylor, Christy Te Slaa, Morgan Te Slaa, Elizabeth Te Slaa, Anne Teachout, Connie Teale, Kristina Tebay, Brenda Tebben, Shelley Tech, Angela Teel, Fedessa Tefera, Eden Tefera, Lacie Teigh, Kimberly Tekrony, Amanda Tekrony, Taylor Telford, Denise Telkamp, Anna Tellekson, Hannah Tellmann, Ann Temple, Carly Temple, Pamela Templeton, Justin Templeton, Sherri Ten Fingers, Ryan Tennant, Carrie Tennant, Susan Tenney, Nicole Teppo, Debra Teppo, Jamie Teppo, John Terbeest, Renee Tereshinski, Natalie Terkildsen, Desiri Terlau, Teresa Termansen, Heather Terpenning, Marilyn Terry, Brady Terveen, Nancy Terveen, Beth Terveen, Cali Terveen, Christina Terveen, Jacque Terveer, Alyssa TerWee, Cheryl Tesch, Michelle Tesch, Tsega Tesfay, Test Test, Robin Testerman Crist, Shayla Tetrault, Bailey Tetrault, Breynn Tetrault, Kelly Teveldal, Sarah Tewksbury, Ceirrah Thaemert, Vicki Thaler, Mamie Thaler, Debra Thalhuber, Cleone Thatcher, and Amber Thede.

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 MOUNT LAUREL CHIEF JOHN COLUCCI

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief John M. Colucci of the Mount Laurel Fire Department on his twenty-five years of service to Mount Laurel and to congratulate Chief Colucci on his much-deserved retirement.

A beloved son of New Jersey, Chief Colucci returned to New Jersey to begin his career in the fire service in 1994, after serving in the Navy. While in the Navy, he was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, the Southwest Asia Service Medal with Bronze Star, the Armed Forces Joint Expeditionary Medal, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the Battle ''E'' Award and the Kuwait Liberation Medal.

Throughout his twenty-five years as a firefighter in New Jersey, Chief Colucci contributed greatly to the town of Mount Laurel and New Jersey. During his time as Chief of Department, Chief Colucci was dedicated to improving safety and quality of life for firefighters and the residents of Mount Laurel Township. Among his many achievements, Chief Colucci improved the department's ISO rating from a Class 4 to a Class 3, fully implemented a 24-hour staffing plan to increase fire safety and oversaw upgrades in technology, firefighting equipment and the firefighter bailout system. Chief Colucci also founded the Mount Laurel Firefighters Foundation, 501c3, served as Scholarship Chair of the Burlington County Fire Chiefs Associations, and served as President of the New Jersey Career Fire Chiefs Association from 2018 to 2020.

I commend Chief Colucci for his work, and I know I speak on behalf of my constituents when I say Chief Colucci will be missed.

OSCAR DE LA ROSA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Oscar De La Rosa for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Oscar De La Rosa is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. H.S. and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Oscar De La Rosa is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Oscar De La Rosa for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF ELIZABETH WAKNUK'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. SUZAN K. DelBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Ms. DELBENE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Elizabeth Waknuk of Bellingham, Washington on the occasion of her 100th birthday. Mrs. Waknuk migrated to the United States in 1954 from Canada. With her family, she moved to the United States with only $200 in hand and worked hard to start a life here while raising her four children. Until retirement, she worked as a supervisor for housekeeping at the University of Washington.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Elizabeth Waknuk on her 100th birthday. She has raised a wonderful and caring family, who I join in extending my heartfelt well wishes on this special occasion.

HONORING BOB PHILLIPS III

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate my longtime friend Bob Phillips III who went to be with his Savior on March 5, 2021. As we reflect on his extraordinary life, my thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this difficult time.

Blessed with a fierce intellect, Bob excelled at law school and went on to become one of Texas' premier attorneys. As a retired judge, I've seen many lawyers in practice and Bob, a tireless advocate for his clients, was one of the best.

His was a life of devotion to causes bigger than himself. I was blessed to share a Bible study with Bob where he taught, rejoiced in, and worked to make the lessons of the gospel attainable to all. Like his beloved Savior, Bob did not come to be served, but to serve, and the teachings of Christ guided Bob throughout his life. While I miss him here on Earth, I know he is in Heaven with the Son of Man who gave his life as a ransom for many.

Bob never shied away from coaching little leaguers or future attorneys and always rejoiced in thoughtful debate and good conversation. Throughout their joyous relationship, Bob and Jeanne, the love of his life, lived, loved, and prospered as one. Proud parents of five children and grandparents of seven, they kept family at the center of their lives. Bob's love of the game of baseball and his zeal for the gospel of Jesus Christ were two of the many legacies Bob passed down to his children, grandchildren, and so many others who were blessed to know him.

While I join Bob Phillips' family and friends in mourning his passing, the positive impacts he had on the lives of others will remain in our hearts forever.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF COACH STEVE JENKINS

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. LONG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the historic career of Evangel University's longtime Men's Basketball coach Steve Jenkins.

After graduating summa cum laude as a student athlete from Evangel in 1974, Coach Jenkins returned to the school in 1977 as an assistant basketball coach. From 1978 to 1983, he served as head coach for the University's baseball team, earning a record of 132–97–3. He also served as head coach of the golf team from 1998 to 2016, bringing the program its first conference championship, and winning Heart Coach of the Year in 2010 and 2012. His role as head coach of the basketball team has been his longest, taking over in 1982 and serving in that position ever since. During his tenure, Coach Jenkins has posted a record of 692–542 (.561) and has won 7 Heart of America Conference Championships, while competing in the NAIA Tournament 13 times. His team won the National Title in 2002, with a record of 35–l. He has been named Heart Conference Coach of the Year 7 times and won NAIA Coach of the Year in 2002.

Coach Jenkins record goes beyond wins and losses. A total of 24 of his former players have been named first-team All-Heart Conference, with 6 earning the league's Player of the Year award, along with 2 Freshman of the Year nominees, 4 Newcomer of the Year winners, and one Defensive Player of the Year Recipient. He has also coached 33 NAIA All-American players. As coach of the baseball team, 5 players won All-District honors, including the first NAIA All-American and Academic All-American in program history. More than 30 of his former players and staff members have gone on to hold coaching positions across the nation. This is a testament to the true teacher and mentor that Coach Jenkins is.

In 2014, Coach Jenkins was inducted to the NAIA Hall of Fame, the second inductee from Evangel. This followed his induction to the Evangel Athletics Hall of Fame in 2006, the Millwood Golf and Racquet Club Hall of Fame and Springfield Area Sports Hall of Fame in 2011, and the Missouri Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2013. In 2016, he was inducted to the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame.

Madam Speaker, Coach Jenkins has proven his incredible leadership and coaching skills, and I wish him and his family a happy retirement.

SAKARA TWO EAGLES

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sakara Two Eagles for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Sakara Two Eagles is a student at Oberon Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Sakara Two Eagles is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sakara Two Eagles for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I apologize for missing votes. I was not able to be present. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call No. 98.

RECOGNIZING STAPLES HIGH SCHOOL ''WE THE PEOPLE'' TEAM

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. HIMES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the first-place placement of Staples High School We The People: The Citizen and the Constitution Connecticut regional competition.

The We The People program helps students develop in-depth understanding of the Constitution through building their understanding of civic duty, teaching valuable research skills, and expanding their knowledge of government and its inner-workings.

Ensuring a better future for Southwest Connecticut requires our students to be able to articulate a vision for our country that reflects the basic principles in the Constitution that we revere. Staples High School's We The People team's success is proof of how our Constitution's principles and values will be carried on by ambitious and passionate future generations. I am proud that several of Connecticut's state champions come from the Fourth Congressional District, with Staples High School included in those ranks. Later this April, the Staples We The People will compete in the National Finals against teams across the country.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in congratulating the following students: Alexia Abrams Rivera, Natalie Bandura, Zachary Bishop, Oliver Clachko, Ruby Coleman, Jake Fitzpatrick, Matthew Genser, Alex Harrington, Eli Herman, Elizabeth Kuehndorf, Jared Leonard, Rishabh Mandayam, Talia Perkins, Aidan Rogers, Thomas Sargent, Lucia Schnirring, Allison Schwartz, Katherine Simons, Katherine Smith, Krishin Wadhwani, Julian Weng.

I join the community of Westport and the Fourth Congressional District in recognizing the accomplishment of these students and teacher, Suzanne Kammerman.

HONORING RYAN J. PFANNENSTIEL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ryan J. Pfannenstiel. Ryan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ryan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Ryan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ryan J. Pfannenstiel for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

SUNIL GUPTA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sunil Gupta for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Sunil Gupta is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Sunil Gupta is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sunil Gupta for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING THE CORPUS CHRISTI ARMY DEPOT (CCAD)

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. VELA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Corpus Christi Army Depot (CCAD) as it celebrates 60 years of operations as the premier rotary winged helicopter repair and maintenance facility for the United States Army. Established on March 10, 1961 as the U.S. Army Transportation Aeronautical Depot Maintenance Center (ARADMAC), Naval Air Station, Corpus Christi, it was accepted by the U.S. Army on April 21, 1961 and officially redesignated as the CCAD in 1974.

CCAD has become a critical asset in Army readiness since helicopters first took center stage of combat operations during the Vietnam War. Throughout Corpus Christi and the Rio Grande Valley, the names Huey, Chinook, Black Hawk, and Apache evoke pride in our Veterans, active duty personnel, and retired service members and civilians alike, whether in war or peacetime. Members of CCAD served valiantly on the USNS *Corpus Christi Bay* (formerly the USS *Albemarle*) during the Vietnam War as the Army's sole floating maintenance depot and saved time, money, and lives during the conflict.

Thousands of troops and civilian contractors have walked the halls, worked in the hangars, turned the wrenches, flown the aircraft and dedicated themselves to the operation of CCAD since 1961. Their commitment to the mission of the United States Army safeguards the freedom and security that citizens of the United States enjoy today.

I am proud to honor CCAD, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and showing deep appreciation for the service of all personnel of the CCAD, past, present, and future. Even in the midst of a global pandemic, like a battle-hardened soldier, CCAD remains strong, committed, and dedicated to ''Keep the Army Flying''.

HONORING TOM WILSON

HON. GREG PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Tom Wilson of Franklin County, IN. Tom currently serves as the Franklin County Commissioner President and has been a commissioner for 24 years.

A dedicated community servant, Tom was a Franklin County EMS personal and has always cared about his home.

I want to thank Tom for serving in the role as the Franklin County Republican Chair. Tom has helped move the conservative agenda forward and I appreciate all the work he has done for his community and his support.

HONORING THE BAYLOR MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM AS 2021 NCAA CHAMPIONS

HON. COLIN Z. ALLRED

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. ALLRED. Madam Speaker, I am honored to congratulate the Baylor University men's basketball team for their historic achievement in winning the 2021 NCAA national championship.

This marks the very first men's basketball championship in the history of the school, and it caps off an incredible season in which the team held a 28–2 record and were the Big 12 regular season champions.

I played college football at Baylor; and I know that it is a place filled with committed,

student-athletes who work together to achieve great things. It takes a tremendous amount of hard work, practice, and teamwork to reach this level of success, and those qualities abound in this team.

In a basketball season like no other, this accomplishment was hard-fought, and it reflects the dedication of each and every player, the leadership of Coach Scott Drew and the team's entire coaching and support staff as well as all their families and friends.

An achievement such as this does not happen without the support of an entire community.

It is such a privilege to recognize this outstanding group for their dedication, perseverance, and ultimately success in bringing a championship home to Baylor.

As a former Bear, I could not be prouder. Sic 'em.

ROMELY CARREON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Romely Carreon for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Romely Carreon is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Romely Carreon is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Romely Carreon for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND GENEROSITY OF MR. NICOLA BULGARI

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. KILMER. Madam Speaker, I would like to celebrate and give gratitude to Mr. Nicola Bulgari, an avid connoisseur of American-made cars and gracious contributor to the LeMay—America's Car Museum in Washington's 6th Congressional District.

Mr. Bulgari was born and raised in Rome, Italy and as a young boy, became fascinated with American cars. He promised himself that when he grew up, he would own an American car. This boyhood goal grew into supporting a dream that the United States would have a national entity dedicated to the heritage that the automobile brought to American life. Through his extensive efforts and commitment to helping others who share his passion, that dream has become a reality. In 2004, Mr. Bulgari joined the Board of Directors for the LeMay—America's Car Museum and devoted himself to the effort which led to its opening in Tacoma, Washington in 2012.

Most recently, in January 2021, Mr. Bulgari carried out the partnership between the NB Center for American Automotive Heritage and America's Automotive Trust based in Tacoma, WA. The Trust is committed to honoring the past, celebrating the present, and anticipating the future of American automotive legacy.

We are extraordinarily fortunate to have seen firsthand the generosity of Mr. Bulgari in our region. His devotion to the American automobile heritage will have a lasting impression on Washingtonians and visitors from all around the country and world. I have the great privilege of recognizing his impact here in the United States Congress.

IN CELEBRATION OF PATRICIA ''PATTIE'' MANSUR'S SERVICE TO KANSAS CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today with immense appreciation for Patricia ''Pattie'' Mansur's years of service to the students and community of Kansas City, Missouri as a member of the Kansas City Public School Board. Over the last several years, Pattie has demonstrated the passion, integrity, and determination that we hope the students whom she served will emulate as they become leaders in their own right.

Pattie's time on the School Board is a testament to what can be accomplished when concerned citizens engage with their community to overcome difficult issues. When Pattie enrolled her children into Kansas City Public Schools (KCPS), she recognized that its teachers and students were burdened as a consequence of dwindling revenues, inequitable opportunities, and transient leadership. Instead of simply lamenting those problems, Pattie set about building coalitions, engaging the community, and eventually, winning an at-large seat on the School Board. During her time in office, Pattie worked hard to build a strong foundation that future School Boards will expand upon for years to come. She helped recruit Dr. Mark Bedell, an administrator dedicated to equality in education, to serve as the superintendent. Dr. Bedell, along with Pattie and other Board members, secured the stability and leadership necessary for the district to implement a one-of-a-kind equity policy that has provided additional resources to chronically underfunded schools. Pattie also worked to increase the number of AP and dual-credit courses offered across KCPS high schools, ensuring that all students had the ability to earn college credit while attending high school. She engaged with private businesses to build and renovate existing fields, stadiums, and other venues so that every student has the opportunity to participate in sports and other extra-curricular activities. Recognizing that we communicate our values by how we spend our dollars, Pattie fought for increased teacher pay and further investment in new technologies that have helped educators connect with the next generation of students. As the district celebrated noticeable improvements in graduation rates and college readiness, she was a champion in the fight for full accreditation from the Missouri Department of Early and Secondary Education. Inspired by their mother's advocacy and her dedication to serving Kansas City's students, one of Pattie's three beloved children is now a teacher in the KCPS system. These accomplishments not only had a positive impact on children currently enrolled in KCPS, but will also continue to generate equitable opportunities for the next generations of KCPS students.

In addition to her stellar efforts on the School Board, Pattie has further served the Kansas City community through a number of non-profit organizations. She continues to serve as the Director of Health Policy and Communications for the REACH Healthcare Foundation, which works to improve access to healthcare for uninsured and underserved communities. As Director, she's advocated for policies in both Jefferson City and Washington, D.C. that would address systemic and deeply rooted inequities in the healthcare system. Recently, her tireless work at REACH helped the organization mobilize 29 local healthcare providers in an effort to strengthen the community's fight against the coronavirus pandemic. The REACH Foundation, and by extension those the foundation serves, has benefitted immensely from Pattie's three decades of proven leadership in the non-profit sector.

Marian Wright Edelman, a renowned advocate for children and founder of the Children's Defense Fund, once elegantly noted that working in education comes with a momentous duty to improve the lives of others and leave your community better than you found it. As Pattie's time on the School Board concludes, she can rest assured that KCPS students have more opportunities, are succeeding at higher rates, and have brighter futures because of her efforts. Madam Speaker, please join me in extending heartfelt and sincere congratulations to Pattie Mansur on a successful and accomplished tenure on the Kansas City Public School Board. Furthermore, let us renew our commitment to students as we strengthen our nation by investing in equitable, inclusive, and innovative public schools.

IN MEMORY OF MARY O'MARRO

HON. JIM HAGEDORN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. HAGEDORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mary O'Marro, who passed away on Friday, March 19th at the age of 95.

Mary was born on February 22, 1926 in Albert Lea, Minnesota. After graduating from Albert Lea High School in 1943, she worked at Wilson Meats before continuing her education at Rochester Junior College. She married her husband, Eugene, in 1951 and they were blessed with a daughter and two sons.

In addition to being a wife and mother, Mary worked for Judge Harry Blackmun prior to his appointment to the U.S. Supreme Court and later as a self-employed real estate broker for more than 25 years.

Mary was dedicated to her family and dearly loved by all who knew her. She is survived by her three children and six grandchildren. My prayers are with her loved ones during this difficult time.

REANNA MENDEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Reanna Mendez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Reanna Mendez is a student at Arvada West H.S. and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Reanna Mendez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Reanna Mendez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING BENNETT J. THOMAS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Bennett J. Thomas. Bennett is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Bennett has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Bennett has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Bennett J. Thomas for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING DREW BREES'S RETIREMENT FROM THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

HON. STEVE SCALISE

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Drew Brees, his legacy as a New Orleans Saint in the National Football League, and his dedication to the people of the City of New Orleans. Drew's retirement comes after completing twenty seasons in the NFL, fifteen of which were played as the starting quarterback of my hometown team, the New Orleans Saints. In fact, he chose to retire on March 14, 2021, the fifteen-year anniversary of his signing with the Saints.

Since 2005, Drew has taken the field dressed in black and gold and sparked the greatest era yet for the Saints franchise. For the last fifteen years, Brees has led one of the most explosive offensive teams in NFL history, marching the Saints to seven NFC South titles and winning the franchise's first-ever Super Bowl in 2010. You can take a guess who the MVP was for Super Bowl XLIV.

I could go on and on about how Drew Brees is one of the best football players of all time. How he is the NFL all-time leader in career passing yards, passes completed, passes completed per game, and total offensive yards. Or that he has the most seasons with 5,000+ passing yards, has been selected for 13 Pro Bowls, or that he has showcased his accuracy by holding the all-time single season record for his passing completion percentage at 74.4 percent. These achievements are unparalleled. In addition to Drew's accomplishments on the field, I also want to recognize and honor the positive impact Drew Brees has made on New Orleans and the entire State of Louisiana.

Drew came to New Orleans during one of our darkest times. Hurricane Katrina had taken over 1,800 lives and flooded the vibrant, historic crown jewel of the South. The iconic Louisiana Superdome, home to the Saints and regularly filled with cheering fans on Sundays, was filled with many of those same people who were now evacuees, some of whom had lost everything they owned.

The Saints are more than just a football team in New Orleans. After Katrina, the Saints gave us hope. The Saints are as much a part of the soul of New Orleans as our world-famous cuisine and the jazz music and brass bands that fill the French Quarter. Drew Brees changed our New Orleans Saints forever, bringing historic success to the franchise and giving the city hope, with something to finally celebrate through the grueling struggles of rebuilding. As the Saints organization put it, Drew came to us at our lowest point, and brought us to its highest.

A known leader in the locker room, Drew is also a leader off the field. Winner of the NFL's Walter Payton Man of the Year award, Drew and his wife Brittany founded the Brees Dream Foundation, which has contributed more than $45 million globally to cancer patients and families in need. In the last year, the Brees family personally committed $5 million to Louisiana to assist with COVID–19 relief efforts.

To close, I'd like to read Brees' own inspirational words from his retirement letter, addressed openly to the city and to the famed Who Oat Nation. "From the moment I stepped foot into the city of New Orleans, I could feel your spirit. You told me that if I loved New Orleans, you would love me back. No truer words have ever been spoken. "Drew, I wholeheartedly agree, and your place in the history of the city will live forever. Jennifer and I wish you, Brittany, and your beautiful young kids all the best as you now begin the next chapter of your Hall of Fame life.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAYOR OF NIAGARA, GEORGE BOUSLEY'S, DISTINGUISHED CAREER

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, today I rise in honor of the career and service of retiring City of Niagara Mayor, George Bousley.

Mayor Bousley has had a long and esteemed career in public service. He was first elected as the Mayor of Niagara in 1989 and held the position for 32 consecutive years. He also served 12 years on the Marinette County Board, with 8 years as the County Board Chair.

Throughout his service to Niagara and Marinette County, Mayor Bousley lead and contributed to countless projects and initiatives that will surely benefit Northeast Wisconsin for years to come. Colleagues of Mayor Bousley have praised him for his humility, dedication, open mindedness, and hard work, all of which will be missed as his tenure as Mayor of Niagara comes to an end.

Mayor Bousley has accomplished much during his time in public service, and truly personifies the generous spirit that Northeast Wisconsin is known for. From his work on the U.S. 141 project, to Niagara's Centennial Celebration, Mayor Bousley worked tirelessly for his community.

Mayor George Bousley will certainly be missed by the people of Niagara, and I commend him for his dedication to his community. Madam Speaker, I urge all members of this body to join me in applauding Mayor Bousley for his service.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE LIFE OF CLAIRE CULLEN EARLEY

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Claire Cullen Earley, a San Carlos, California resident, who died on March 28, 2021, Palm Sunday, at the age of 85.

Claire Cullen was born on May 29, 1935, in Larchmont, New York, to Colonel William Joseph Cullen and Alice Cunningham Cullen. She was raised in Larchmont and Manhattan and earned a degree in Mathematics from Rosemont College. She worked as a computer programmer at Union Carbide in New York City where she met and later married Martin Vincent Earley. In 1971 they moved to San Carlos, where she began her lifelong commitment to her community.

Claire Earley was the former President of the San Mateo County Association of Realtors, Director of the California Association of Realtors, a member of St. Charles Church in San Carlos and the San Carlos Rotary Club.

She was predeceased by her husband Martin and her parents. She leaves her four beloved sons and their wives, and 11 adored grandchildren. She will be sorely missed by each of them as well as the many people who were blessed by her loyalty and generosity. I was blessed with her friendship for almost five decades.

Madam Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in expressing our condolences to the family and friends of Claire Earley. She was a woman of great faith, a force of nature and always a force for good. We are a better community because of her and a stronger country.

HONORING MAYOR JAMES 'JIM' DARLING

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mayor James 'Jim' Darling on the occasion of his retirement. Mayor Darling faithfully served the City of McAllen, Texas for 43 years and will close out his tenure as mayor this May.

Mayor Darling was born in Rochester, New York, and then selflessly joined the U.S. Air Force. He completed two tours in Vietnam with the U.S. Air Force as a staff sergeant and eventually earned the rank of 2nd Class Petty Officer for the U.S. Navy Reserve.

Mayor Darling initially came to Texas to attend Baylor University in Waco, Texas, where he obtained his bachelor's and law degree. After Baylor, he moved to McAllen, Texas, where his love for the community kept him for over 40 years. Mayor Darling spent 28 years as city attorney for the City of McAllen and other government entities. He also served as the District 6 City Commissioner for two terms before being elected as Mayor of McAllen in 2013.

During Darling's two terms as Mayor, he was devoted to expanding educational opportunities and investing in public safety and infrastructure in McAllen and the entire Rio Grande Valley. He was deeply involved in the establishment of the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) Medical School, UTRGV Research Center and a Texas A&M University campus, attracting future professionals to the area. He also oversaw the merger of the Valley's three Metropolitan Planning Organizations and spearheaded key road and traffic improvements, an expansion of the city police department, an expansion of McAllen International Airport, and the construction of a new fire department.

Under Mayor Darling's leadership, the city also saw stadium improvements, park developments, and the construction of the McAllen Performing Arts Center. Mayor Darling also fought to bring broadband for underserved neighborhoods and worked with Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley to open the Humanitarian Respite Center.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank Mayor Darling for his leadership and more than four decades of service to the City of McAllen. While he credits many for his accomplishments, it takes a true leader to make a difference of this magnitude. He serves as both a light in our community and a role model. It is an honor to represent a dedicated public servant like Jim Darling. I wish Mayor Darling, my good friend, the best in his future endeavors.

SHOHZODAKHON (SHAHZODA) BURHONOVA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Shohzodakhon (Shahzoda) Burhonova for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Shohzodakhon (Shahzoda) Burhonova is a student at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Shohzodakhon (Shahzoda) Burhonova is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Shohzodakhon (Shahzoda) Burhonova for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING KYLE J. SILER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kyle J. Siler. Kyle is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kyle has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Kyle has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kyle J. Siler for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, April 15, 2021 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

APRIL 19

6 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To receive a closed briefing on the negotiation process and understanding the security situation in Afghanistan.

SVC–217

APRIL 20

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Defense

To hold hearings to examine Defense Health Program.

SD–192

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine United States Strategic Command and United States Space Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2022 and the Future Years Defense Program; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC–217.

SD–G50

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine investing in rural communities.

WEBEX

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine strengthening the Federal Trade Commission's authority to protect consumers.

SR–253

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine combatting inequality, focusing on the tax code and racial, ethnic, and gender disparities.

WEBEX

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine COVID–19 recovery, focusing on supporting workers and modernizing the workforce through quality education, training, and employment opportunities.

SD–430

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine voting rights.

SH–216

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

To hold hearings to examine the American Jobs Plan, focusing on infrastructure, climate change, and investing in our nation's future.

SD–106

2:30 p.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Intellectual Property

To hold hearings to examine improving access and inclusivity in the patent system, focusing on unleashing America's economic engine.

SD–226

APRIL 21

Time to be announced
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider the nominations of Julie A. Su, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Labor, Cynthia Minette Marten, of California, to be Deputy Secretary, and James Richard Kvaal, of Massachusetts, to be Under Secretary, both of the Department of Education, and other pending calendar business.
TBA

10 a.m.
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Bill Nelson, of Florida, to be Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and Lina M. Khan, of New York, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner.
SR–253

Committee on Foreign Relations
Business meeting to consider S. 413, to establish the China Censorship Monitor and Action Group, S. 814, to promote security partnership with Ukraine, and an original bill entitled, ''Strategic Competition Act of 2021''.
SD–106

Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Criminal Justice and Counterterrorism
To hold hearings to examine behavioral health and policing, focusing on interactions and solutions.
SD–226

2 p.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Legislative Branch
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Capitol Police, Architect of the Capitol, and Senate Sergeant at Arms.
SD–192

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities
To hold hearings to examine science and technology, technology maturation, and technology transition activities.
SR–222

Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Personnel
To hold hearings to examine the current and future cyber workforce of the Department of Defense and the military services.
SR–232A

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Subcommittee on Aviation Safety, Operations, and Innovation
To hold hearings to examine America's safe return to air travel.
SR–253

Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights
To hold hearings to examine competition in app stores, focusing on antitrust.
SD–226

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Dilawar Syed, of California, to be Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration.
SR–301

APRIL 22

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Jewel Hairston Bronaugh, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Agriculture.
SR–301

10:15 a.m.
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Kiran Arjandas Ahuja, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Personnel Management, and Anton George Hajjar, of Maryland, Amber Faye McReynolds, of Colorado, and Ronald Stroman, of the District of Columbia, each to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service.
SD–342/VTC

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1907–S1950

Measures Introduced: Twenty-three bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1108–1130, and S. Res. 155–156. **Pages S1939–40**

Measures Reported:

S. 108, to authorize the Seminole Tribe of Florida to lease or transfer certain land. (S. Rept. No. 117–10)

S. 314, to repeal the Klamath Tribe Judgment Fund Act. (S. Rept. No. 117–11)

S. 325, to amend the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children Act to extend the deadline for a report by the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children. (S. Rept. No. 117–12)

S. 548, to convey land in Anchorage, Alaska, to the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium. (S. Rept. No. 117–13)

S. 549, to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Tanana Tribal Council located in Tanana, Alaska. (S. Rept. No. 117–14)

S. 550, to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium located in Sitka, Alaska. (S. Rept. No. 117–15)

H.R. 208, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 West Main Street, Suite 102 in Tupelo, Mississippi, as the "Colonel Carlyle 'Smitty' Harris Post Office".

H.R. 264, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1101 Charlotte Street in Georgetown, South Carolina, as the "Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office Building".

S. 566, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 42 Main Street in Slatersville, Rhode Island, as the "Specialist Matthew R. Turcotte Post Office".

S. 914, to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize programs under those Acts, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S1939**

Measures Passed:

Military Retiree Appreciation Day: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 148, recognizing the importance of paying tribute to those individuals who have faithfully served and retired from the Armed Forces of the United States, designating April 18, 2021, as "Military Retiree Appreciation Day", and encouraging the people of the United States to honor the past and continued service of military retirees to their local communities and the United States, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S1950**

William T. Coleman, Jr., Department of Transportation Headquarters Act: Senate passed S. 400, to designate the headquarters building of the Department of Transportation located at 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, in Washington, DC, as the "William T. Coleman, Jr., Federal Building". **Page S1950**

Measures Considered:

COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes. **Page S1923**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 92 yeas to 6 nays (Vote No. 151), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S1923**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, April 15, 2021; and that at 12 noon, all post-cloture time on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill be considered expired, and the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill be agreed to. **Page S1950**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 53 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 148), Gary Gensler, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for the remainder of the term expiring June 5, 2021.

Pages S1909–12, S1950

By 53 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 150), Brenda Mallory, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Council on Environmental Quality.

Pages S1912–23, S1950

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 53 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 149), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S1912**

Messages from the House: **Pages S1937–38**

Executive Communications: **Pages S1938–39**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S1939**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1940–42**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S1942–44**

Additional Statements:

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S1944–49**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S1949–50**

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—151) **Pages S1911–12, S1923**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10:30 a.m. and adjourned at 6:27 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, April 15, 2021. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1950.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FEMA RESPONSE TO COVID–19

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security concluded a hearing to examine the Federal Emergency Management Agency's response to COVID–19 and other challenges, after receiving testimony from Robert J. Fenton, Jr., Senior Official performing the duties of Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

ENDLESS FRONTIER ACT

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine an original bill entitled, ''Endless Frontier Act'', after receiving testimony from Kelvin Droegemeier, University of Oklahoma, Norman; Marie Lynn Miranda, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana; David Shaw, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State; Linden Rhoads, The W Fund, Seattle, Washington; Gary D. Butler, Camgian, Starkville, Mississippi; and William B. Bonvillian, MIT Office of Open Learning, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 914, to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize programs under those Acts, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

HIGHWAY TRUST FUND

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the long-term solvency of the Highway Trust Fund, focusing on lessons learned from the Surface Transportation System Funding Alternatives Program and other user-based revenue solutions, and how funding uncertainty affects the highway programs, after receiving testimony from Joseph Kile, Director of Microeconomic Analysis, Congressional Budget Office; Jack Basso, Mileage Based User Fee Alliance, Washington, D.C.; Patricia G. Hendren, The Eastern Transportation Coalition, Silver Spring, Maryland; Robert Poole, Reason Foundation, Plantation, Florida; and Douglas Shinkle, National Conference of State Legislatures, Denver, Colorado.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Deanne Bennett Criswell, of New York, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, and Jason Scott Miller, of Maryland, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget.

COVID–19 PREPAREDNESS OVERSIGHT

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine preparedness for COVID–19, focusing on the initial pandemic response and lessons learned, after receiving testimony from Nicole Lurie, former Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, and Julie L. Gerberding, former Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, both formerly of the Department of Health and Human Services; and Rear Admiral Joseph L. Nimmich, USCG (Ret.), former Deputy Administrator, and Elizabeth A. Zimmerman, former Associate Administrator, Office of Response and Recovery, both formerly of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

COVID–19 RESPONSE IN NATIVE COMMUNITIES

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the COVID–19 response in Native communities, focusing on Native health systems one year later, after receiving testimony from Rear Admiral Michael Toedt, Chief Medical Officer, Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services; William Smith, National Indian Health Board, and Walter Murillo, National Council of Urban Indian Health, both of Washington, D.C.; Sheri-Ann Daniels, Papa Ola Lokahi, Honolulu, Hawaii; and Robert Onders, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, Anchorage.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Kristen M. Clarke, who was introduced by Senator Gillibrand, and Todd Sunhwae Kim, who was introduced by Senator Booker, both of the District of Columbia, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATION

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Richard A. Sauber, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

WORLDWIDE THREATS

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee concluded open and closed hearings to examine worldwide threats, after receiving testimony from Avril Haines, Director, Office of the Director of National Intelligence; William J. Burns, Director, Central Intelligence Agency; Christopher Wray, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice; General Paul Nakasone, Director, National Security Agency; and Lieutenant General Scott D. Berrier, Director, Defense Intelligence Agency, Department of Defense.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 50 public bills, H.R. 2497–2546; and 10 resolutions, H. Res. 310–319, were introduced. **Pages H1788–90**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1791–92**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 144, to forestall the loss of research talent by establishing a temporary early career research fellowship program, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–16). **Pages H1787–88**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Costa to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1739**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:50 a.m. and reconvened at 12 p.m. **Page H1744**

Oath of Office—Fifth Congressional District of Louisiana: Representative-elect Julia Letlow presented herself in the well of the House and was administered the Oath of Office by the Speaker. **Page H1745**

Whole Number of the House: The Speaker announced to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentlewoman from Louisiana, the whole number of the House is 430. **Page H1745**

Committee Election: The House agreed to H. Res. 310, electing a certain Member to a certain standing committee of the House of Representatives. **Page H1745**

Committee Election: The House agreed to H. Res. 311, electing a Member to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives. **Page H1745**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

United States Anti-Doping Agency Reauthorization Act of 2021: H.R. 172, to reauthorize the United States Anti-Doping Agency, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 381 yeas to 37 nays, Roll No. 99; **Pages H1748–49, H1781–82**

Food Allergy Safety, Treatment, Education, and Research Act of 2021: S. 578, to improve the health and safety of Americans living with food allergies and related disorders, including potentially life-threatening anaphylaxis, food protein-induced enterocolitis syndrome, and eosinophilic gastrointestinal diseases, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 415 yeas to 11 nays, Roll No. 100; **Pages H1749–51, H1783**

John Lewis NIMHD Research Endowment Revitalization Act of 2021: H.R. 189, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide that the authority of the Director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities to make certain research endowments applies with respect to both current and former centers of excellence; **Pages H1751–52**

Advancing Education on Biosimilars Act of 2021: S. 164, to educate health care providers and the public on biosimilar biological products, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 412 yeas to 8 nays, Roll No. 101; **Pages H1754–55, H1783–84**

Amending the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the scope of new chemical exclusivity: S. 415, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the scope of new chemical exclusivity; and **Pages H1755–56**

FTC Collaboration Act of 2021: H.R. 1766, to enhance cooperation between the Federal Trade Commission and State Attorneys General to combat unfair and deceptive practices. **Pages H1762–63**

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in memory of the late Honorable Alcee Hastings. **Page H1783**

Paycheck Fairness Act and Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act—Rule for Consideration: The House agreed to H. Res. 303, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 7) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1195) to direct the Secretary of Labor to issue an occupational safety and health standard that requires covered employers within the health care and social service industries to develop and implement a comprehensive workplace violence prevention plan, by a yea-and-nay vote of 217 yeas to 207 nays, Roll No. 103, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 217 yeas to 208 nays, Roll No. 102. **Pages H1775–81, H1784–85**

Expressing the profound sorrow of the House of Representatives on the death of the Honorable Alcee L. Hastings: The House agreed to H. Res. 312, expressing the profound sorrow of the House of Representatives on the death of the Honorable Alcee L. Hastings. **Page H1786**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Timely ReAuthorization of Necessary Stem-cell Programs Lends Access to Needed Therapies Act of 2021: H.R. 941, to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005; **Pages H1752–54**

Fraud and Scam Reduction Act: H.R. 1215, amended, to establish an office within the Federal Trade Commission and an outside advisory group to prevent fraud targeting seniors and to direct the Commission to include additional information in an annual report to Congress on fraud targeting seniors; **Pages H1756–58**

Nicholas and Zachary Burt Memorial Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2021: H.R. 1460, to encourage States to require the installation of residential carbon monoxide detectors in homes; **Pages H1758–60**

Protecting Seniors from Emergency Scams Act: H.R. 446, to require the Federal Trade Commission to submit a report to Congress on scams targeting seniors; **Pages H1760–61**

Protecting Indian Tribes from Scams Act: H.R. 1762, to direct the Federal Trade Commission to submit to Congress a report on unfair or deceptive acts or practices targeted at Indian Tribes or members of Indian Tribes; **Pages H1761–62**

Debarment Enforcement of Bad Actor Registrants Act of 2021: H.R. 1002, amended, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to authorize the debarment of certain registrants; **Pages H1763–64**

Ensuring Compliance Against Drug Diversion Act of 2021: H.R. 1899, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide for the modification, transfer, and termination of a registration to manufacture, distribute, or dispense controlled substances or list I chemicals; **Pages H1764–65**

Microloan Improvement Act of 2021: H.R. 1502, to amend the Small Business Act to optimize the operations of the microloan program, lower costs for small business concerns and intermediary participants in the program; **Pages H1765–67**

Microloan Transparency and Accountability Act of 2021: H.R. 1487, to amend the Small Business Act to increase transparency; **Pages H1767–68**

504 Modernization and Small Manufacturer Enhancement Act of 2021: H.R. 1490, to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to improve the loan guaranty program, enhance the ability of small manufacturers to access affordable capital; and **Pages H1769–72**

504 Credit Risk Management Improvement Act of 2021: H.R. 1482, to amend the Small Business Act to enhance the Office of Credit Risk Management, to require the Administrator of the Small

Business Administration to issue rules relating to environmental obligations of certified development companies. **Pages H1772–75**

Discharge Petition: Representative Cammack presented to the clerk a motion to discharge the Committee on Rules from the consideration of the resolution, H. Res. 274, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 619) to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit a health care practitioner from failing to exercise the proper degree of care in the case of a child who survives an abortion or attempted abortion (Discharge Petition No. 1).

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on pages H1747–48.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1781–82, H1783, H1783–84, H1784–85, and H1785.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Committee Meetings

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE—THE YEAR AHEAD

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled ''The U.S. Department of Agriculture—The Year Ahead''. Testimony was heard from Thomas J. Vilsack, Secretary, Department of Agriculture.

APPROPRIATIONS—NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on the National Science Foundation. Testimony was heard from Sethuraman Panchanathan, Director, National Science Foundation.

CRITICAL MANAGEMENT ISSUES—U.S. DIPLOMATIC AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs held a hearing entitled ''Critical Management Issues—U.S. Diplomatic and Development Agencies''. Testimony was heard from Diana R. Shaw, Acting Inspector General, Department of State; Thomas J. Ullom, Acting Inspector General, U.S. Agency for International Development; and Anthony Zakel, Inspector General, U.S. International Development Finance Corporation.

NATIONAL SECURITY CHALLENGES AND U.S. MILITARY ACTIVITY IN NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''National Security Challenges and U.S. Military Activity in North and South America''. Testimony was heard from Robert G. Salesses, Performing the Duties of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Global Security, Office of the Secretary of Defense; Admiral Craig S. Faller, U.S. Navy, Commander, U.S. Southern Command; and General Glen D. VanHerck, U.S. Air Force, Commander, U.S. Northern Command and North American Aerospace Defense Command.

AN EPIDEMIC WITHIN A PANDEMIC: UNDERSTANDING SUBSTANCE USE AND MISUSE IN AMERICA

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled ''An Epidemic within a Pandemic: Understanding Substance Use and Misuse in America''. Testimony was heard from Regina M. LaBelle, Acting Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy, Executive Office of the President; and public witnesses.

BUILD BACK BETTER: INVESTING IN EQUITABLE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled Build Back Better: Investing in Equitable and Affordable Housing Infrastructure''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

RENEWING THE UNITED STATES' COMMITMENT TO ADDRESSING THE ROOT CAUSES OF MIGRATION FROM CENTRAL AMERICA

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, Civilian Security, Migration, and International Economic Policy held a hearing entitled ''Renewing the United States' Commitment to Addressing the Root Causes of Migration from Central America''. Testimony was heard from Ricardo Zúniga, Special Envoy for the Northern Triangle, Department of State; and Peter Natiello, Deputy Assistant, Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, U.S. Agency for International Development.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee began a markup on H.R. 1333, the ''National Origin-Based Antidiscrimination for Nonimmigrants Act''; H.R. 1573, the ''Access to Counsel Act of 2021''; H.R. 40, the ''Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act''; H.R. 2393, ''No Oil Producing and Exporting Cartels Act

of 2021''; and the Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial and Administrative Law report entitled ''Final Report on Investigation of Competition in Digital Markets''.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee Office of Insular Affairs held a hearing on H.R. 1522, the ''Puerto Rico Statehood Admission Act''; and H.R. 2070, the ''Puerto Rico Self-Determination Act of 2021''. Testimony was heard from Pedro R. Pierluisi, Governor, Puerto Rico; Rafael Hernández, Speaker, Puerto Rico House of Representatives; María de Lourdes Santiago, Senator, Senate of Puerto Rico; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 51, the ''D.C. Admissions Act''; H.R. 1170, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1 League in Irvine, California, as the ''Tuskegee Airman Lieutenant Colonel Robert J. Friend Memorial Post Office Building''; H.R. 1444, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 132 North Loudoun Street, Suite 1 in Winchester, Virginia, as the ''Patsy Cline Post Office''; H.R. 1298, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1233 North Cedar Street in Owasso, Oklahoma, as the ''Staff Sergeant Marshal Roberts Post Office Building''; H.R. 960, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3493 Burnet Avenue in Cincinnati, Ohio, as the ''John H. Leahr and Herbert M. Heilbrun Post Office''; H.R. 767, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 40 Fulton Street in Middletown, New York, as the ''Benjamin A. Gilman Post Office Building''; H.R. 92, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 110 Johnson Street in Pickens, South Carolina, as the ''Specialist Four Charles Johnson Post Office''; H.R. 91, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 810 South Pendleton Street in Easley, South Carolina, as the ''Private First-Class Barrett Lyle Austin Post Office Building''; and H.R. 2044, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 17 East Main Street in Herington, Kansas, as the ''Captain Emil J. Kapaun Post Office Building''. H.R. 51 was ordered reported, as amended. H.R. 1170, H.R. 1444, H.R. 1298, H.R. 960, H.R. 767, H.R. 92, H.R. 91, and H.R. 2044 were ordered reported, without amendment.

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE MEMBERS' DAY HEARING

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Members' Day Hearing''. Testimony was heard from Chairman Lofgren, Chairman Kilmer, Chairman Scott of Virginia, Chairman DeLauro, and Representatives Wittman, Kaptur, Larson of Connecticut, Blumenauer, Pascrell, Bucshon, Peters, Costa, Arrington, Schrader, Porter, Phillips, Bustos, Meng, Hagedorn, Cloud, Gottheimer, Keller, Fletcher, Quigley, Foxx, Kim, Bass, Adams, Sherman, Schrier, Jacobs, Mann, Higgins of New York, Luria, Case, Escobar, Espaillat, Cicilline, Sherrill, Barragán, Jones, Fernandez, Green of Texas, Bowman, Underwood, Levin of California, Jayapal, Craig, Neguse, Tonko, Stevens, Sánchez, Rosendale, Scanlon, O'Halleran, Levin of Michigan, Lawrence, Trahan, Ryan, Plaskett, Schneider, Mrvan, and Moore of Wisconsin.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing on H.R. 147, the ''Bringing Registered Apprenticeships to Veterans Education Act''; H.R. 219, the ''Protecting the Employment Rights of Service Members Act''; legislation on Value Added Homes for Veterans Act; legislation on Homeless Veterans Credit Repair, Enhancement, and Debt Improvement for Tomorrow Act; legislation on Native VetSuccess Pilot; legislation on Time Extension for Use of Educational Assistance in Emergencies; legislation on GI and Veterans Education Empowerment Act; legislation on Expanding Eligibility for Additional Adapted Vehicles; legislation on Rounding Out Affordable Housing for Homeless Veterans Act of 2021; legislation on In-State Tuition for Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program; legislation on Increased Authorized Appropriation for VET TEC; legislation on Modern IT Service for Educational Assistance Claims; legislation on Short-Term Fellowships; legislation on Establish Veteran Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration, and legislation on Time Period Eligibility Elimination for Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program. Testimony was heard from Representatives Gallego, Mann, Sherrill, Mace, Cawthorn, Miller-Meeks, and Wenstrup; Mike Freuh, Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Benefits, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; James Ruhlman, Deputy Director for Program Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Education Service, Department of Veterans Affairs; Michael W. Fisher, Chief Readjustment Counseling Officer, Readjustment

Counseling Service, 10RCS, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

STRATEGIC REVIEW: EVALUATING CONCERNS ABOUT THE ONGOING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD MODERNIZATION PROGRAM

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Technology Modernization held a hearing entitled ''Strategic Review: Evaluating Concerns About the Ongoing Implementation of the Electronic Health Record Modernization Program''. Testimony was heard from Carolyn Clancy, Acting Deputy Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs; and a public witness.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2021

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine public transportation infrastructure investment and FAST Act Reauthorization, 10 a.m., WEBEX.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine the cost of inaction on climate change, 11 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Communication, Media, and Broadband, to hold hearings to examine communicating trusted vaccine information, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the leading role of the Department of Energy in American energy innovation and how its research, development, demonstration, and deployment programs may be enhanced to further boost the economic competitiveness of the United States, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Andrea Joan Palm, of Wisconsin, to be Deputy Secretary, and Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Service, both of the Department of Health and Human Services, 9:30 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: business meeting to consider the nomination of Samantha Power, of Massachusetts, to be Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nominations of Victoria Nuland, of Virginia, to be an Under Secretary (Political Affairs), and Uzra Zeya, of Virginia, to be an Under Secretary (Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights), both of the Department of State, 11 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of James Richard Kvaal, of Massachusetts, to be Under Secretary of Education, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Bureau of Prisons, 10 a.m., SD–226.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled ''Increasing Risks of Climate Change and NOAA's Role in Providing Climate Services'', 10 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Defense, budget hearing on the United States Southern Command, 10 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Veterans Affairs, 10 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the U.S. Forest Service, 2 p.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Transportation, 2 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''National Security Challenges and U.S. Military Activities in Europe'', 11 a.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing entitled ''Department of Defense Inspector General and the Services Inspector Generals: Roles, Responsibilities and Opportunities for Improvement'', 4 p.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Education and Labor, Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions, hearing entitled ''Meeting the Moment: Improving Access to Behavioral and Mental Health Care'', 10:15 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change, hearing entitled ''The CLEAN Future Act and Environmental Justice: Protecting Frontline Communities'', 10:30 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Financial Institutions, hearing entitled ''Banking Innovation or Regulatory Evasion? Exploring Trends in Financial Institution Charters'', 10 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship and Capital Markets, hearing entitled ''The End of LIBOR: Transitioning to an Alternative Interest Rate Calculation for Mortgages, Student Loans, Business Borrowing, and Other Financial Products'', 2 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and Global Counterterrorism, hearing entitled ''10 Years of War: Examining the Ongoing Conflict in Syria'', 10 a.m., Webex.

Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, markup on legislation on Providing for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Seventeenth Congress; and Committee Resolution 117–13, a Resolution to Approve Franked Mail Allowances for Committees for the 117th Congress, 12:30 p.m., Webex.

Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Oversight of the United States Capitol Police and Preparations for and Response to the Attack of January 6th'', 1 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled ''Building Back Better: Creating Jobs and Reducing Pollution by Plugging and Reclaiming Orphaned Wells'', 2 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis, hearing entitled ''Reaching the Light at the End of the Tunnel: A Science-Driven Approach to Swiftly and Safely Ending the Pandemic'', 10:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Reimagining our Innovation Future'', 10 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled ''Practical Steps Toward a Carbon-Free Maritime Industry: Updates on Fuels, Ports, and Technology'', 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Health, hearing on H.R. 234, the ''Korean American VALOR Act''; H.R. 344, the ''Women Veterans TRUST Act''; H.R. 958, the ''Protecting Moms Who Served Act''; H.R. 1448, the ''PAWS for Veterans Therapy Act''; H.R. 1510, the ''Veterans' Camera Reporting Act''; legislation on DOULA for VA Act; legislation on Sgt. Ketchum Rural Veterans Mental Health Act of 2021; legislation to clarify the role of doctors of podiatric medicine in the Department of Veterans Affairs; and legislation on Providing Benefits Information in Spanish and Tagalog for Veterans and Families Act, 10 a.m., Zoom.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''World Wide Threats'', 9 a.m., 1324 Longworth and Webex.

Full Committee, hearing entitled ''World Wide Threats'', 1 p.m., HVC–304 Hearing Room and Nelson Room. This hearing is closed.

Select Committee on the Climate Crisis, Select Committee on the Climate Crisis, hearing entitled ''Making the Case for Climate Action: The Growing Risks and Costs of Inaction'', 12 p.m., Zoom.

Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Member Day Hearing'', 12 p.m., Zoom.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Thursday, April 15

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will continue consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 937, COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act, with all post-cloture time considered expired and the motion to proceed agreed to at 12 noon. Senators should expect votes at 12 noon.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12 p.m., Thursday, April 15

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of H.R. 7—Paycheck Fairness Act. Consideration of H.R. 1195—Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Allred, Colin Z., Tex., E389
Babin, Brian, Tex., E385
Brady, Kevin, Tex., E389
Burgess, Michael C., Tex., E384
Carter, John R., Tex., E388
Clark, Katherine M., Mass., E383
Cleaver, Emanuel, Mo., E390
Comer, James, Ky., E384
DelBene, Suzan K., Wash., E388
Dingell, Debbie, Mich., E384
Eshoo, Anna G., Calif., E391
Gallagher, Mike, Wisc., E391
Gonzalez, Vicente, Tex., E392
Graves, Sam, Mo., E383, E385, E389, E391, E392
Hagedorn, Jim, Minn., E390
Himes, James A., Conn., E389
Huizenga, Bill, Mich., E384
Johnson, Dusty, S. Dak., E385
Kilmer, Derek, Wash., E390
Kim, Andy, N.J., E388
Long, Billy, Mo., E388
Luria, Elaine G., Va., E383
Mast, Brian J., Fla., E385
Pence, Greg, Ind., E383, E389
Perlmutter, Ed, Colo., E383, E383, E384, E385, E388, E388, E389, E390, E391, E392
Scalise, Steve, La., E391
Vela, Filemon, Tex., E389

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