The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER. 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.

RECOGNIZING RION-BOWMAN VFW POST

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CLINE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Rion-Bowman VFW Post in Harrisonburg, Virginia, which recently celebrated its 100th anniversary.

Founded in 1921, VFW Post 632 was the first Veterans of Foreign War chapter founded in the Shenandoah Valley and is one of the oldest in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Combat veterans of every conflict since World War I have called this post home, and it has been led by 73 dedicated commanders over the years.

Current Senior Vice Commander Christopher Rexrode noted the significance of celebrating this milestone during the pandemic, which has forced far too many veterans’ clubs across the country to close. He is thankful his post has been able to keep its doors open and continue to serve as a place for veterans to gather, connect, and share experiences and camaraderie on a daily basis.

Congratulations to VFW Post 632 on this great achievement, and I wish them another 100 years of success.

LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in the name of liberty and justice for all. I rise in the name of liberty and justice for all because the criminal justice system is on trial. It is on trial in the court of world opinion. It is on trial for crimes committed against human beings in this country.

Some of the complainants would include Eric Garner, Tamir Rice, Breonna Taylor, George Floyd. I rise in the name of liberty and justice for all because we have reached a point in our history wherein there is one case now that seems to have reached the pinnacle of the system, such that everyone is waiting to see how this case will eventually address liberty and justice for all.

One of the complaints is that in this country we have allowed arresting officers to be judge, jury, prosecutor, and executioner. There are those who would say that I don’t have the right to come to this decision at this time, and they are wrong.

I also understand, given the history of this country, unfortunately, that things don’t always work out as I believe they should.

So my hope is that there will be peaceful protests if the wrong verdict is rendered. And, in my opinion, the verdict that we should have is arresting officers can’t be judge, jury, prosecutor, and executioner. There are those who would say that I don’t have the right to come to these conclusions at this time, and they are wrong.

In the court of public opinion, world opinion, many have already come to this same conclusion. I am merely echoing what they have said. As such, I am a messenger, and the message is: Let’s pray for a just decision in the court of world opinion.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JUDGE HARRY WALKER WELLFORD

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

Mr. KUSTOFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Judge Harry Walker Wellford, who passed away Saturday, April 17.

Judge Wellford was a third-generation Memphian, who dedicated his life to serving his community through the
justice system, and also dedicated his life to his family.

Judge Wellford started serving his community in our great country at a young age. Like so many of his generation, the Greatest Generation, Harry served our Nation fighting in the Pacific theater during World War II. After serving our Nation overseas, Harry Wellford returned to his home State of Tennessee to obtain his law degree from Vanderbilt University.

In the turbulent time for our Nation and for Memphis, Harry Wellford was an active member of the biracial Memphis Relations Committee, serving for the betterment of the Memphis community.

It was during this time that Harry Wellford became politically active, leading the west Tennessee efforts for Howard Baker' s campaign for the United States Senate; and then, in 1970, managing the campaign for his good friend, Winfield Dunn, to become Governor of Tennessee.

Harry had a good and successful law practice and was well-regarded in the legal community. It was for these reasons that Harry was nominated for a Federal judgeship in 1970 by then-President Richard Nixon. Judge Wellford was unanimously confirmed as district court judge. Later, President Ronald Reagan nominated Judge Wellford for the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, to which he was confirmed.

Judge Wellford had a long and distinguished career on the bench. A good friend of Judge Wellford was Judge Julia Geidt, who currently serves on the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals and, in 1982, replaced Judge Wellford on the district court when he was elevated to the appellate court. Commenting on him yesterday, Judge Gibbons said: Harry Wellford was one of the people we most admire to become; he was my friend; his touch with people emanated in everything he did in life.

Madam Speaker, Harry and his wife, Katherine, were members of Idlewild Presbyterian Church before she passed away. They loved to travel, and he enjoyed spending his free time playing tennis and golf. Despite being a well-known and beloved bias currently serves as a member of the Finance Committee, serving for the betterment of the community.

Judge Wellford's favorite song was "Eternal Father Strong to Save," more commonly known as "The Navy Hymn." So appropriate for him and for his generation.

Indeed, Harry Wellford will be sorely missed by all who knew him. Today, Roberta and I are thinking about Harry and his five children: Harry, Jr.; Beasley; Buck; Kate; and Allison.

Harry, thank you for your service to our great Nation.

THE EXONERATED FIVE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. Espaillat) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, yesterday, April 19, marked the 32nd anniversary of a terrible assault, a sexual assault in Central Park that marked the history and marked really the story of New York City.

But it was also one that resulted in the wrongful arrest and conviction of five young Black and Latino boys for a crime that they did not commit. For years, they were known as the Central Park Five. But after years of injustice and now long after being exonerated, they are now known as the Exonerated Five.

These young men were minors. They were really young boys who were innocent of every single crime they were charged of, and still spent from 6 to 13 years behind bars. They have faced a horrendous story.

They have names. They have faces. They have first names and last names, and they are: Antron McCray, Kevin Richardson, Yusef Salaam, Raymond Santana, and Kevin Richardson. They will be here in the Capitol, Madam Speaker, tomorrow.

Each one of these young men were deprived of their childhoods, of their innocence, and, most important, of their futures. Racism, bias, and bigotry were at the crux of these young men being deprived of their civil liberties. It is an old tale.

These young men aren't alone in their stories. These are the stories of so many young Black men, Brown men, and Black and Brown young women in our country. As we brace for a court decision, Madam Speaker, they will be visiting the Capitol as free men tomorrow.

But this isn't a story just of misfortune. It is also a story of resilience, the resilience of little boys who were turned into men far too soon; the resilience of a community that never stopped fighting for justice, including grassroots organizing and Council Member Bill Perkins; and the resilience of those that continue to fight today, continue to fight for change, and continue to fight for a new just criminal justice system.

This is an opportune debate, Madam Speaker, as we brace for a court decision that we hope will be just and that the Nation will be in peace; a criminal justice system that, today, often criminalizes far too many Black and Brown young people.

We see stories like theirs replay in the evening news each and every day. So we must never forget. When we see another Black and Brown young man being targeted, pulled over, handcuffed, shot to death in the street, knees on their necks, all while they are innocent, we know that this is not justice.

That is why we need to continue in our fight transforming policing in our country. We know that is not justice. We cannot allow law enforcement to get away with use of excessive force on many young people across this country and ruining their futures. We know that is not justice.

End the choke hold. End the no-knock warrants. Transform our criminal justice system. End over-policing of Black and Brown people. Abolish the death penalty. Dismantle the institutions that are rooted in white supremacy.

□ 1015

No one should have to lose their life or be robbed of their future, Madam Speaker, because we didn’t step up and fix our broken system. We know that is not justice.

Madam Speaker, 32 years ago, five young men from Harlem were robbed of their future, but alas they rose above and stand tall today as leaders, advocates, and activists fighting tirelessly to reimage how we see justice in our country. They have given back to their communities and to our country, and we thank them for their perseverance, for using their voices for change and for coming here to this Capitol tomorrow.

I hope that we use this anniversary on both sides of the aisle as a reminder of how much work still needs to be done to transform our institutions to serve every single one of us.

HONORING JOANNE POWELL

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

Mr. PFULLGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and sacrifice of Mrs. JoAnne Powell, a pillar of the San Angelo community and one of the most distinguished public servants in the U.S. House of Representatives.

JoAnne served the constituents of the 11th District of Texas for over 35 years in the San Angelo office. During this time, she solved thousands of cases with Federal agencies, helped thousands of people, and listened to the eyes and ears of the office on the ground and throughout our district.

Her pride and joy in mentoring hundreds of men and women who would later go to service academies truly changed our Nation and our military service. She trained four Congressmen over her tenure: Tom Loeffler, Lamar Smith, Mike Conaway, and now myself. It has been a priceless honor to have her mentorship and her guidance as I begin my journey in Congress.

For her top-notch congressional service, the influence she and her beloved husband, Colonel Powell, have had on our community cannot be overstated. She married her childhood sweetheart, Charles Powell, in December 1954, just months after his graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy. Charles would go on to become a colonel in the U.S. Air Force and the two would take a long journey and a successful journey in service to this country before settling in San Angelo in 1980 when Colonel Powell assumed the wing commander of Goodfellow.

At that time, the base was scheduled for closure. Both Colonel Powell and
JoAnne were instrumental in making sure that that mission of training our intelligence personnel in the Air Force, the Marines, the Army, and the Navy continued to become one of the most important in the United States.

When she moved to San Angelo, JoAnne became one of the most involved members of the Concho Valley community and received many honors for serving on boards and for her philanthropic and organizational leadership. She was the epitome of service before self, working hard and handling casework right up until the week before she passed away.

She genuinely cared for every single person and showed Christ’s love to everybody she encountered. I cannot express how great this loss is to our team and the entire 11th District.

JoAnne and Colonel Powell, we will miss you.

HONORING GREGORIO GUTIERREZ

Mr. PFLUGER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and the service of Gregorio Gutierrez, a man with a servant’s heart, a strong faith in God, and an unmatched ability to connect with all sorts of people.

Born in Mexico, Gregorio came to the United States in 1984; married his wife, Araceli, in 1990; and earned his citizenship in 2000. He followed his passion and founded Conexion San Angelo, the area’s first and only bilingual news organization. Since then he has expanded throughout west Texas, and his operation still lives today.

He was an amazing man with a strong and loving Christ’s love for everybody she encountered. I cannot express how great this loss is to our team and the entire 11th District.

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JoAnne and Colonel Powell, we will miss you.
Fast forward: we got a chance to work together in the Shimkus congressional office. Then she went on to bigger and brighter things working for then-Chairman Goodlatte on the House Agriculture Committee, and then to top it off she had to work for Chairwoman Dold on the House Appropriations Committee. Then as luck would have it, in 2012 I won the closest Republican victory in the Nation. Jen was already making a name for herself in the private sector, but she wanted to come back and make a difference and be a chief of staff.

I remember how painful she was to work with when we worked together on that campaign, and I just threw her in as an interview because I knew her. If there was a fifth slot and I was only interviewing four, she would have got it.

But do you know what? She came in with a plan. She wowed my wife, who was in the interview with me, and my district director, who was in the room, and reminded me how special of a person she was.

Jen likes to say: Thank you for taking a chance on a single mom with a 4-year-old daughter at the time to come back to the Hill and be a part of this institution because it was her dream to lead an office.

She has got it all wrong once again, because I am glad she took a chance on me as a new Member of Congress who won by only 100 votes and made in and made it. She was able to build an office that was led under the same principles with which we still lead today: work hard, be nice to people, and lead.

This institution over the last 8½ years has been made a lot better place because Jen Daulby was a part of it. I am honored that she was my chief of staff for 6 years and has been running the House Administration minority side for the House for the last 2½ years.

There is not a single GOP staffer in this institution who does not know her name and has not been thankful for the information that she has been able to put out. She helped take the smallest committee in Congress—the House Administration Committee—and allowed us to lead on so many issues.

Now, as she moves back into the private sector, I have to wish her well. It is with a heavy heart I do so, because I can tell you there is not a more tenacious, she is not a more loyal, and there is not a more dedicated person to making this House of Representatives work for all of us as Members of Congress, for every staff member—like she and I used to be—or for every single American.

Jen was here on the floor with us on January 6. Jen was the first person I saw when I walked into my office after I watched my friends get shot on a baseball field. Jen was the first person I saw on day one as a Member of Congress and she is a leader, and she will always, always have my thanks, the thanks of the American people, and the thanks of this institution. But most importantly, her favorite job is being a mom to her young daughter.

I wish her well in going back to being a mom to Reagan, but I am always going to call you one of my best friends.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from references to guests on the floor of the House.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF CHAD KALEPA BAYBAYAN

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

Mr. KAHELE. Madam Speaker: (English translation of the statement made in Hawaiian by Mr. KAHELE is as follows:)

The dark, clouded heavens weep. The spirit has embarked on the path with no return.

ʻUa kani mai ka papa waʻa
ʻUa ʻuʻu kani ʻo pānopaen
ʻUa leie ka ʻahi no hoʻiʻole mai

Madam Speaker, I stand before you today to share with you and the Nation the sad news of the passing of a great navigator, leader, educator, and friend, Chad Kalepa Baybayan.

On March 8, 1975, the deep-sea voyaging canoe Hokuleʻa was launched. Born of legends and stories brought to life through the paintings of the acclaimed Hawaiian artist Herb Kane, it was the first Hawaiian voyaging canoe to sail Hawaiʻi’s waters in over 600 years and became a catalyst for Hawaiian pride and identity during the Hawaiian renaissance.

At the age of 19, Kalepa’s first connection to Hokule’a was on the shores of his home island of Maui in 1975 during Hokule’a’s sail trials and crew training. This first connection inspired him and forever changed his life. He has diligently served the voyaging movement ever since, learning, growing, then mastering and teaching the next generation of navigators.

Kalepa also believed deeply in the importance of education as a vessel to expand the reach of voyaging, and the legacy of education his kupuna and Lahui, his ancestors and nation, left for him to continue.

Kalepa obtained a bachelor’s in Hawaiian studies and a master’s in education, all while being intimately involved with voyaging and wayfinding. He was fluent in ‘ōiōle Hawai‘i and had a firm belief that indigenous knowledge and modern technologies will hold the answers to many of the challenges facing our world today.

In his professional career, Kalepa served as the site director of Honukai, the exploration sciences division of the ‘Aha Puna Nalu, where his dedication to his la‘au and love of voyaging inspired him to build the first Hawaiian language voyaging canoe, Hokualaka‘i, that touched hundreds of American students and introduced them to voyaging through the perspective of his native tongue.

Kalepa then went on to serve as the first-ever navigator in residence at the ʻImiloa Astronomy Center at UH Hilo, which he helped to establish. His work at ‘Imiloa also allowed him to engage in the international indigenous education movement while also engaging in the various sciences, bringing the knowledge of his people to the world.

Kalepa was one of just five Native Hawaiian navigators inducted into the rank of Pwo by the late Satawalese Master Navigator Pius “Mau’u” Piallug in 2007. When asked about the kuleana, or responsibilities of being a Pwo master navigator, Kalepa would always simply state that being Pwo is being a light for your community and for your people.

Most recently, Kalepa was key to the success of the World Wide Voyage, which took the voyaging canoe Hokule‘a around the world to over 150 ports in 18 nations and to these very shores of Washington, D.C., in May 2016, bringing attention to the health of the oceans, its people, and the need for a more sustainable world. Kalepa was one of the 31 crew members of this 3-year voyage and, over his career, logged more miles voyaging than any other crew member in the nearly five-decade history of the Polynesian voyaging canoe Hokule’a.

Kalepa was first and foremost a dedicated and loving husband, son, sibling, father, and grandfather who sought tirelessly to do his part in creating a better world for his ‘ohana, his family, and for all children of the world. His unwavering commitment to being a light to his community and his desire to make this world a better place has always shone forth.

I say to my colleagues that Kalepa is a prime example of the type of leader we should all aspire to be, one who inspires others to action while at the same time creating opportunities, oftentimes when they least expect it, for them to fulfill their responsibilities to their communities.

Madam Speaker, on April 8, 2021, Kalepa took his final voyage from this earthly realm, e ola mau loa ka inoa ‘o Chad Kalepa Baybayan. His legacy will live on. May we learn from this legacy of service as we lead this Nation and navigate the waters ahead. Mahalo, the SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Hawaii will provide a translation of his remarks to the Clerk.

RECOGNIZING ROZALYNN FEDERLINE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rozalynn Federline for her substantial political investment in my district. She most recently
REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF JAMES ROBERT “BOBBY” RYON, JR.

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor Bobby Ryon of Hinesville, Georgia, who sadly passed away on March 20 at the age of 80.

Bobby lived a remarkable life and touched countless lives. He was a lifelong resident of Hinesville, Georgia, and was a proud graduate of Bradwell Institute’s class of 1974.

Everyone who knew Bobby remembers his kind and gentle spirit. He was a former city of Hinesville council member, and served in various capacities in many organizations, including Liberty County Hospital Authority, Liberty County Chamber of Commerce, Diversity Health Clinic, and Hinesville Housing Authority.

Through every position he had, he worked to better his community and every life he touched. Many say that his greatest love was his family, and those who knew him best know his greatest love also was his Lord.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends, and all who knew him during this most difficult time.

CONGRATULATING BRUNSWICK HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT TEACHERS

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Brunswick High School student teachers, who recently passed the end of pathway assessments for early childhood education. These students earned the honor of being the high-scoring group that has participated in the Pint Pirates program—all of this while in the middle of a pandemic.

I commend this group of students for their hard work and dedication. The Pint Pirates program is an after-school preschool program offered at Brunswick High and taught by students from Glynn Academy and Brunswick High School pursuing the early childhood education pathway. The mission of the class is to help young children prepare for prekindergarten and to better prepare high school students who are interested in teaching early childhood programs.

I am extremely proud to have these great students and program here in the First Congressional District of Georgia.

HONORING WALTER RONALD HUGGINS

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember and honor Ronnie Huggins of Garden City and Rincon, Georgia, who passed away on March 21, 2020, at the age of 80.

Rozalynn also served on the Ocean Springs Chamber of Commerce executive committee for 4 years, where she was chosen as one of the Outstanding Young Women of America in 1983.

She was president of both the Taconi Elementary Parent Teachers Organization and the Business Club children’s charity in Mississippi.

Throughout her career, Rozalynn held her own as an international ocean sales account executive at CSX Corporation and Maersk Incorporated, which were two of the largest shipping companies in the world.

One of Rozalynn’s most hardworking and loyal constituents, Rozalynn has proven herself an asset to the community. Rozalynn’s continued dedication to promoting conservative values in the state have continued to emerge and the spirit of the people continues to shine.

It has been 250 years since the founding of the city of Brunswick. In 1771, the council of the Royal Province of Georgia ordered the city of Brunswick to be laid out on Carr’s land. The city was platted by George McIntosh, copying the Oglethorpe Plan of Savannah.

Since its founding, the city of Brunswick has overcome fires, hurricanes, wars, and pandemics and has flourished as a coastal city.

Despite such trying times in the past year due to the pandemic, businesses have continued to emerge and the spirit of the people continues to shine.

It has been 250 years since the momentous decision to establish Brunswick as a city, and I want to recognize the great citizens and public officials of Brunswick who have made it and continue to make it a tremendous community and place to live.
Let this anniversary serve as a reminder of all that we have gone through in the past and how capable we are of making it through these trying times together.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BARBARA FLAUMENBAUM

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the life and legacy of Mrs. Barbara Flaumenbaum, the late mother-in-law of a member of our team, Mr. Peter Chong.

Barbara was a life well-lived and one that didn't have to know her well to see and understand how deeply she valued generosity and compassion. Not a day went by when Barbara did not exemplify these traits. She instilled these qualities and so much more in her family and the many lives she touched, including her son-in-law, Peter.

Barbara was a wife for over 45 years, Steven, raised two incredible daughters, Alisha and Lindsay. Family was everything to Barbara, and what Barbara loved most about life was being a mother and, most recently, a grandmother for her two grandsons, Ethan and Benjamin.

They say the best measure of a life well-lived has less to do with the number of our accomplishments, but more to do with the number of lives we have touched.

Madam Speaker, it is clear that Barbara's was a life well-lived and one that will be greatly missed by all.

REMAINING FOCUSED ON INFRASTRUCTURE

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I recently met with local and State leaders about the infrastructure needs of our community, which are significant. There is widespread agreement that an investment in our Nation's infrastructure is needed to alleviate traffic, improve flooding conditions, and address other safety concerns.

Imagine my disappointment, Madam Speaker, to learn that less than 10 percent of President Biden's $2 trillion infrastructure package will be spent on roads and bridges. Also of concern, less than 2 percent of the package is allocated for waterways, locks, dams, ports, and airports, which are all very important to the State of Florida; and less than 50 percent is allocated for much-needed broadband expansion, which would help to address the digital divide in our country.

These traditional infrastructure projects coupled with infrastructure investments that are linked to our Nation's security, such as safeguarding our energy grid, water systems, and other critical assets from cyber and other attacks, are the types of projects my constituents want to see funded.

Unfortunately, President Biden is using the guise of infrastructure spending, which enjoys relatively high support among Americans—it is really a bipartisan issue—to push highly partisan and unpopular policy proposals, such as a $3.5 trillion tax increase in manufacturing jobs only, right-to-work States, over forced union States. For example, Alabama is a right-to-work State. What does 'right to work' mean? Right-to-work laws prevent citizens from being forced against their will to join a union, pay union dues, and subject themselves to union bosses.

Alabama's right-to-work status gives Alabama a strong economic advantage over forced union States. For example, 69 percent of jobs resharred from overseas back into America between 2010 and 2019 have gone to right-to-work States. U.S. Commerce Department data, adjusted for cost-of-living differences, revealed that 2019's manufacturing job pay in right-to-work States averaged $33,000 per employee, $4,000 more than in forced union States. That is a big difference in pay.

According to Bureau of Labor Statistics data, right-to-work States' overall job growth was a robust 11 percent over the past decade versus a meager 2.4 percent in forced union States. When that data is limited to manufacturing jobs only, right-to-work States, over the past decade, enjoyed a very good 9.1 percent increase in manufacturing jobs while forced union States had a horrible two-tenths of 1 percent cut in manufacturing jobs.

Better yet, 2018 Census data reveals that after-tax mean income per household after cost-of-living adjustment, was $64,572 in right-to-work States versus $60,244 in forced union States. That is, on average, $4,328 more real, adjusted for cost of living, income per capita in right-to-work versus union States. That is a huge difference.

Madam Speaker, the economic data clearly proves that right-to-work laws benefit workers. Consistent with that economic prosperity and desire for political games. Please be assured I will remain focused on this paramount objective.

SUPPORTING RIGHT-TO-WORK LAWS

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

Mr. BROOKS. Madam Speaker, earlier this month, employees at Amazon's Bessemer, Alabama, fulfillment facility rejected unionization by a 1,798–738 vote. That is a monumental 70 percent against unions to a meager 30 percent for unions.

Bam. That kind of vote sends a powerful anti-union, pro-liberty message to America and the world.

I applaud Amazon's Bessemer employees for refusing unionization attempts by out-of-state agitators, from the President to Hollywood actors and on down. A primary reason why Amazon chose to locate nearly 6,000 good-paying jobs in Alabama is Alabama's nonunion reputation.

Alabama maintains that reputation because Bessemer's overwhelming anti-union vote, thus companies will relocate even more good-paying jobs from union States up north into Alabama. Alabama is a right-to-work State.

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Madam Speaker, the economic data clearly proves that right-to-work laws benefit workers. Consistent with that economic prosperity and desire for
freedom and liberty—after all, no one likes being told what they can and cannot do—74 percent of Americans say they support right-to-work laws, according to a recent Gallup Poll.

Despite overwhelming American support for right-to-work laws, dictatorial Socialists in March rammed through the House a bill that repeals all right-to-work laws in America. Worse yet, dictatorial Socialists seek to use President Biden’s infrastructure bill to slip in a provision that repeals all right-to-work laws in America.

I hope neither of these terrible dictatorial bills ever reaches President Biden’s desk. Certainly, I will vote against them and I will vote for freedom, liberty, and protection of America’s right-to-work laws.

Madam Speaker, America would be stronger if more States would enact right-to-work laws. I encourage citizens and elected officials to promote right-to-work laws, freedom of choice, and the freedom and liberty right-to-work laws represent.

**IMPORTANCE OF BIPARTISAN ENGAGEMENT ON INFRASTRUCTURE**

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. Torres of California). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. Giménez) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GIMENEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address the House on the importance of bipartisan engagement on infrastructure.

Yesterday afternoon, I had the privilege of sitting in the Oval Office with President Biden as we, along with a small group of Senators and Representatives, discussed the best way possible to move forward on infrastructure.

Our commitment is clear: Republicans agree that we should put more resources and key investments into the things that we consider the traditional definition of infrastructure. This includes our roads and highways, bridges, ports, and waterways. In order to maintain our competitiveness in the world, strategic investments in things like public transportation and improved air and rail mobility are also key.

We also need to continue fostering American entrepreneurship and private investment in the area of automotive technology with numerous auto companies making gains in automotive vehicles running on clean, safe, sustainable energy sources, as well as creating an economic environment where they can continue to build out their own electric charging station networks.

Republicans also understand the importance of the technology side of infrastructure, such as the need to expand rural broadband, fortify our cybersecurity to protect critical assets from foreign adversaries, and improving our telecommunication networks across the country. These are all key areas where Republicans and Democrats can come together and work on infrastructure solutions in a broad, bipartisan way.

As it was made clear to the President, unfortunately, the current proposal floating around goes well beyond that scope and includes funding for projects that are not infrastructure. As much as some on the other side of the aisle want to speak it into existence, the expansion of social welfare programs is not infrastructure.

If my colleagues want to engage in a rigorous debate over the merits of expanding Medicaid and providing elder care, or whatever else they want to put into this infrastructure proposal, they ought to bring separate bills onto the floor. I am sure my colleagues on this side of the aisle will be happy to engage in that debate.

What we cannot allow is for these provisions to be snuck into a big spending package under the guise of infrastructure.

I do have a small glimmer of hope that there is a bipartisan avenue for moving an infrastructure package. In order to get it done, it is going to take compromise between both sides. President Biden and my colleagues on the other side of the aisle must engage in earnest negotiations with Republicans. Let’s put all of our cards on the table and bring forward targeted legislation that actually supports American infrastructure.

**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 57 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

**AFTER RECESS**

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. STANTON) at noon.

**PRAYER**

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

God our judge, as we anxiously await the verdict from the jury in Minnesota, we plead our case with You. As a country, we are rent with acrimony, torn by our individual understandings of right and wrong, facts and feelings, and divided by a host of opinions on crime and punishment.

Call us to lay all of this—as hopeless as it appears—on Your judgment seat. Then lay Your divine hand upon the outcome of this case, and also on our compatriots’ anger, their thoughts of revenge, and the insatiable need to dislike and destroy. Stay any inclinations toward violence and remind us that vengeful behavior is no more justified than the acts of those who precipitated that grief and harm and ignited our cities.

Be merciful on this Nation—despite how we have turned our backs on Your perfect love. As You inevitably judge our response to the incidents of unrest that plague our land, forgive our iniquities and heal our brokenness. Redeem the soul of our country.

Then inspire these leaders of our government to find ways to represent back to their districts and to our communities a better way toward reconciling this divide. Call them to follow Your example of compassion and care, humility and love.

In Your saving name we pray. Amen.

**THE JOURNAL**

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Speaker pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. Hagedorn) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance?

Mr. HAGEDORN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

**ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE**

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

**THE NORTHERN BORDER**

(Mr. Higgins of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, it has been 365 days since the United States-Canadian border closed, and the closure was just extended another 30 days. Families on both sides of the border have been torn apart. People who love each other, parents, and grandchildren are unable to see each other. Vaccinated citizens of both countries significantly lower the risk of getting COVID and wearing face masks significantly lowers the risk of giving COVID. We need a plan to open the U.S.-Canadian border with vaccines, face masks, and good physical distancing. We can do so safely and successfully.

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

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

Mr. HAGEDORN. Mr. Speaker, workforce development is key to sustaining
jobs and economic growth. Manufacturers, small businesses, trade unions, and industry groups are concerned about the increasing skilled labor shortage. Unfortunately, current law limits the use of eligible savings accounts to help reduce the costs of obtaining advanced technical certifications.

My legislation, the American Workforce Empowerment Act, would allow 529 savings accounts to be used for non-degree technical training certificate programs, tools, and any tests that are required for certification.

As the American workforce rebounds, we will see increased need for skilled workers to meet rising manufacturing, shipping, and construction demand. These skilled labor positions are good-paying jobs that help provide economic stability for hardworking Americans and are essential to the expansion of our Nation’s economy.

CONGRATULATING CAPTAIN JONATHAN TURNBULL

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

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Captain Jonathan Turnbull on his promotion to major in the United States Army.

Captain Turnbull of Gaylord, Michigan, was deployed in Syria where he worked with local forces and non-governmental organizations to stabilize the area and provide humanitarian assistance.

On January 16, 2019, an ISIS suicide bomber forever changed the course of his life and the life of his brothers. Four Americans were killed on that day, and Jonathan received life-threatening injuries. His courage and bravery on that day and each day since has inspired countless Americans as he recovered and continued his service.

Jonathan is the epitome of an American patriot and embodies the fighting spirit of our Nation’s Armed Forces. He has fought for his life and his country and has truly earned this promotion to major.

I speak for the entire First District when I say how proud we are of Jonathan, his service, and his commitment.

I wish him, Samantha, Ian, and baby Scotty all the best in the many years to come.

MOUNT NOTRE DAME GIRLS BASKETBALL

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

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mount Notre Dame High School girls basketball team on winning the Ohio High School Athletic Association championship.

Mount Notre Dame captured the Division I State championship title after beating Newark in a 2-point double overtime thriller. This championship was the eighth championship for the Mount Notre Dame basketball program—the most in Ohio school history.

Coach Scott Rogers led his team to a 28-0 record, a number two national ranking, and has won 72 consecutive games.

Among the team’s many talented athletes is junior guard KK Bransford who was recently named Ohio’s Ms. Basketball.

I commend Coach Scott Rogers and the entire Mount Notre Dame girls basketball team for this historic accomplishment and tradition of excellence.

Congratulations, again, to the Mount Notre Dame players, to Coach Rogers and his staff, and to the Mount Notre Dame faithful.

THE SOUTHERN BORDER

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

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, since mid-January we have seen a surge of immigrants coming into the country along our southwest border. The numbers are staggering, and the situation along the border continues to deteriorate daily. In March, over 172,000 individuals were encountered by law enforcement, the highest number of monthly encounters in the last 15 years.

Last week I had the opportunity to visit the border and met with both Federal and State law enforcement officers. We heard repeatedly that recent changes by the Biden administration have driven the overwhelming surge. Lost in the border conversation is the incredible amount of resources being diverted to try and manage the immigrants we are encountering. This shift in resources is being exploited by drug cartels who continue to use the southwest border as the primary pipeline to bring cocaine, methamphetamine, and fentanyl into the country.

The question can no longer be: Is there a crisis along the border? But instead it should be: How long will the crisis last, and how bad must the crisis become before the President will act?

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 20, 2021.

HON. NANCY PAYLIS,
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 Representa-
tives, the Clerk received the following mes-
sage from the Secretary of the Senate on
April 20, 2021, at 9:42 a.m.:
That the Senate agreed to Relative to the
death of the Honorable William “Bill” Emer-
sick Brock III, former United States Senator for
the State of Tennessee S. Res. 163.
Appointments:
Board of Visitors of the U.S. Coast Guard
Academy.
National Council on Disability.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,
CHERYL L. JOHNSON.
Clerk.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

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

Accordingly (at 12 o’clock and 13
minutes p.m.), the House stood in re-
cess.

□ 1415

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. JAYAPAL) at 2 o’clock and 15 minutes p.m.

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 20, 2021.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(b) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representa-
tives, the Clerk received the following mes-
sage from the Secretary of the Senate on
April 20, 2021, at 12:26 p.m.:

Appointments:
United States Holocaust Memorial Council
for the 117th Congress.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,
CHERYL L. JOHNSON.
Clerk.

TRAINING IN HIGH-DEMAND ROLES
TO IMPROVE VETERAN EMPLOY-
MENT ACT

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2523) 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. Vet-
erans Health Care and Benefits Im-
provement Act of 2020, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H. R. 2523

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Training in High-Demand Roles to Improve Veteran Employment Act” or the “THRIVE Act”.

SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENTS TO COVID-19 VETERAN
RAPID RETRAINING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8006 of the American
Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117–
2) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (3) of subsection
(c) and inserting the following new para-
graph (3):

“(3) DETERMINATION OF HIGH-DEMAND OCCU-
pATIONS.—

“(A) INITIAL IMPLEMENTATION.—In carrying
out this section, the Secretary shall use the
list of high-demand occupations prepared in
conjunction with the Secretary of Labor.

(B) MODIFICATIONS.—The Secretary of
Veterans Affairs may add and remove occupa-
tions from the list under subparagraph (A) as
the Secretary determines appropriate.”;

(2) in subsection (d)(5)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph
(A), by inserting “other than such a pro-
gram pursued solely through distance learn-
ing on a half-time basis” after “a half-
time basis”;

(B) in subparagraph (C), by striking “less
than a half-time basis” and inserting “a
half-time basis”;

(3) by redesignating subsections (f), (g), and
(h) as subsections (k), (l), and (m), respec-
tively;

(4) by inserting after subsection (e) the fol-
lowing new subsection:

“(f) EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary
of Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the
Secretary of Labor, shall contact each vet-
eran who participates in a covered program of
education under the retraining assistance program under this
section; and

(B) in subparagraph (C), by striking “less
than a half-time basis” and inserting “a
half-time basis or less”;

(5) by redesignating subsections (f), (g), and
(h) as subsections (k), (l), and (m), respec-
tively;

(6) by striking the period at the end and inserting

“(3) The median earnings of all such vet-
erans who participate in the retraining assistance program and the veteran’s em-
ployment status.

(7) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(A) the term ‘covered public health emerg-
ency’ means the declaration—

“(B) a public health emergency, based on an outbreak of COVID–19 by the Sec-
retary of Health and Human Services under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act
(42 U.S.C. 247d); or

“(B) a public health emergency, based on an outbreak of COVID–19 by the President, the
Secretary of Homeland Security, or State, or local authority.

“(C) the term ‘veteran’ means—

“(A) a person who served in the active
military, naval, or air service, and who was
discharged or released therefrom under conditions
other than dishonorable; or

“(B) a member of a reserve component of
the Armed Forces who performs active serv-
ices for a period of 30 days or longer by reason
of the covered public health emergency.

“(D) the term ‘active service’ has the meaning
given such term in section 101 of title 10, United States Code.”.

(Congressional Record: House, Vol. 167, No. 13, April 20, 2021, H1965)
(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply as if included in the enactment of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117–2).

SEC. 4. DELAY OF EFFECTIVE DATE FOR LIMITATION ON COLOCATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF STATE APPROVING AGENCIES.

Section 1024 of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–315), as redesignated as section 1166 and transferred so as to appear after section 1165 (and the table of sections at the beginning of title XI of such title is conformed accordingly).

(2) Subsection (i) of section 3313, as added by section 1010 of such Act (as effective on August 1, 2021), is amended to read as follows:

"(i) VERIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall require—

"(A) each educational institution to submit to the Secretary verification of each individual who is enrolled in a course or program of education at the educational institution and is receiving educational assistance under this chapter; and

"(B) not later than such time as the Secretary determines reasonable after the date on which the individual is enrolled; and

"(ii) in paragraph (2), by striking "the date that is two years after the date of the enactment of this Act" and inserting "the date that is two years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5. CLARIFICATION OF APPLICABILITY OF TREATMENT OF CERTAIN FOR-PROFIT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

(a) CLARIFICATION.—Section 1022(c) of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–315) is amended by inserting "or, or the conversion of a for-profit educational institution to a public educational institution," after "nonprofit educational programs, marketing, advertising, recruiting or admissions services," after "educational institution"; and

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply as if included in the enactment of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–315).

SEC. 6. CLARIFICATIONS REGARDING REQUIREMENTS FOR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS PARTICIPATING IN THE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

Subsection (i) of section 3679 of title 38, United States Code, as added by sections 1114 and 1116 of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–315), is amended as follows:

(1) in paragraph (1)(E), by inserting "or, to the maximum extent practicable," after "including"

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting "or, any person with whom the institution has an agreement to provide educational programs, marketing, advertising, recruiting or admissions services," after "educational institution";

(B) in paragraph (A)(ii), by striking "1-month" and inserting "3-month"; and

(C) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following new subparagraph (B):

"(B) Provides a commission, bonus, or other incentive directly or indirectly on success in securing enrollments or financial aid to any persons or entities engaged in any student recruiting or admission activities or activities or services regarding the award of student financial assistance;"

(3) in paragraph (4)(A), by striking clause (ii) and inserting the following new clauses:

"(ii) Suspending the approval of the courses and programs of education offered by the educational institution by disapproving new enrollments of eligible veterans and eligible persons in each course or program of education offered by that educational institution; and

(iii) Revoking the approval of the courses and programs of education offered by the educational institution by disapproving all enrollments of eligible veterans and eligible persons in each course or program of education offered by that educational institution;"

(4) in paragraph (5)(A), by striking "Lacaemic-year period" and inserting "one-academic-year period";

(b) JOHNNY ISAKSON AND DAVID P. ROE, M.D. VETERANS HEALTH CARE AND BENEFITS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2020.—The Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–315) is amended as follows:

(1) In section 1013(a)(1), by inserting "of title 38 after "of chapter 36".

(2) In section 2025(a), (A) in the heading, by striking "EFFECTIVE DATE" and inserting "APPLICABILITY"; and

(B) by striking "the date that is two years after the date of the enactment of this Act" and inserting "the date that is two years after the date of the enactment of this Act".

(3) In section 4101(b), by striking "subchapter and inserting "chapter".

(d) Subsection (a)(1), by striking "of such title" and inserting "of title 38, United States Code".

(2) in subsection (b), by striking "section 1161" each place it appears and inserting "section 1166".
This legislation is endorsed by many VSOs, including the Student Veterans of America, the National Association of State Approving Agencies, Paralyzed Veterans of America, and Disabled American Veterans.

I wish to thank Speaker PELOSI and Leader HOYER for bringing H.R. 2523, as amended, to the floor so quickly. I urge the rest of my colleagues to support this legislation to ensure VA can deliver assistance to our veterans as quickly as possible. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST, Madam Speaker. I yield myself such time as I may consume. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2523, as amended, the Training in High-Demand Roles to Improve Veteran Employment Act, or THRIVE Act.

This legislation would make needed improvements to the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. It would also make several technical corrections to the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020.

COVID-19 has had a profound impact on our economy. It has closed small businesses across the country and left millions of Americans unemployed. That includes an estimated half a million veterans. Before the pandemic, the veterans unemployment rate was at a near record low. Today, it is almost double that.

We must help our veterans get back to work to support our veterans. The Veterans Economic Recovery Act earlier this year, to do just that. That bill created the Veterans Rapid Retraining Assistance Program, or V-RAP. V-RAP allows veterans who are unemployed because of COVID-19 to receive rapid retraining to compete for high-demand jobs.

The bulk of the Veterans Economic Recovery Act was enacted as part of the American Rescue Plan. Unfortunately, Speaker Pelosi used the reconciliation process to pass the ARP, there were several provisions of V-RAP that were not included. That is why I was pleased to work with Chairman LEVIN on the bill before us today. It would finish the job and ensure that V-RAP is set up for success.

Specifically, the THRIVE Act would allow the VA to add jobs to the in-demand occupations list so the training leads to meaningful employment; require that this pandemic, including our veterans who have struggled to get back on their feet during this difficult time.

A key piece of that bill was nearly $400 million for a rapid retraining program for veterans unemployed as a result of this pandemic and don't have access to other veteran education benefits.

Both of these bills were huge accomplishments; but, like all legislation, they weren't perfect, and there are still steps that we must take to make these programs work even better for the veterans they are intended to serve.
That is why I was proud to introduce legislation with Ranking Member Mike Bost of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, amending the American Rescue Plan and the Isakson-Roe legislation to improve job training and education programs for our veterans.

Providing for the bill makes changes to the Rapid Retraining Assistance Program so we are focusing on high-demand occupations.

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

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 1 1/2 minutes to the gentleman from California.

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, it will also improve the VA’s communication with veterans about employment placement services. It will clarify veterans’ eligibility for housing stipends under the retraining program. And it will ensure the VA works with qualified nonprofit business associations to facilitate the employment of participating veterans.

Nothing in this bill is controversial. It is all about improving existing veteran’s programs so they can get back to work and make the most of the services they have earned and deserve. Madam Speaker, as your colleague from Queens, I urge you to pass this bill without delay, and I urge all of my colleagues to support it.

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

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers at this time, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. CAWTHORN).

Mr. CAWTHORN. Madam Speaker, America’s veterans are facing an unemployment crisis that threatens their livelihoods. While this current government focuses on giving jobs to illegal immigrants, approximately half a million veterans are out of work as of March 2021.

Americans often talk about their love of our troops. As politicians, we often take victory laps through our districts meeting veterans and pledging to work for them. Now it is time for us to act on that pledge. The THRIVE Act represents a commonsense step to empower both veterans and educational institutions who provide much-needed workforce training.

I come from a family of veterans. For six generations, the men of my family have served their country proudly in the Armed Forces. I represent the first generation to enter a different type of service. While I cannot say I have experienced the trauma and sacrifice that our men and women have experienced on the battlefield, I have witnessed the brutally difficult task of transitioning back to the home front. If we, as elected representatives, can ease that process and reduce veteran unemployment in one way, I firmly believe that we are obligated to do so.

The THRIVE Act would ensure that the additional authorities and funding Congress provided for unemployed veterans work as intended to help veterans find good, well-paying jobs. Let’s enable our veterans to transition back into civilian life. Those who have given so much to this Nation deserve nothing less.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I want to thank all my colleagues, and I urge all of them to join me in passing H.R. 2523, as amended.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the bipartisan way in which we moved forward on this bill. I want to thank all my colleagues, and I urge all of them to join me in passing H.R. 2523, 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. PERRY. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 5 of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.
April 20, 2021

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE

H1969

and Resident Commissioners shall not be admitted to the Hall of the House or rooms leading thereto.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Maryland is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. RESCHENTHALER), 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. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, today the Rules Committee met and reported a rule, House Resolution 330, providing for three measures.

First, the rule provides for consideration of H.R. 51, the Washington, D.C. Admission Act, under a closed rule. It provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Reform and provides for one motion to recommit.

The rule also provides for consideration of H.R. 1333, the NO BAN Act, and H.R. 1573, the Access to Counsel Act of 2021, both under closed rules. The rule provides an hour of debate on each bill equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Reform and provides one motion to recommit.

Additionally, the rule provides authority through April 22 for the majority leader or his designee to move to end in bloc postponed votes on any suspension bill considered on April 19 or 20 on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

Finally, the rule provides for recess instructions, same day, and suspension authority through May 20.

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, Tocqueville wrote in "Democracy in America" that in our country voting rights and democracy are always either contracting and retreating forward by voting to admit a new State to our beloved Union.

America began with 13 original States, and we in Congress have exercised our powers under Article IV, Section 3 37 different times to admit 37 new States to the Union, which means that nearly 75 percent of the States in America today were admitted after the original 13.

Today, we can keep the dynamics of democratic political growth and inclusion going in America by beginning the process of admitting Washington, Douglass Commonwealth to the Union by passing H.R. 51.

We have the opportunity to do something that has happened here since 1959, when Alaska and Hawaii were admitted to the Union in January and in August of that year.

We can vote to admit a new State to the Union, and what a State it will be: A community of 712,000 taxable, draftable, law-abiding American citizens who actually pay more Federal taxes per capita now than do the people of any State, more in hard dollars than the people of 22 States combined. It is a community of people who have fought in every war that the Union has ever fought, going all the way back to the American Revolution.

And it was a community, significantly, that came to the aid of democracy that came to the aid of the Union, that came to the aid of this Congress when we called on January 6, 2021.

More than 850 officers in the Metropolitan Police Department came and fought shoulder to shoulder with our Capitol officers in what has been described as waves of medieval violence by insurrectionists and Fascists attacking them with bats and sticks and American flagpoles and Confederate flagpoles and Trump flagpoles. They sent more than 150 National Guardsmen from Washington, D.C., 154 D.C. National Guard, 850 Metropolitan Police Department to come and defend a democracy that are not yet a part of—

Now think about that. We had people who came and stormed the Capitol, laid siege to the Congress of the United States with fictionalized claims about what it is—not a challenge but a crisis. It would weaken our national security.

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Madam Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from Maryland for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. The rule before us today provides for consideration of three pieces of legislation.

The first bill, H.R. 1333, limits the President's existing authority to restrict entry of foreigners into the United States.

Border Patrol is encountering more than 5,500 individuals per day at our southern border. Let me say that again. They are encountering 5,500 individuals per day at the southern border.

Over the weekend, President Biden finally acknowledged the situation for what it is—not a challenge but a crisis. Yet, House Democrats are moving forward with a bill that does nothing to stop the surge of migrants at the southern border and, instead, actually weakens our national security.

Along the same lines, House Resolution 330 provides for consideration of H.R. 1573, which requires access to counsel for all travelers referred to secondary inspection at airports and other ports of entry.

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Again, this bill does nothing to address the Biden border crisis. It would...
actually complicate the job of Border Patrol agents while costing taxpayers $825 million over the next 5 years.

With a 233 percent increase in fentanyl seizures at our southern border, it is a shame that my liberal colleagues are actually creating more work for Border Patrol. Instead, we should provide these brave men and women with much-needed resources to address the national security and public health consequences of the Biden border crisis.

Last week, the solution makes in order H.R. 51, legislation admitting the present District of Columbia as the 51st State and authorizing special elections for two Senators and one Representative.

This is nothing more than an unconstitutional power grab by Democrats to gain two ultraprogressive D.C. Senate seats and force radical, far-left policies on the American people.

Our Founding Fathers never intended for Congress to become a State. In Federalist No. 43, James Madison argued that if the Capital City were situated within a State, the Federal Government would be subject to undue influence by the host State. As such, Article I Section 8, Clause 17 of the U.S. Constitution establishes a neutral district for our Nation’s representatives to meet and vote on equal ground.

Further, the 23rd Amendment grants three Presidential electors specifically for the District. The original meaning of the “district” in the Constitution, and the necessary repeal of the 23rd Amendment, requires an amendment to the Constitution in order for D.C. to even become a State.

Just don’t take my word for it, though. Since 1963, every Justice Department, Republican and Democrat, that has addressed the issue of D.C. statehood has concluded that Congress does not have the authority to alter the status of the city legislatively.

Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy thought it was inconceivable that D.C. would be granted statehood without repealing the 23rd Amendment and that the result would “produce an absurdity.” Again, those are the words of RFK.

Finally, the legislation before us today does nothing to address the financial implications of D.C. statehood. According to a 2020 study, D.C. ranked 150th of the largest cities for its lack of operating efficiency, 150 out of 150.

The Federal Government provides billions of dollars to D.C. each year for everything from the judicial system to the pension system. Yet, House Democrats have done little to coordinate to implement this measure through that, under H.R. 51, the Federal Government will remain responsible for funding many of the new State’s functions.

The status of the city is no incentive for the new State to work toward financial self-sufficiency, meaning Americans in other States would be forced to fund D.C. Democrats’ priorities.

Again, House Democrats are pushing ahead to admit a new State to the Union purely for partisan gain while ignoring the constitutional, practical, and legal challenges in doing so. That is why I urge my colleagues to oppose this rule.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Let me address a couple of the spurious constitutional objections that have been raised by our colleagues on the other side.

To begin with, it would be unconstitutional to turn the District of Columbia into a State. It would almost certainly be that, but not what that is the proposal is. The proposal is to redivide the boundaries of the District of Columbia to cede the residential lands to the new State to admit it. For that, there is both sound constitutional and historical precedent.

For one, in Article I Section 8, Clause 17 says that Congress shall “exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever” over the district that is to become the seat of government, meaning that Congress has the authority to modify the boundaries of the District of Columbia, which it has done.

It did that, actually, in 1791. Not long after the original boundaries were set, James Madison and 13 other Founders gave one-third of the District of Columbia to Virginia at the behest of slave masters, who correctly anticipated that the slave traffic would be abolished within the District of Columbia. It was given back, demonstrating that the authority of Congress to change the boundaries of the District exists.

If Congress can alter the boundaries of the District of Columbia in 1846 in order to serve the slave masters and to protect their institution, surely the Congress in 2021 can modify the boundaries of the District of Columbia in order to admit a new State and empower hundreds of thousands of people to live in political equality in the country.

My distinguished colleague from Pennsylvania invites us to believe that the 23rd Amendment is a constitutional impediment to adopting statehood for Washington, D.C. He doesn’t explain why it is unconstitutional. He just asserts it would be unconstitutional.

The 23rd Amendment was adopted in order to give people living within the seat of government the possibility of voting for President and to have electoral college votes in a manner decided by Congress and then, in Section 2, requires Congress to act in order to organize the electoral college in the manner of a State legislature organizing the electoral college for the State.

As I understand H.R. 51, introduced by Congresswoman Norton, this problem is taken care of at the moment of statehood admission because it repeals the statute which organizes the electoral college for the District of Columbia.

In other words, the moment the new State comes into being, the current statute that organizes the Presidential elections is repealed, so there is nothing to worry about. I agree that there is a certain kind of messiness in still having the 23rd Amendment on the books, but Congresswoman Norton has said she will be the first to introduce a formal constitutional amendment to repeal the 23rd, and who would oppose it?

Our colleagues have not been able to find a single person who would oppose it. Everybody would agree it would be simply nonsensical to keep it within the Constitution once the 712,000 people have negotiated an exodus from the Federal seat of government in order to become their own State.

For me, I think that this is a red herring. It is an irrelevant distraction to this journey toward statehood and political equality that we are on.

Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. Norton).

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend for yielding and for his support of H.R. 51.

The rule before us is not ordinary. It is the prelude to history, and I use that word advisedly. Last Congress, the House passed the D.C. statehood bill, the first time either Chamber of Congress had passed the bill. This Congress with Democrats controlling the House, Senate, and White House, D.C. statehood is within reach for the first time in history.

As a result of education from House proceedings like today’s, 54 percent of the American people support D.C. statehood according to a wide-ranging poll that has just been released, and we predict that with increasing exposure, that percentage will continue to rise.

The 220 years since D.C. became our capital, District residents, who have had all of the obligations of citizenship, including paying full Federal taxes and serving in the Armed Forces, have been excluded from much of American democracy. The citizens who live in our Nation’s Capital have never had voting representation on the floor of either Chamber of Congress, and Congress has always had the final say on their local affairs. This is uniquely un-American. It is undemocratic.

For me, it is deeply personal. My own family has lived in D.C. since my great-grandfather Richard Holmes as a slave walked away from a plantation in Virginia and made his way to D.C. almost 200 years ago. Richard Holmes made it to D.C. as a way out but not to equal citizenship so far for our family.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.
Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, I yield the gentleman from the District of Columbia an additional 1 minute.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from the District of Columbia is recognized for an additional 1 minute.

Ms. NORTON. During debate on D.C. statehood Thursday, we will make the case that Congress has the constitutional authority to admit the State of Washington, D.C., and that the State would meet all the elements Congress has considered in admission decisions.

For now, it is sufficient to note that throughout its existence in the United States the United States has flattered itself as a democracy, even though it is the only democratic country that denies voting representation in the national legislature to the residents of the capital. With passage of this rule today and the D.C. statehood bill on Thursday, the United States will be one step closer to deserving the term democracy.

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

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

I thank the gentlewoman very much for her comments, and I want to reemphasize the point that she made at the end, which is that Congress has the exclusive authority to admit new States.

Congress has admitted 37 new States. None of them have ever been struck down by a court, despite serious constitutional objections being raised against almost every State.

Everyone knew that Hawaii and Alaska could not be admitted because they were not contiguous. Everyone knew that Texas couldn’t be admitted because it was a separate republic, and there was no authority to admit a republic to the Union. It was said Utah couldn’t be admitted because they were practicing polygamy there. And so on.

There have always been constitutional objections made, but the courts have always deemed this to be a political question, which means that, in the juridical context, it is up to Congress to decide. And Congress has always been guided, in the final analysis, by the overriding dynamic of American political history, which is democracy has to govern for people who live here.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, my colleague may have said that these are merely my assertions. They are certainly my arguments, but they are also supported by others, particularly well-known members of the liberal party.

The former Mayor of D.C. himself, Mayor Walter Washington, said: “I would have problems with statehood in terms of exacting from it some enclaves, or little enclaves all around the city. Ultimately, it seems to me that would erode the very fabric of the city itself and the viability of the city.”

Again, that was the former Mayor of Washington, D.C., who was talking about the enclaves that are being called for.

Additionally, the former D.C. Delegate Walter Fauntroy himself said that a bill like this would be in direct defiance of the prescription of the Founding Fathers.

As far as the constitutional argument, it is not just me making the assertion that this would be unconstitutional because there is an issue, and that is the 23rd Amendment. Don’t take it from me. Look at the Carter administration DOJ. They said that to provide statehood for the District would have to be by constitutional amendment. Otherwise, it would ignore the Framers’ intent.

John Harmon, Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Counsel under President Carter, said that this would have to be accomplished through constitutional amendment.

Further, RFK, Robert Kennedy, said that Congress likely did not have the authority under the 18th Amendment to change the Constitution works; otherwise, you wouldn’t have had the 21st Amendment, which was needed to repeal the 18th Amendment. We could have just refunded it.

Additionally, there are talks about this not being a political exercise. My colleague has been quoted, actually, in The Washington Post saying that “there is a national political logic for it”—“it” being D.C. statehood. Because the Senate has become the principal Advisory Council, which I hope will be reconstituted by the current administration.

I often hear from my friends on the other side of the aisle accusing Republicans of complaining about problems rather than offering solutions. Well, today, we are providing the opportunity to vote on a commonsense, bipartisan, and thoughtful solution.

I just returned from my second trip to the border in recent weeks. Any of us who have traveled there recently can observe what is happening and can attest to just how bad the crisis on the ground really is.

At the border itself, it is wide open. The wall construction has stopped. Border Patrol agents told us if the wall is constructed, 80 percent of the drug-trafficking activity is focused and funneled to other areas where they can easily interdict the drug traffickers.

Madam Speaker, I was a Federal organized crime prosecutor for 20 years before coming to Congress, and I worked on the border as a Federal organized crime prosecutor going after cartels. I can tell you that they own the border.

If someone wants to cross the border, they have to pay. Chinese are paying $50,000 to $70,000 per person. Mexicans and Central Americans are paying $4,000 a person to come across.

Every single day that this crisis goes on, the cartels are becoming enriched to the tune of at least $15 million a day. In the last month, it is highly likely they were probably enriched to the tune of close to $1 billion in a month. That’s a lot of money they’re dependent on. They are being pulled off the line, at least 40 to 50 percent at a time, in the Rio Grande sector alone to deal with the crisis. The drug traffickers
are smart enough to know: If I throw 100 people across the border over here, all the agents have to come off and deal with them. And then that place that they came off from, we are going to go right across there with the drugs. In the Rio Grande Valley sector alone, it is a 2,000 percent increase in fentanyl coming across the border. Fentanyl is killing our kids all over this country. It is mixed with heroin; it is killing our kids. That is what the Border Patrol agents are telling us because all they want to do is to be able to enforce the laws on the books and to have the ability to do so. They do not have the ability to do so because of the administration’s change of policies on January 22. They say there is a direct correlation.

Yes, there are problems in Central America. They have been there for 20 to 30 years; they haven’t changed. If I had kids down there, I would bring them up to the border, too. But there is a right way to do things, and that is the wrong way. Running across the border and creating this crisis is the wrong way.

Madam Speaker, let me tell you what I saw at the detention centers like Donna.

People are put in pens, for lack of a better term. Thirty, forty people are supposed to be in there. I saw hundreds. I sent a picture to my wife. There are so many kids. They were all wrapped up in aluminum blankets. You couldn’t see anything other than the aluminum blankets. They were literally stacked next to each other like cordwood.

Not a single child was tested. They are released from that facility because they just can’t keep them there, and they are released without being tested.

When we were at the border, we encountered a couple of people at the border at midnight. The next morning, on a flight to Dallas-Forth Worth, they were on that flight. No ID. No idea who they were.

They put them on a plane without identification. They put them on a plane highly likely without testing because they said they are not testing right away. But when they do test, they know that 10 to 15 percent of these kids test positive for COVID.

They are putting people in our communities all across this country, not telling those communities that they are coming, are coming, and are oftentimes not being tested for COVID and, obviously, probably positive.

That is what is going on. In the Donna facility alone, we are spending millions of dollars a day to deal with this. There is nothing more tragic than seeing an 11-year-old girl who was sexually assaulted on her way up to the border and who is pregnant there.

That is what is going on. That is the reality of the situation, and it is an enforced error that we didn’t need to have.

The administration, candidly, was caught short. But candidly too, previous administrations were caught short with border surges.

So, I am not here to complain about the situation. I am here to offer a solution, and the solution is our bill, which I mentioned.

In addition to ensuring future preparedness along the border, this provision will create a $1 billion fund to be made available in support of our frontline enforcement personnel. It requires transparent metrics that were triggered when certain events happened, and it supports border security, and law enforcement professionals. This funding would help prevent a humanitarian crisis from spiraling out of control, as it has on this one and on others before it, candidly.

If you don’t know this, I will tell you: The money that is being spent to deal with this crisis now is being taken away from the funds set aside for the salaries of our law enforcement professionals on the border. That is a fact. We have a supply chain of massive demand just to make sure that our Border Patrol agents can get paid.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues, in a bipartisan fashion, to support the security of the United States. This is what President Biden did on January 20. This is about saying, going forward, when we have these crises—and they will occur again—that we are ready next time, that there is money set aside, and that when certain things happen, the money kicks in and we are ready to go.

That is what I am asking my colleagues, to support the frontline men and women by supporting this provision.

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, I want to say a word in response to my colleagues about the national political logic of statehood.

There is both powerful constitutional principles and national political logic that infuses every statehood admission going back to the very beginning of the Republic.

The constitutional principle is simply that of no taxation without representation and the consent of the governed. People who are part of the American Nation should be able to participate equally as complete citizens.

That is why Thomas Jefferson set out in the Northwest Ordinance that once a community reaches a certain size—60,000, which, of course, is less than 10 percent of the size of Washington, D.C., today—that it would be eligible to come into statehood, to petition for statehood. The only real constitutional prerequisite is a republican form of government. That is the Republican Guarantee Clause.

That is the high-minded political ideal of constitutional principle, but it is also the case, as I have tried to argue with my colleagues across the aisle, that there is a hard-core political logic that is operated, and we see it in their arguments that they don’t want to admit two Democratic Senators to the Republic, which is what former President Trump said in objection to D.C. statehood. He said there is no way we would accept two new Democrat Senators.

Actually, although I consider it a degradation of the process, and a sort of tawdry form of argument, nonetheless, it has been very much part of American political history, which is why States have tended to enter the Union in pairs, like animals boarding Noah’s Ark together. There was the situation with Kansas and Nebraska, in the Kansas-Nebraska Act; that was the situation of Missouri and Maine in the Missouri Compromise; that was Vermont and Kentucky; that was Alaska and Hawaii back in 1959.

So, I say to my friends, okay, they don’t see the problem of taxation without representation in Washington. They don’t see the problem of governance without representation. They don’t see the irony or the paradox or the contradiction of people putting their lives on the line to defend this Congress, this Union, on January 6 who don’t get to vote for voting representatives in Congress.

They don’t want to see that, fine. But they can at least see this: It has been in the Republican platform since 1940 that Puerto Rico should be admitted as a State. Every 4 years, they have said that the millions of people, American citizens, who live in Puerto Rico should be admitted as a State. It was in the platform in 2016. It would have been in 2020 if they had had a platform. They decided not to have a platform for the American people in 2020. But in any event, they have taken a very strong position—Ronald Reagan, Gerald Ford, you name it.

In fact, the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico is a Republican who has introduced statehood legislation in every Congress, who is fighting for statehood.

So, fine, there is the basis for common ground. Let’s get together. The Democrats have been arguing for statehood for Washington, D.C., for a long time. The Republicans have been arguing for statehood for Puerto Rico for a long time. I assume everybody means it. Let’s get together and do it the way this has happened periodically, systematically, throughout American history. That is the national political logic of allowing both of these states to come in together.

Not everybody gets everything that they want, and I do think that it is antithetical to the democratic form of government to say you don’t want people to be represented because you don’t like the way they are going to vote because they disagree with you on issues. I think that is fundamentally undemocratic and un-American.

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, in any event, we have the grounds for a compromise, and I am still looking for some colleagues across the aisle to stand up and say they will stand for the position
that they have embraced for decades, to say these two states should come in together.

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to my colleague from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCANLON).

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of the rule providing for consideration of the NO BAN Act, the Access to Counsel Act of 2021, and the Washington, D.C. Admission Act. All three bills advance important policies that I am proud to support.

I will never forget the night in January 2017 that the Trump administration’s ban on travel from Muslim countries went into effect. I was not yet in Congress, and my job involved coordinating free legal services across the U.S., including representation for immigrants.

As foreign citizens landed in the U.S., they were told that their travel papers were revoked while they were in the air, and some were taken into custody and some were immediately deported. Families were separated, and friends and relatives arriving to pick up loved ones at U.S. airports frantically tried to get information about them. Many were denied the right to counsel, who were trying to reach them.

Attorneys and immigration agencies across the country immediately mobilized to help those impacted by the illegal and ill-conceived ban. I spent the next few weeks working around the clock, dispatching volunteers to airports, mobilizing translators, and organizing legal efforts.

Having seen the chaos and cruelty caused by the Trump administration’s ill-fated ban, I am particularly pleased by the opportunity to pass the NO BAN Act and the Access to Counsel Act.

First, the NO BAN Act would ensure that no future administration would have the authority to discriminate against people based on their religious background or national origin when choosing to restrict the entry of immigrants into our country.

Having witnessed the chaos and cruelty of the Muslim ban, I wholeheartedly support this legislation, which would prevent future administrations from similarly abusing their executive authority.

I am also proud to support the Access to Counsel Act, which would ensure that individuals at ports of entry can seek legal advice, whether from volunteers or at their own expense, during the screening process. Access to counsel is critical for ensuring the fair and equitable treatment of our citizens, but especially in immigration matters where the law is so complicated and the consequences so grave.

Madam Speaker, I support these three bills, which would make our immigration laws more fair and protect due process.

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

Madam Speaker, we hear a lot about no taxation without representation. But there is representation. We forget that D.C. has three electoral votes. That is the 23rd Amendment. They have a Delegate in Congress. They also have local representation, a mayor. They have the Home Rule Act.

But taxation does bring up a serious issue because D.C. would need to raise taxes if it were to become a State. It simply is not self-sufficient economically. It is far more from the Federal Government than any other area in the United States: $73,000 per capita, to be exact. That is astronomical when you think about it. The second highest state is Virginia at $16,000 per capita. Again, D.C. takes $73,000 per capita.

If this were to go through, D.C. would need to raise revenue. Because of the fringes upon people’s rights, which is the District, you would then have to have more taxation, presumably through two ways: One, a commuter tax, taxing people that come into the District from other areas; or, two, you would have to toll roads leading into the District. Both of these are incredibly problematic.

The first one, a commuter tax, would actually create the problem my liberal colleagues are saying exists in the first place, no taxation without representation, because you would have the District of Columbia taxing people from presumably, Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia, where you have, for commuting into the District. They didn’t have representation here. That is actually taxation without representation.

Further, if you were to toll roads leading into the District, you would infringe upon people’s constitutional rights to petition the government. Imagine how much a tour bus would have to pay if they wanted to come here in the District.

But I was talking about the Home Rule Act and I was talking about the 23rd Amendment, and it reminded me that there was an allegation that Republicans somehow don’t care about this issue. It is actually the opposite. Republicans are the ones who have advanced more rights for the District of Columbia. Think about it.

It was actually the Kennedy and the Carter administrations, both their Departments of Justice concluded that, for D.C. to become a State, it would have to acquire a constitutional amendment. They were on our side of this argument. Historically, it was President Eisenhower who pushed through the 23rd Amendment to get D.C. three electoral votes. And just last year, Republican, Prescott Bush, grandfather of George W. Bush, who was instrumental in passing the 23rd Amendment. They were both Republicans. And it was President Nixon who signed the Home Rule Act into law. This has been Republican-led since the very beginning.

There was also an argument about D.C. residents, that this is somehow a civil rights issue. Civil rights, that is an actual term of art. Civil rights is a violation when the rights are denied because a person is who the person is. D.C. residents don’t have a lack of representation in Congress because of who they are, but, instead, of where they chose to live.

And this isn’t just me making this argument. The late Democrat, Representative John Dingell, made a similar argument, and I will quote the late Representative Dingell: I have supported every single civil rights measure that has passed this Congress since 1955, but we have to look at the facts before us. No citizen in Washington, D.C., is chained to the pillars of the U.S. Capital. They can leave any time they want. To say this is somehow a civil rights violation is insulting to actual civil rights violations.

Then let’s go back to the three electoral votes issue. If we do follow this course of action and not repeal the 23rd Amendment before the next election, you are going to have, as my colleague from Maryland just admitted, a sloppy and messy situation where the new State gets three electoral votes, and then the Federal enclave gets three electoral votes.

Well, who lives in the Federal enclave? It would be the First Family. So you would, presumably, give the incumbent three electoral votes in the election, and then D.C. itself three electoral votes.

Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Oklahoma (Mrs. BICE).

Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the combined rule and to the underlying measures, including H.R. 51, the Washington, D.C. Admission Act. Again, our friends across the aisle are making an attempt to gain more control in Congress, this time in the Senate, by trying to hide behind the guise that residents of the District of Columbia do not have the means for adequate representation in Congress.

While Americans deserve full voting representation from their national government, our forefathers never intended for the Federal seat of government to serve as a State. The Founders instructed the Capitol to be a central ground for equal sovereign States to work together to conduct the Nation’s business.

This bill does not at all follow what our forefathers envisioned. H.R. 51 overlooks the U.S. Constitution in which Article I, Section 8, Clause 17 designated Washington as a Federal district, not a State. That alone should make this legislation unconstitutional.

Because the District of Columbia’s status is spelled out, it would take a constitutional amendment to grant permission for this Democratic power play. There have been several alternative proposals and amendments put
for yielding. And I particularly thank the gentleman from Maryland for yielding. And I particularly thank the gentlewoman from Washington, D.C., the 51st State, the Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton for her hard work.

Madam Speaker, breaking news: The people of Washington, D.C., pay taxes. Breaking news: The people of Washington, D.C., paid the price for the uniform of the United States of America. And, breaking news: The legislation my friends on the other side of the aisle are proposing is to propose a dictate, as usual, from the United States Federal Government on the people of Washington, D.C.

Is anybody in Washington, D.C., raising their hand to be able to participate in the legislation that my friends are offering on this floor, which is to partition—we know what partition means—colored people in dominion, and put them wherever the Federal Government thinks that they should belong? I think they need to think twice about that.

And, really, if this is a country of the people and for the people, if this is a House of Representatives, then the people of Washington, D.C., deserve to be represented, and they deserve to be represented by the four squares of the districts and the Senate of the people of the United States Congress.

I am appalled that we would, over the decades, ignore the blood that was shed by those from Washington, D.C., the history that was made by those from Washington, D.C., and the service that was given by those from Washington, D.C.

So I rise to support the legislation that provides for the Washington, D.C., Admission Act, H.R. 51. I thank the leadership for that legislation. In the rule, we have a combination of restoring rights. That is what H.R. 51 does, restoring and igniting rights.

H.R. 1573, Access to Counsel Act, of my friend and colleague from Washington State, is a commonsense initiative. We are a nation of laws. Do we not respect the right to counsel?

Yes, these are persons who are non-citizens, but they have the right, if in secondary detention, to call a relative, to call a lawyer, which they pay for.

What about little Ali? As I rushed to the airport on that fateful day when the President of the United States, President Trump, declared that all Muslims were banned, what an outrageous experience; and an outrageous experience that I have had with other entries that have been detained, where they couldn’t call an uncle or aunt, they couldn’t call their mother, their father, their wife.

Well, little Ali could not call his relatives that were outside the gate waiting for him.

Where did that 15-year-old Egyptian with documented papers wind up? He wound up in Chicago, in a children’s detention facility.

So I support the right to counsel, H.R. 1573, the Access to Counsel Act.

And, finally, H.R. 1333. All came under the Bagram ban by President Trump; let’s just say it, an outrageous act. We literally got off the plane, Members of Congress who were flying in from Washington, and rushed to the airport because of what was happening to our constituents.

I support the No BAN Act under H.R. 1333, and I ask my colleagues to support this legislation. The Constitution reigns.

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Madam Speaker, there was talk about retrocession. There can be arguments that the former retrocession was actually unconstitutional. In fact, the House of Representatives tried to pass a bill to say just that. It passed, and it, unfortunately, sat in the Senate Judiciary Committee without passing and challenges to the Supreme Court were dismissed on procedural grounds.

Additionally, we have to remember the many reasons why the District is just that, a district. It is because the Founding Fathers did not want to create an imperial State that would have too much influence and control over the Capitol.

My colleague from Maryland actually wrote about this in 1990 in a law review article published in the Catholic University Law Review. “The Representatives from the new State, likely living minutes from their offices, will theoretically devote more time to institutional and committee politics and less to constant travel back and forth across the country, increasing their importance and influence on Capitol Hill.”

That was my colleague from Maryland. That is not my assertion.

If D.C. does become a State, Madam Speaker, you will create almost by definition a super Congressman in this body and two super Senators that yield much more influence than others who have to travel back and forth to their district.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. Lesko).

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, the underlying legislation we are considering in this rule is extremely alarming. We have two out-of-touch immigration bills that do nothing to address our current immigration crisis, and they have a partisan priority that reeks of the swamp and is simply unconstitutional.

H.R. 1333 restricts any President’s authority to suspend entry into the United States from certain foreign nations for national security or public health reasons putting the safety of Americans at risk.

With H.R. 1573, it appears my colleagues on the other side of the aisle plan to address the crisis at our southern border by sending in the lawyers. Pursuing the Biden policies by sending in the lawyers, with his policies, and this bill just continues to encourage more people to come and cross our border illegally.
Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, I have 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER).

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, first of all, I rise in strong support of this resolution. It makes in order that we will not discriminate against people based upon their religion or the State from which they come or the nation from which they come. It says not at our cost, but at their cost they have the right to return. That seems to me to be a basic premise in America.

Then, thirdly, which we hear so much lamentation about, it gives to 700,000-plus people in the District of Columbia equal status with the 500,000 people in Wyoming. Now, perhaps if my friends from the other side of the aisle, Madam Speaker, thought that there were going to be two Republican Senators elected, they would be for it. I say perhaps, but I believe there is no doubt about that.

I am proud to be a strong supporter of that legislation, and I will tell my Republican friends who talk about human rights around the world so often—properly so—that Washington, D.C., is the only capital in the free world whose residents do not have a representative in the parliament of their country—the only one.

There is no reason why the gentlewoman who sits in front of me, ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON—who is an extraordinary American and an extraordinary patriot who serves her Nation so incredibly well and is elected by those 700,000 people—why she is less extraordinary American and an extraordinary patriot who serves her Nation so incredibly well and is elected by those 700,000 people—why she is less than we because ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON cannot vote on final passage of a bill.

Now, I did, as the majority leader, at least give her the respect and the respect to others who are representatives of their particular areas—Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands—the right to vote in the Committee of the Whole to let them know at least in that small way we wanted to give voice to the folks they represent.

So I rise in strong support of this rule. We have passed these bills before. Republicans opposed them before, and they will oppose them again. I am not surprised.

Madam Speaker, before I sit, however, I wanted to talk about the rule. We are expecting the Republican leader to offer a privileged resolution at the conclusion of the debate on this rule. I am disappointed at that news.

His resolution is being used by Republicans to posit a moral equivalence between a comment by the gentlewoman from California about standing up for justice and peaceful protest and remarks by Representative GREENE who directly threatened violence, retweeted what she said, and even, I understand it was not her words, but she retweeted those words which said that if you want to shut Pelosi up, a bullet to the head will accomplish that objective. She didn’t say it. I want to make that clear. She retweeted a tweet that said that.

Even more egregiously, it is being used to twist reality to suggest that somehow Congresswoman WATERS’ remark is as condemnable a remark as rhetoric that incites a violent attempt to overthrow the government of the United States on January 6, an action that Republicans refuse to condemn. There is no equivalence.

Chairwoman WATERS’ remarks reflect the very profound anger and sense of hopelessness that she and so many others—myself included—feel when we see African Americans being killed during encounters with our law enforcement and their families not seeing justice.

It is my understanding we are going to get a ruling almost perhaps any minute. We will see.

It is, however, irresponsible to take Chairwoman WATERS’ remarks out of context just to hold a gotcha partisan vote, particularly when no action was taken by her party regarding Mrs. GREENE’s remarks.

It is, frankly, exploiting the pain of so many families and communities to turn Chairwoman WATERS’ concern for justice into a partisan cudgel.

As my friend, the dearly departed Elijah Cummings used to say and believe are confrontational every day. Confront is to face the facts. Confront is to face the truth. Confront is to face the challenges that we have, and that is what Ms. WATERS urged.

I would suggest to my friend, the minority leader, Madam Speaker, that if Ms. WATERS’ remarks were subject to sanction, then we are going to have a lot of people on his side of the aisle who we believe are confrontational every day.

Confront is not violence. Confront is not waving guns and some groups’ biggest fear. Confront is not to say to be violent in confronting the facts, the truth, the opportunities, and the challenges, and, yes, the alternatives that we all take.

So if one of us stands up and says that we need to confront this, and we need to be confrontational and we need to get up in people’s faces and say: This is the truth and we need to act and that would be subject to admonition, then I suggest to my friend, Madam Speaker, and my friends in this House, that we all confront.

We came here to represent people and to confront their needs, to confront their fears, and to confront their needs now. Yes, we will, and that is advocacy. Of course, it is. So I ask my friends not only to vote for this rule, but to vote for the motion to table my friend’s motion that I anticipate.

If we could spend all our time here, Madam Speaker. We have been on this side of the aisle, as my friend, the leader knows, and we haven’t had all the resolutions that have been introduced on my side of the aisle. This makes it harder, however, not to proceed on numerous resolutions on my side of the aisle. Let us table this resolution on behalf of this institution and every Member in it.

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, it is interesting to hear my colleague from Maryland’s newfound positions because back in the 1990s, I believe the majority leader actually had the opposite viewpoint and took the opposite vote. But then again, things can change, and so can opinions. I have also interacted with my colleagues on the other side of the aisle use D.C.’s population as some justification for D.C. statehood. We know that the Founding Fathers knew that D.C. would grow into a large metropolis.

George Washington, when he was laying out the land use of the city, he actually used Paris as the example for the city, which was at the time 800,000 residents. They used one of the biggest cities in Europe as an example of the city. And yet today, we are considering a rule bringing up two immigration bills that do absolutely nothing to address this crisis.

Again, we are calling up a rule on H.R. 51 that is the Democrat’s unconstitutional attempt to ram through D.C. statehood for their own political gain. What is that gain? It is very simple. It is bringing in two ultra-liberal Senators. D.C. is the most liberal city, second only to San Francisco, and this bill bringing two ultra-liberal Senators with the lid added abolishing the filibuster to what end? To pack the Supreme Court to ram through a far-left, radical agenda.
For those reasons, Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote “no” on the previous question and “no” on the underlying measure. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, let me start by saying that the majority leader hardly needs me to defend him, but I know that he was a strong supporter of the D.C. voting rights constitutional amendment where there was actually bipartisan support.

In those days, Republicans understood the grievous injustice being perpetrated against the people of Washington, D.C. and they supported granting people in D.C. two Senators, or what my colleague would call two ultra- senatorial Senators, as well as the Representatives in the House to which they were due.

The majority leader, Mr. Hoyer, is supporting the only viable vehicle for getting equal rights for people in Washington, D.C. that exists today, which is statehood, which is how 37 new States entered the Union with Congress’ exercise of its powers under Article IV of the Constitution.

The gentleman waxed eloquent about the wondrous city of Capital City, but being a strict textualist, I assume that he wants to pay some attention to the text of the Constitution. Article I, Section 8, Clause 17, the District Clause, sets a maximum, a ceiling that the District may be no more than 10 miles square, but there is no minimum there. It didn’t say it must be at least 6 miles square or 2 miles square or 3 miles. No, that is up to Congress. In other words, it is a political question within congressional power, over the District of Columbia.

Finally, the gentleman, I suppose, gets to the heart of the matter when he says that, for him, it is all about two ultra- senatorial Senators, or our colleagues on that. Not a single one will support the only viable vehicle for getting equal rights for the people of Puerto Rico should be admitted as a State.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote “yes” on the rule and the previous question.

The material previously referred to by Mr. RESCHENTHALER is as follows:

AMENDMENT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 330

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 8. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall resolve into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2321) to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a plan to respond to irregular migration surges at the border, to establish an irregular migration surge border response fund, and for other purposes.

The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be limited to one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Homeland Security. The clerk shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. When the committee rises and reports the bill back to the House with a recommendation that the bill do pass, the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto and final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit. If the Committee of the Whole rises and reports that it has come to no resolution on the bill, then on the next legislative day the House shall, immediately after the third daily order of business under clause 1 of rule XIV, resolve into the Committee of the Whole for further consideration of the bill.

SEC. 9. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H.R. 2321.

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

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

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

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

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

The Speaker pro tempore. The Clerk will report the yeas and nays.

RAISING A QUESTION OF PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. McCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise to a question of the privileges of the House, and I offer H. Res. 331.

The Speaker pro tempore. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. Res. 331

Whereas on the evening of April 17, 2021, Representative Maxine M. Waters of California joined protestors in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, who were gathered outside the Brooklyn Center Police Department; Whereas Representative Maxine M. Waters said, “We’re looking for a guilty verdict” in the trial of Derek Chauvin; Whereas Representative Maxine M. Waters said that if there was not a guilty verdict, protesters on the street should stay on the street, and we’ve got to get more active, we’ve got to get more confrontational, we’ve got to make sure they know we mean business…

Whereas on April 19, 2021, the judge in the trial of Derek Chauvin, Judge Peter Cahill, said in reply to Derek Chauvin’s defense attorney, ‘‘I’ll give you that Congresswoman Waters may have given you something on appeal that may result in this whole trial being overturned;’’

Whereas Judge Cahill stated, ‘‘I think if they want to give their opinions, they should do so in a respectful manner, and in a manner consistent with our oath to the Constitution. To respect the coequal branch of government. Their failure to do so I think is abhorrent.’’; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That:

(1) Representative Maxine M. Waters of California be censured;

(2) Representative Maxine M. Waters forthwith present herself in the well of the House for the pronouncement of censure; and

(3) Representative Maxine M. Waters be censured with the public reading of this resolution by the Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The resolution qualifies.

MOTION TO TABLE

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Hoyer moves that the resolution be laid on the table.

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

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.
The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 216, nays 210, not voting 4, as follows:  

**[Roll No. 122]**

**YEAS—216**

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

So the previous question was ordered. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

MEMBERS RECORDING PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 8, 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was won by electronic device, and there were—yes ...214, nay 207, not voting 8, as follows:

The SPEAKER pro tempore.

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

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

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

The vote was won by electronic device, and there were—yes ...214, nay 207, not voting 8, as follows:

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

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

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

The vote was won by electronic device, and there were—yes ...214, nay 207, not voting 8, as follows:

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

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

The Speaker pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(a) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.
PROVIDING FOR THE EXPENSES OF CERTAIN COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

Pursuant to section 4 of House Resolution 330, H. Res. 316 is adopted.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. Res. 316

Resolved, SECTION 1. COMMITTEE EXPENSES FOR THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS.

(a) In General.—With respect to the One Hundred Seventeenth Congress, there shall be paid out of the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives, in accordance with this resolution, the amounts specified in subsection (b), for expenses (including the expenses of all staff salaries) of each committee named in such subsection.

(b) Committees and Amounts.—The committees and amounts referred to in subsection (a) are: Committee on Agriculture, $12,289,994; Committee on Armed Services, $18,155,984; Committee on the Budget, $10,899,446; Select Committee on the Climate Crisis, $3,410,369; Committee on Education and Labor, $15,727,650; Committee on Energy and Commerce, $3,507,696; Committee on Ethics, $3,449,723; Committee on Financial Services, $8,917,992; Committee on Foreign Affairs, $8,653,430; Committee on Homeland Security, $8,636,701; Committee on House Administration, $5,892,211; Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, $6,543,075; Committee onJudiciary, $8,806,115; Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress, $971,250; Select Committee on Natural Resources, $7,295,361; Committee on Oversight and Reform, $13,896,964; Committee on Rules, $3,444,499; Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, $5,816,818; Committee on Small Business, $3,253,055; Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, $9,597,173; Committee on Veterans' Affairs, $4,791,977; and Committee on Ways and Means, $9,800,104.

SEC. 2. FIRST SESSION LIMITATIONS.

(a) In General.—The amounts provided for in section 1 for each committee named in subsection (b), not more than the amount specified in such subsection shall be available for expenses incurred during the period beginning at noon on January 3, 2021, and ending immediately before noon on January 3, 2022.

(b) Committees and Amounts.—The committees and amounts referred to in subsection (a) are: Committee on Agriculture, $6,144,497; Committee on Armed Services, $8,917,992; Committee on the Budget, $5,449,723; Select Committee on Intelligence, $6,155,000; Committee on Education and Labor, $7,863,255; Committee on Energy and Commerce, $11,417,377; Committee on Ethics, $3,507,696; Committee on Financial Services, $8,917,992; Committee on Foreign Affairs, $8,653,430; Committee on Homeland Security, $8,636,701; Committee on House Administration, $5,892,211; Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, $6,543,075; Committee on the Judiciary, $8,806,115; Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress, $971,250; Select Committee on Natural Resources, $7,295,361; Committee on Oversight and Reform, $13,896,964; Committee on Rules, $3,444,499; Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, $5,816,818; Committee on Small Business, $3,253,055; Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, $9,597,173; Committee on Veterans' Affairs, $4,791,977; and Committee on Ways and Means, $9,800,104.

SEC. 3. SECOND SESSION LIMITATIONS.

(a) In General.—Of the amount provided for in section 1 for each committee named in subsection (b), not more than the amount specified in such subsection shall be available for expenses incurred during the period beginning at noon on January 3, 2022, and ending immediately before noon on January 3, 2023.

(b) Committees and Amounts.—The committees and amounts referred to in subsection (a) are: Committee on Agriculture, $6,144,497; Committee on Armed Services, $5,257,696; Committee on the Budget, $5,449,723; Select Committee on the Climate Crisis, $1,950,000; Committee on Education and Labor, $7,863,255; Committee on Energy and Commerce, $11,417,377; Committee on Ethics, $3,507,696; Committee on Financial Services, $8,956,787; Committee on Foreign Affairs, $8,653,430; Committee on Homeland Security, $8,636,701; Committee on House Administration, $5,892,211; Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, $6,543,075; Committee on the Judiciary, $8,806,115; Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress, $971,250; Select Committee on Natural Resources, $7,295,361; Committee on Oversight and Reform, $13,896,964; Committee on Rules, $3,444,499; Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, $5,816,818; Committee on Small Business, $3,253,055; Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, $9,597,173; Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, $4,791,977; and Committee on Ways and Means, $9,800,104.

(c) Review of Use of Funds in First Session.

The Clerk shall report to the Speaker the amount provided for in section 1 for a committee named in subsection (b) that may be available for expenses of the committee after March 15, 2022, unless the chair or ranking minority member of the committee appears and presents testimony at a hearing of the Committee on House Administration held prior to such date to reevaluate whether the amount provided for in section 1 during the first session of the One Hundred Seventeenth Congress and to determine whether the amount specified in subsection (b) with respect to that committee should be updated on the basis of the review.

SEC. 4. VOUCHERS.

Payments under this resolution shall be made on vouchers authorized by the committee involved, signed by the chair of such committee, and approved in the manner directed by the Committee on House Administration.

SEC. 5. REGULATIONS.

Amounts made available under this resolution shall be expended in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Committee on House Administration.

SEC. 6. RESERVE FUND FOR UNANTICIPATED EXPENSES.

(a) Establishment.—There is hereby established a reserve fund for unanticipated expenses of committees for the One Hundred Seventeenth Congress.

(b) Amount.—The reserve fund under this section shall have a balance of $4,000,000, of which—

(1) $1,500,000 shall be available for unanticipated expenses incurred during the period beginning at noon on January 3, 2021, and ending immediately before noon on January 3, 2022; and

(2) $2,500,000 shall be available for unanticipated expenses incurred during the period beginning at noon on January 3, 2022, and ending immediately before noon on January 3, 2023.

(c) Allocation to Committees.—Amounts in the reserve fund under this section shall be paid to a committee upon allocation approved by the Committee on House Administration.

SEC. 7. ADJUSTMENT AUTHORITY.

The Committee on House Administration shall have authority to make adjustments in amounts under section 1, if necessary to comply with an order of the President issued under section 251a, 254 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 or to conform to any change in appropriations for the purposes of such section.

PROVIDING FOR A JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS TO RECEIVE A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Pursuant to section 7(a) of House Resolution 330, H. Con. Res. 30 is adopted.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. Con. Res. 30

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the two Houses of Congress assemble in the Hall of the House of Representatives on Wednesday, April 28, 2021, at 9:00 p.m., for the purpose of receiving such communication as the President of the United States shall be pleased to make to them.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES AND PASS CERTAIN BILLS AND AGREE TO A RESOLUTION


The Clerk read the title of the bills and the resolution.

The text of the bills and the resolution are as follows:
HOMELAND SECURITY ACQUISITION PROFESSIONAL CAREER PROGRAM ACT
H.R. 367
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 “Homeland Security Acquisition Professional Career Program Act.”

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF THE ACQUISITION PROFESSIONAL CAREER PROGRAM.
(a) In General—Title VII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 341 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 711. ACQUISITION PROFESSIONAL CAREER PROGRAM.
"(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Department an acquisition professional career program, to be implemented by the Secretary, to develop a cadre of acquisition professionals within the Department.
"(b) ADMINISTRATION.—The Under Secretary for Management shall administer the acquisition professional career program established pursuant to subsection (a).
"(c) REQUIREMENTS.—The Under Secretary for Management shall carry out the following with respect to the acquisition professional career program:
"(1) Designate the occupational series, grades, and number of acquisition positions throughout the Department to be included in the program and manage centrally such positions.
"(2) Establish and publish on the Department’s website eligibility criteria for candidates to participate in the program.
"(3) Carry out recruitment efforts to attract candidates—
(A) from institutions of higher education, including historically Black colleges and universities, and Hispanic-serving institutions;
(B) with diverse work experience outside of the Federal Government; or
"(C) with military service.
"(4) Hire eligible candidates for designated positions under the program.
"(5) Develop a structured program comprised of acquisition training, on-the-job experience, Department-wide rotations, mentorship, shadowing, and other career development opportunities for program participants.
"(6) Provide, beyond required training established for program participants, additional specialized acquisition training, including small business contracting and innovative acquisition techniques training.
"(d) REPORTS.—Not later than December 31, 2021, and annually thereafter through 2027, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on the acquisition professional career program. Each such report shall include the following information:
"(1) The number of candidates approved for the program.
"(2) The number of candidates who commenced participation in the program, including generalized information on such candidates’ backgrounds with respect to education and prior work experience, but not including personally identifiable information.
"(3) A breakdown of the number of participants hired under the program by type of acquisition position.
"(4) A list of Department components and offices that participated in the program and the information regarding length of time of each program participant in each rotation at such components or offices.
"(5) Program attrition rates and post-program graduation retention data, including information on how such data compare to the prior year’s data, as available.
"(6) The Department’s recruiting efforts for the program.
"(7) The Department’s efforts to promote retention of program participants.
"(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:
"(1) HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The term ‘Hispanic-serving institution’ has the meaning given such term in section 502 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1011a).
"(2) HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.—The term ‘historically Black colleges and universities’ has the meaning given the term ‘part B institution’ in section 322(2) of Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061(2)).
"(3) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the meaning given such term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

HOMELAND SECURITY ACQUISITION REVIEW TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT OF 2021
H.R. 370
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 “Quadrennial Homeland Security Review Technical Corrections Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO QUADRENNIAL HOMELAND SECURITY REVIEW ACT OF 2002.
(a) In General.—Section 707 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 347) is amended—
(I) by inserting before the semicolon at the end;
(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” after the semicolon at the end;
(C) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D);
(D) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (E);
(E) by striking paragraph (6); and
(F) by redesigning subparagraphs (a) through subsection (c) as subparagraphs (a) through subsection (e).

"(b) Clerical Amendment.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 710 the following new item:

"Sec. 711. Acquisition professional career program.

QUADRENNIAL HOMELAND SECURITY REVIEW TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT OF 2021
H.R. 370
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 “Quadrennial Homeland Security Review Technical Corrections Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO QUADRENNIAL HOMELAND SECURITY REVIEW ACT OF 2002.
(a) In General.—Section 707 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 347) is amended—
(I) by inserting before the semicolon at the end;
(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” after the semicolon at the end;
(C) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D);
(D) by redesigning subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (E);
(E) by striking paragraph (6); and
(F) by redesigning subparagraphs (a) through subsection (c) as subparagraphs (a) through subsection (e).

"(b) Clerical Amendment.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 710 the following new item:

"Sec. 711. Acquisition professional career program.

"(c) Programmatic Changes.—The changes made by this Act to—
(I) section 707 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 347), with such changes effective as provided in section 711 of such Act (6 U.S.C. 347), amended—
(A) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” after the semicolon at the end;
(B) in paragraph (3)—
(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “to the extent practicable,” before “a discussion”; and
(ii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “, as required under subsection (b)(2)” before the semicolon at the end;
(C) in paragraph (4)—
(i) by striking “‘resources required’” after the semicolon at the end;
(ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking “‘resources required’” after the semicolon at the end;
(iii) in subparagraph (B), by Strike “‘resources required’” after the semicolon at the end;
(iv) in subparagraph (C), by striking “‘resources required’” after the semicolon at the end;
(iv) by inserting “‘resources required’” after the semicolon at the end;
(v) by inserting “‘resources required’” after the semicolon at the end;
(vi) by inserting “‘resources required’” after the semicolon at the end;
(vii) by redesigning subparagraph (a) as subparagraph (b); and
(viii) by redesigning subparagraph (c) as paragraph (4); and
(D) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following new paragraph:

"(d) Documentation.—The Secretary shall retain and, upon request, provide to Congress the following documentation regarding each quadrennial homeland security review:

"(1) Records regarding the consultation carried out pursuant to subsection (a)(3), including the following:
"(i) All written communications, including communications sent out by the Secretary and feedback submitted to the Secretary through technology, online communications tools, in-person discussions, and the interagency process.
"(ii) Information on how feedback received by the Secretary informed each such quadrennial homeland security review.
"(iii) Information regarding the risk assessment required pursuant to subsection (c)(2)(B), including the following:
"(I) The risk model utilized to generate such risk assessment.
"(ii) The risk model utilized to generate such risk assessment.
"(iii) Sources of information, including other risk assessments, utilized to generate such risk assessment.
"(iv) Information on assumptions, weighing factors, and subjective judgments utilized to generate such risk assessment, together with information on the rationale or basis thereof.
"(iv) Information, including data used in the risk model, utilized to generate such risk assessment.
"(v) Documentation.—The Secretary shall retain and, upon request, provide to Congress the following documentation regarding each quadrennial homeland security review:
"(1) Records regarding the consultation carried out pursuant to subsection (a)(3), including the following:
"(i) All written communications, including communications sent out by the Secretary and feedback submitted to the Secretary through technology, online communications tools, in-person discussions, and the interagency process.
"(ii) Information on how feedback received by the Secretary informed each such quadrennial homeland security review.
"(iii) Information regarding the risk assessment required pursuant to subsection (c)(2)(B), including the following:
"(I) The risk model utilized to generate such risk assessment.
"(ii) The risk model utilized to generate such risk assessment.
"(iii) Sources of information, including other risk assessments, utilized to generate such risk assessment.
"(iv) Information on assumptions, weighing factors, and subjective judgments utilized to generate such risk assessment, together with information on the rationale or basis thereof.
"(v) Information, including data used in the risk model, utilized to generate such risk assessment.
"(vi) Information, including data used in the risk model, utilized to generate such risk assessment.
"(v) Information, including data used in the risk model, utilized to generate such risk assessment.

"(d) Revise.—Not later than 90 days after the submission of each report required under subsection (c)(1), the Secretary shall provide to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate the information on the degree to which the findings and recommendations developed in the quadrennial homeland security review that is the subject
of such report were integrated into the acquisition strategy and expenditure plans for the Department.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this Act shall apply with respect to a quadrennial homeland security review conducted after December 31, 2021.

SEC. 2. ALLOWABLE USES OF FUNDS FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS.

Subparagraph (A) of section 1406(b)(2) of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (6 U.S.C. 1135(b)(2); Public Law 110–53) is amended by inserting “and associated backfill” after “security training”.

SEC. 3. PERIODS OF PERFORMANCE FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS.


(1) by redesigning subsection (m) as subsection (n); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (i) the following new subsection:

“(m) PERIODS OF PERFORMANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), funds provided pursuant to a grant awarded under this section for a use specified in subsection (b) shall remain available for use by a grant recipient for a period of not fewer than 36 months.

“(2) PROVISIONS.—Funds provided pursuant to a grant awarded under this section for a use specified in subparagraph (M) or (N) of subsection (b)(1) shall remain available for use by a grant recipient for a period of not fewer than 55 months.”.

SEC. 4. GAO REVIEW.


(b) SCOPE.—The review required under paragraph (a) shall include the following:

(1) A description of the type of projects funded under the public transportation security assistance grant program referred to in such paragraph.

(2) An assessment of the manner in which such projects address threats to public transportation infrastructure.

(3) An assessment of the impact, if any, of this Act on the amendments made by this Act on types of projects funded under the public transportation security assistance grant program.

(4) An assessment of the management and administration of public transportation security assistance grant program by grantee.

(5) Recommendations to improve the manner in which public transportation security assistance grant programs address vulnerabilities in public transportation infrastructure.

(6) Recommendations to improve the management and administration of the public transportation security assistance grant program.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act and again not later than five years after such date of enactment, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committees on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Senate, and the Committees on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on the review required under this section.

SEC. 5. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go requirements of the Budget Control Act of 2011 (Public Law 112–25), shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

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 “CBRN Intelligence and Information Sharing Act of 2021.”

SEC. 2. CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL, AND NUCLEAR INTELLIGENCE AND INFORMATION SHARING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle A of title II of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 121 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 210(k) the following new section:

“SEC. 210H. CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL, AND NUCLEAR INTELLIGENCE AND INFORMATION SHARING.

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security shall—

“(A) support homeland security-focused intelligence analysis of terrorist actors, their claims, and their plans to conduct attacks involving chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear materials against the United States, including critical infrastructure;

“(B) support homeland security-focused intelligence analysis of global infectious disease, public health, food, agricultural, and veterinary issues;

“(C) support homeland security-focused risk assessments of the homeland security hazards described in paragraphs (1) and (2), including the transportation of chemical, biological, nuclear, and radiological materials, by providing relevant quantitative and nonquantitative threat information;

“(D) leverage existing and emerging homeland security intelligence capabilities and structures to enhance early detection, prevention, protection, response, and recovery efforts with respect to a chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear materials; and

“(E) share information and provide tailored analytical support on such threats to State, local, Tribal, and territorial authorities, and other Federal agencies, as well as relevant national biosecurity and biodefense stakeholders, as appropriate; and

“(2) perform other responsibilities, as assigned by the Secretary.

“(b) COORDINATION.—Where appropriate, the Office of Intelligence and Analysis shall coordinate with other relevant Department components and other agencies of the United States, including the Department of Agriculture, the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Commerce, the Department of Defense, the Department of Energy, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, the Department of State, the United States Coast Guard, the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, and other Federal agencies, as well as relevant national biosecurity and biodefense stakeholders, as appropriate.

“(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term ‘intelligence community’ has the meaning given such term in the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)).

“(2) NATIONAL BIOSECURITY AND BIODEFENSE STAKEHOLDERS.—The term ‘national biosecurity and biodefense stakeholders’ means Federal, State, and local, Tribal, and territorial authorities and individuals from the private sector who are involved in efforts to prevent, detect, and respond to incidents involving terrorism or other phenomena that may have serious health consequences for the United States, including infectious disease outbreaks.”.

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 “Transit Security Grant Program Flexibility Act of 2021.”

H. R. 396

April 20, 2021 CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE H1981
H1982

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE

April 20, 2021

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY MENTOR-
PROTEGE PROGRAM ACT OF 2021

H.R. 408

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Repre-
sentatives of the United States of America in Congress
assembled,.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act may be cited as the “Department of Homeland Security Mentor-Protege Program Act of 2021.”

SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY MENTOR-PROTEGE PROGRAM.

(a) In general—(I) The Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, shall establish the mentor-protege program for the purpose of assisting mentor firms and protege firms to compete for prime contracts and subcontracts.

(II) The mentor-protege program shall establish criteria for mentor firms and protege firms to be eligible to participate in the program, including a requirement that a firm be an eligible small business concern.

(b) Eligibility—The Secretary shall establish criteria for mentor firms and protege firms to be eligible to participate in the program, including a requirement that a firm be an eligible small business concern.

(c) Program Application and Approval—(I) The Secretary shall establish a process for submission of an application to participate in the program by a mentor firm and the protege firm selected by the mentor firm. The application shall include each of the following:

(A) A description of the assistance to be provided by the mentor firm, including, to the extent available, the number and a brief description of each anticipated subcontract to be awarded to the protege firm.

(B) A schedule of milestones for achieving the assistance to be provided during the period of participation in the program.

(C) An estimate of the costs to be incurred by the mentor firm for providing assistance under the program.

(D) Attestations that Program participants either the Secretary will establish that the mentor firm and the protege firm are eligible to participate in the program, and that the mentor firm and protege firm selected by the mentor firm and the protege firm are eligible to participate in the program.

(E) Program Participants—Not later than 60 days after receipt of an application pursuant to paragraph (1), the head of the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization shall notify the mentee firm of the determination of the Secretary to assist the Secretary in evaluating the mentor firm’s developmental progress.

(F) Program Participants—The Secretary shall participate in the program and shall be responsible for the program.

(G) Program Participants—Not later than 60 days after receipt of an application pursuant to paragraph (1), the head of the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization shall notify the mentee firm of the determination of the Secretary to participate in the program.

(H) Program Participants—In determining the eligibility of a mentor firm and protege firm to participate in the program, the Secretary shall take into account the mentoring performance of the mentor firm and protege firm.

(II) Program Participants—In determining the eligibility of a mentor firm and protege firm to participate in the program, the Secretary shall take into account the mentoring performance of the mentor firm and protege firm.

(III) Program Participants—In determining the eligibility of a mentor firm and protege firm to participate in the program, the Secretary shall take into account the mentoring performance of the mentor firm and protege firm.

(IV) Program Participants—In determining the eligibility of a mentor firm and protege firm to participate in the program, the Secretary shall take into account the mentoring performance of the mentor firm and protege firm.

(V) Program Participants—In determining the eligibility of a mentor firm and protege firm to participate in the program, the Secretary shall take into account the mentoring performance of the mentor firm and protege firm.

(2) With respect to an award of a contract that requires a subcontracting plan, a mentor firm may receive credit for a protege firm performing as a first tier subcontractor on a subcontract of a protege firm, where the amount of such credit is equal to the total dollar value of any subcontracts awarded to such protege firm.

(3) A protege firm may receive technical, management, or other mutual aid, or any other mutual aid, agreed upon benefit from a mentor firm, including a subcontract award.

(4) Reporting—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the head of the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report that—

(I) identifies each agreement between a mentor firm and a protege firm entered into under this section, including the number of protege firm participants that—

(A) small business concerns;

(B) small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans;

(C) small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans;

(D) qualified HUBZone small business concerns;

(E) small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals;

(F) historically Black colleges and universities;

(G) historically Black colleges and universities;

(H) minority institutions of higher education;

(II) describes the type of assistance provided by mentor firms to protege firms;

(III) identifies contracts within the Department in which a mentor firm serving as the prime contractor provided subcontracts to a protege firm under the Program; and

(IV) assesses the degree to which there has been—

(A) an increase in the technical capabilities of protege firms; and

(B) an increase in the quantity and estimated value of prime contract and subcontract awards to protege firms for the period covered by the report.

(5) Small Business Act Definitions.—The terms ‘prime contractor’ and ‘subcontractor’ have the meanings given such term in section 632 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(d)(3)(C)).

(6) Clerical Amendment.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 890A the following new item:

‘Sec. 890B. Mentor-protege program.’.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY MORALE, RECOGNITION, LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT ACT OF 2021

H.R. 490

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
tives of the United States of America in Congress assem-
bled,.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act may be cited as the “Department of Homeland Security Morale, Recognition, Learning and Engagement Act of 2021” or the “DEH MORALE Act”.

SEC. 2. CHIEF HUMAN CAPITAL OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES.

Section 704 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 344) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting “, including with respect to leader development and employee engagement,” after “policies”;

(ii) by striking “and in line” and inserting “, in line”;

(iii) by striking “and informed by best practices within the Federal government and the private sector,” after “policies”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “develop performance measures to provide a basis for monitoring and evaluating” and inserting “use performance measures to evaluate, on an ongoing basis,”;

(C) in paragraph (3), by inserting “that, to the extent practicable, are informed by employee feedback” after “policies”;

(D) in paragraph (4), by inserting “including leader development and employee engagement programs,” before “in coordination”;

(E) in paragraph (5), by inserting before the semicolon at the end of the following: “that is informed by an assessment, carried out by the Chief Human Capital Officer, of the learning and developmental needs of employees in supervisory and non-supervisory roles across the Department and appropriate workforce planning initiatives”;

(F) by redesigning paragraphs (9) and (10) as paragraphs (13) and (14), respectively; and

(G) by inserting after paragraph (8) the following new paragraphs:

(9) maintain a catalogue of available employee development opportunities, including
the Homeland Security Rotation Program pursuant to section 844, departmental leadership development programs, interagency development programs, and other rotational programs.

“(10) ensure that employee discipline and adverse action programs comply with the requirements of all pertinent laws, rules, regulations, and policies, and ensure due process for employees;

“(11) analyze each Department or Government-wide Federal workforce satisfaction or morale survey not later than 90 days after the date of the publication of each such survey and submit to the Secretary such analysis, including, as appropriate, recommendations for workforce satisfaction or morale within the Department;

“(12) review and approve all component employee engagement action plans to ensure such plans include initiatives responsive to the root cause of employee engagement challenges, as well as outcome-based performance measures and targets to track the progress of such initiatives;”

“(2) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as subsections (e) and (f), respectively;

“(3) in section 711 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended by section 3 of this Act, as amended by section 3 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end of the following new section:

“SEC. 711. EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT STEERING COMMITTEE AND ACTION PLAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title VII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (as added by section 3 of this Act), as amended by section 3 of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 711. EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT STEERING COMMITTEE AND ACTION PLAN.

(a) STEERING COMMITTEE.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary shall establish an employee engagement steering committee, including representatives from operational components, headquarters, and field personnel, including supervisory and non-supervisory personnel, and employee labor organizations that represent Department employees, and chaired by the Under Secretary for Management, to carry out the following activities:

“(1) Identify factors that have a negative impact on employee engagement, morale, and communications within the Department, such as perceptions about limitations on career opportunities, and develop employee feedback opportunities, collected through employee feedback platforms, including through annual employee surveys, questionnaires, and other communications, as appropriate;

“(2) Identify, develop, and distribute initiatives and best practices to improve employee engagement, morale, and communications within the Department, including through annual employee surveys, questionnaires, and other communications, as appropriate;

“(3) Monitor efforts of each component to address employee engagement, morale, and communications based on employee feedback, including through employee feedback surveys, questionnaires, and other communications, as appropriate.

“(4) Advise the Secretary on efforts to improve employee engagement, morale, and communications within specific components and across the Department.

“(5) Conduct regular meetings and report, not later than 90 days after the Under Secretary for Management, the head of each component, and the Secretary on Department-wide efforts to improve employee engagement, morale, and communications.

“(b) ACTION PLAN; REPORTING.—The Secretary, acting through the Chief Human Capital Officer, shall—

“(1) not later than 120 days after the date of the establishment of the employee engagement steering committee under subsection (a), issue a Department-wide employee engagement action plan required under paragraph (1) from the steering committee and employee feedback provided through annual employee surveys, questionnaires, and other communications in accordance with paragraph (1) of such subsection, to execute strategies to improve employee engagement, morale, and communications within the Department; and

“(2) require the head of each component to—

“(A) develop and implement a component-specific employee engagement plan to advance the action plan required under paragraph (1) that includes performance measurements and objectives, is informed by employee feedback provided through annual employee surveys, questionnaires, and other communications, as appropriate, and sets forth how employees and, where applicable, their labor representatives are to be integrated in developing programs and initiatives;

“(B) monitor progress on implementation of such action plan; and

“(C) provide to the Chief Human Capital Officer and the steering committee quarterly reports on actions planned and progress made under this paragraph.

“(c) TERMINATION.—Subsection (b) shall terminate on the date that is five years after the date of the enactment of this section.

“(d) INTERNAL REVIEW BOARD.—The internal review board described in subsection (b), when considering an adverse action under such subsection, consult with representatives from operational components and headquarters, including supervisory and non-supervisory personnel, and employee labor organizations that represent Department employees.

“(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed to authorize additional funds to carry out the requirements of this section or to require the Secretary to provide more than $250,000 to recipients of an award under this section.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 3 of this Act, is further amended by inserting after the item relating to section 711 the following new item:

“Sec. 712. Annual employee award program.

SEC. 5. INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall investigate whether the application in the Department of Homeland Security of disciplinary and adverse actions is administered in an equitable and consistent manner that results in the same or substantially similar disciplinary outcomes across the Department for misconduct by a non-supervisory or supervisor employee who engaged in the same or substantially similar misconduct.

(b) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out the investigation described in subsection (a), the Comptroller General of the United States shall consult with the Secretary for Management of the Department of Homeland Security and the employee engagement steering committee established pursuant to subsection (b)(1) of section 711 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (as added by section 3(a) of this Act).
(c) Action by Under Secretary for Management.—Upon completion of the investigation described in subsection (a), the Under Secretary for Management of the Department of Homeland Security shall review the findings and recommendations of such investigation and implement a plan, in consultation with the employee engagement steering committee to review such plan, to inform committee activities and action plans authorized under such section 711.

SEC. 6. IMPACTS OF SHUTDOWN.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall report to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate regarding the direct and indirect impacts of the lapse in appropriations between December 22, 2018, and January 25, 2019, on—

(1) Department of Homeland Security human resources operations;

(2) the Department’s ability to meet hiring benchmarks; and

(3) retention, attrition, and morale of Department personnel.

YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS INITIATIVE ACT OF 2021

H.R. 965

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 “Young African Leaders Initiative Act of 2021” or “YALI Act of 2021.”

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS. It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Young African Leaders Initiative, launched in 2010, is a signature effort to invest in the next generation of African leaders;

(2) Africa is a continent of strategic importance and it is vital for the United States to support strong and enduring partnerships with the next generation of African leaders; and

(3) the United States Government should prioritize investments to build the capacity of young African leaders in sub-Saharan Africa, including through efforts to enhance leadership skills, encourage entrepreneurship, strengthen public administration and the role of civil society, and connect young African leaders continentally and globally across the private, civic, and public sectors.

SEC. 3. YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS INITIATIVE PROGRAM.

(a) In general.—There is established in the Department of State the Young African Leaders Initiative (“YALI”) program.

(b) Purpose.—The YALI program shall seek to build the capacity of young African leaders in sub-Saharan Africa in the areas of business, civic engagement, or public administration, including through efforts to—

(1) support young African leaders by offering broadband development, training, and networking opportunities, particularly in the areas of leadership, innovation, civic engagement, elections, human rights, entrepreneurship, governance, and public administration; and

(2) provide increased economic and technical assistance to young African leaders to promote economic growth and strengthen ties between the United States and African businesses.

(c) Fellowships.—The YALI program shall award fellowships under the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders program to young African leaders ages 18 to 35 with demonstrated strong capabilities in entrepreneurship, innovation, public service, and leadership, and who have had a positive impact in their communities, organizations, or institutions.

(d) Regional Leadership Centers.—The YALI program shall seek to establish regional leadership centers in sub-Saharan Africa to offer training to young African leaders ages 18 to 35 who have demonstrated strong capabilities in entrepreneurship, innovation, public service, and leadership, and who have had a positive impact in their communities, organizations, or institutions.

(e) Activities.—

(1) United States-based activities.—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development and the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall oversee all United States-based activities carried out under the YALI program, including the following:

(A) The participation of Mandela Washington fellows in a six-week Leadership Institute at a United States university or college in the United States or, public management, including academic sessions, site visits, professional networking opportunities, leadership training, community service, and opportunities.

(B) The participation by Mandela Washington fellows in an annual Mandela Washington Fellowship Summit, to provide such fellows the opportunity to network with United States leaders from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

(2) Africa-based activities.—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the Administrator for the United States Agency for International Development and the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, should continue to support YALI programs in sub-Saharan Africa, including the following:

(A) Access to continued leadership training and other professional development opportunities for Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders alumni upon their return to their home countries, including on-line courses, technical assistance, and access to funding.

(B) Training for young African leaders at regional leadership centers established in accordance with subsection (d), and through online and in-person courses offered by such centers.

(C) Opportunities for networking and engagement with—

(i) other alumni of the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders;

(ii) alumni of programs at regional leadership centers established in accordance with subsection (d); and

(iii) United States and like-minded diplomatic missions, business leaders, and others as appropriate.

(3) Implementation.—To carry out this subsection, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development and the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies shall seek to partake in the program with the pursuit of public-private partnerships, leverage private sector expertise, expand networking opportunities, and identify and leverage opportunities as well as fellowship and employment opportunities for participants in the YALI program.

(1) Implementation plan.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development and the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a plan implementing the YALI program, including the following:

(1) A description of clearly defined program goals, targets, and planned outcomes as well as a strategy for evaluating the YALI program.

(2) A strategy to monitor and evaluate the program and progress made toward achieving such goals, targets, and planned outcomes.

(3) A strategy to ensure the program is promoting United States foreign policy goals in Africa, including ensuring that the program is clearly branded and paired with robust public diplomacy efforts.

(g) Report.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and publish in a publicly accessible, Internet-based form, a report on the following:

(1) The program’s progress toward achieving the goals, targets, and planned outcomes described in subsection (f)(1), including an overview of the program implemented in the previous year and an estimated number of beneficiaries.

(2) An assessment of how the YALI program is contributing to and promoting United States-Africa relations, particularly in areas of increased private sector investment, trade promotion, support to civil society, improved public administration, and fostering entrepreneurship and youth empowerment.

(3) Recommendations for improvements or changes to the program and implementation plan, if any, that would improve their effectiveness during subsequent years of implementation of the program.

(h) Appropriate congressional committees defined.—In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

(i) Sunset.—The requirements of this section shall terminate on the date that is 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

CYBER DIPLOMACY ACT OF 2021

H.R. 1251

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 “Cyber Diplomacy Act of 2021”.

(b) Table of Contents.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Findings.
Sec. 3. Definitions.
Sec. 4. United States international cyber-space policy.
Sec. 5. Department of state responsibilities.
Sec. 6. International cyberspace executive council.
Sec. 7. International strategy for cyber-space.
Sec. 8. Annual report on cyber diplomacy.
Sec. 9. Gao report on human rights practices.
Sec. 10. Sense of congress on cybersecurity sanctions against north korea and cybersecurity legislation in vietnam.
SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The stated goal of the United States International Strategy for Cyberspace, launched in January 2014, is to "work internationally to promote an open, interoperable, secure, and reliable information and communications technology infrastructure that supports international trade and commerce, strengthens international security, and fosters free expression and innovation . . . in which responsible behavior by all states' actions, sustain partnerships, and support the rule of law in cyberspace".

(2) In its June 24, 2015, report, the Group of Experts on Development in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of the International Security (referred to in this section as "GGE"), established by United Nations General Assembly, concluded that "State sovereignty and the international norms and principles that flow from it apply to States' conduct of (information and communications technology) ICT-related activities and to their jurisdiction over ICT infrastructure with their territory".

(3) In January 2015, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan proposed a troubling international code of conduct on cybersecurity, which could be used as a pretext for restricting political dissent, and includes "curbing the dissemination of information that incites terrorism, extremism or incites stigmatization or defames hatred on ethnic, racial or religious grounds".

(4) In its July 18, 2015, consensus report, GGE found that "norms of responsible State behavior can reduce risks to international peace, security and stability".

(5) On September 25, 2015, the United States and China announced a commitment that neither country's government "will conduct or knowingly support cyber-enabled theft of intellectual property, including trade secrets or other confidential business information, with the intent of providing competitive advantages to companies or commercial sectors".

(6) At the Antalya Summit on November 15 and 16, 2015, the Group of 20 Leaders' communique—

(A) reaffirmed the applicability of international law to state behavior in cyberspace;

(B) called on states to refrain from cyber-enabled theft of intellectual property for commercial gain;

(C) endorsed the view that all states should comply with their jurisdiction over ICT infrastructure and technology-related activities and to conduct of [information and communications technology] ICT-related activities and to their jurisdiction over ICT infrastructure with their territory;

(7) The March 2016 Department of State International Cyberspace Policy Strategy noted that "the Department of State anticipates a continued increase and expansion of our cyber-focused diplomatic efforts for the foreseeable future".

(8) On December 1, 2016, the Commission on Enhancing National Cybersecurity, which was established within the Department of Commerce by Executive Order 13718 (81 Fed. Reg. 7411), recommended that "the President should appoint an Ambassador for Cybersecurity to lead U.S. engagement with the international community on cybersecurity strategies, standards, and practices".

(9) On April 11, 2017, the 2017 Group of 7 Declaration on Responsible State Behavior in Cyberspace—

(A) recognized "the urgent necessity of increased international cooperation to promote security and stability in cyberspace";

(B) stated that "the adoption of an international code of conduct for conflict prevention, cooperation and stability in cyberspace, consisting of the recognition of the application of international law to State behavior in cyberspace, the promotion of voluntary, non-binding norms of responsible State behavior during peacetime, and the development and the implementation of practical cyber confidence building measures (CBMs) between States"; and

(C) restated that "the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online".

(10) In testimony before the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate on May 11, 2017, Director of National Intelligence Daniel R. Coats identified six cyber threat actors, including:

(A) Russia, for "efforts to influence the 2016 U.S. election";

(B) China, for "actively targeting the U.S. Government, its allies, and U.S. companies for cyber espionage";

(C) Iran, for "leverage[ng] cyber espionage, propaganda, and attacks to support its security priorities, including influence and foreign perceptions, and counterthreats";

(D) North Korea, for "previously conduct[ing] cyber-attacks against U.S. commercial entities—specifically, Sony Pictures Entertainment in 2014";

(E) terrorists, who "use the Internet to organize, recruit, spread propaganda, raise funds, collect intelligence, inspire action, encourage followers, and coordinate operations"; and

(F) criminals, who "are also developing and using sophisticated cyber tools for a variety of purposes—espionage, theft, extortion, and facilitation of other criminal activities".


(A) designates the Secretary of State to lead an interagency effort to develop an engagement strategy for international cooperation to protect critical infrastructure;

(B) notes that "the United States is especially dependent on a globally secure and resilient Internet and must work with allies and other partners toward maintaining the policy of the executive branch to promote an open, interoperable, reliable, and secure Internet that fosters efficiency, innovation, communication, and economic prosperity, while respecting privacy and guarding against disruption, fraud, and theft".

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term "appropriate congressional committees" means the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(2) INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY.—The terms "information and communications technology" and "ICT" include hardware, software, and other products or services primarily intended to facilitate or enhance the creation, processing and communication by electronic means, including transmission and display, including via the Internet.

(3) EXECUTIVE AGENCY.—The term "Executive agency" has the meaning given the term in section 105 of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 4. UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL CYBER-SPACE POLICY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—It is the policy of the United States to work internationally to promote an open, interoperable, reliable, unfettered, and resilient Internet sponsored by the multi-stakeholder model, which—

(1) promotes human rights, democracy, and the rule of law, including freedom of expression, innovation, communication, and economic prosperity; and

(2) respects privacy and guards against deception, fraud, and theft.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—In implementing the policy described in subsection (a), the President, in consultation with outside actors, including private sector companies, non-governmental organizations, security researchers, and other relevant stakeholders, the conduct of bilateral and multilateral relations, shall pursue the following objectives:

(1) Clarifying the applicability of international laws and norms to the use of ICT;

(2) Reducing and limiting the risk of escalation and retaliation in cyberspace, damage to critical infrastructure, and other malicious cyber activity that impairs the use and operation of critical infrastructure that provides services to the public.

(3) Cooperating with like-minded democracies and other countries that share common values and cyberspace policies with the United States, including respect for human rights, democracy, and the rule of law, to advance such values and policies internationally.

(4) Encouraging the responsible development of new, innovative technologies and ICT products that strengthen a secure Internet architecture that is accessible to all.

(5) Securing and implementing commitments on responsible country behavior in cyberspace based upon accepted norms, including the following:

(A) Countries should not conduct, or knowingly support, cyber-enabled theft of intellectual property, including trade secrets or other confidential business information, with the intent of providing competitive advantages to companies or commercial sectors.

(B) Countries should take all appropriate and reasonable efforts to keep their territories clear of intentionally wrongful acts using ICTs in violation of international commitments.

(C) Countries should not conduct or knowingly support ICT activity that, contrary to international law, intentionally damages or otherwise impairs the use and operation of critical infrastructure providing services to the public, and should take appropriate measures to protect their critical infrastructure from ICT threats.

(D) Countries should not conduct or knowingly support malicious international activity that, contrary to international law, has the information systems of authorized emergency response teams (also known as "computer emergency response teams" or "government security incident response") of another country or authorized emergency response teams to engage in malicious international activity.

(E) Countries should respond to appropriate requests for assistance to mitigate malicious ICT activity emanating from their territory and aimed at the critical infrastructure of another country.

(F) Countries should not restrict cross-border data flows or require local storage or processing of data.

(G) Countries should protect the exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms on the Internet and commit to the principle that the human rights that people have offline should also be protected online.

(6) Advancing, encouraging, and supporting the development and adoption of internationally recognized technical standards and best practices.

SEC. 5. DEPARTMENT OF STATE RESPONSIBILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1 of the Department of State Basic Authorities Act of 1966 (22 U.S.C. 2511) is amended—

(1) by redesigning subsection (g) as subsection (h); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (f) the following new subsection:

"(g) BUREAU OF INTERNATIONAL CYBERSPACE POLICY.—"
(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established, within the Department of State, a Bureau of International Cyberspace Policy (referred to in this subsection as the ‘Bureau’). The head of the Bureau shall be the rank and status of ambassador and shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(2) HEAD OF BUREAU.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The head of the Bureau shall perform such duties and exercise such powers as the Secretary of State shall prescribe, including implementing the policy of the United States described in section 4 of the Cyber Diplomacy Act of 2021.

(B) DUTIES DESCRIBED.—The principal duties and responsibilities of the head of the Bureau shall be—

(i) to serve as the principal cyberspace policy official within the senior management of the Department of State and as the advisor to the Secretary of State for cyberspace issues;

(ii) to lead the Department of State’s diplomatic cyberspace efforts, including efforts relating to international cybersecurity, Internet access, Internet freedom, digital economy, cybercrime, deterrence and international responses to cyber threats, and other issues that the Secretary assigns to the Bureau;

(iii) to coordinate cyberspace policy and other international actions within the Department of State and with other components of the United States Government, including through the Cyberspace Policy Coordinating Committee described in paragraph (6), and by convening other coordinating meetings with appropriate officials from the Department and other components of the United States Government on a regular basis;

(iv) to promote an open, interoperable, reliable, unfettered, and secure information and communications technology infrastructure globally; and

(v) to represent the Secretary of State in interagency efforts to develop and advance the policy described in section 4 of the Cyber Diplomacy Act of 2021;

(vi) to act as a liaison to civil society, the private sector, academia, and other public and private entities on relevant international cyberspace issues;

(vii) to lead United States Government efforts to establish a global deterrence framework for malicious cyber activity;

(viii) to lead, execute adversary-specific strategies to influence adversary decision-making through the imposition of costs and deterrence strategies, in coordination with other Executive agencies and Executive departments;

(ix) to advise the Secretary and coordinate with foreign governments on external responses to national security-level cyber incidents in coordination on diplomatic response efforts to support allies threatened by malicious cyber activity, in conjunction with members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and other like-minded countries;

(x) to promote the adoption of national processes and programs that enable threat detection, prevention, and response to malicious cyber activity emanating from the territory of a foreign country, including as such activity relates to the United States’ European partners and other NATO allies;

(xi) to promote the building of foreign capacity relating to cyberspace policy priorities;

(xii) to promote the maintenance of an open and interoperable Internet governed by multistakeholder model, instead of by centralized government control;

(xiii) to improve international regulatory environment for technology investments and the Internet that benefits United States economic and national security interests;

(xiv) to promote cross-border flow of data and combat international initiatives seeking to impose national security requirements on United States businesses;

(xv) to promote international policies to protect the integrity of United States and international infrastructures from foreign-based, cyber-enabled threats;

(xvi) to lead engagement, in coordination with other Executive agencies and Executive departments, with foreign governments on relevant international cyber-space and digital economy issues as described in the Cyber Diplomacy Act of 2021; and

(xvii) to promote international policies to secure radio frequency spectrum for United States businesses and national security needs.

(xviii) to promote and protect the exercise of human rights, including freedom of speech and religion, through the Internet;

(xix) to promote international initiatives to strengthen civilian and private sector resilience to threats in cyberspace;

(xx) to build capacity of United States diplomatic officials to engage on cyberspace issues;

(xxii) to encourage the development and adoption by foreign countries of internationally recognized standards, policies, and best practices;

(xxiii) to consult, as appropriate, with other Executive agencies with related functions vested in such Executive agencies by law;

(xxiv) to conduct such other matters as the Secretary of State may assign.

(b) QUALIFICATIONS.—The head of the Bureau shall be an individual of demonstrated competency in the fields of—

(1) cybersecurity and other relevant cyberspace issues; and

(2) international diplomacy.

(c) ORGANIZATIONAL PLACEMENT.—During the 1-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of the Cyber Diplomacy Act of 2021, the head of the Bureau shall report to the Under Secretary for Political Affairs or to an official holding a higher position in the Department of State than the Under Secretary for Political Affairs. After the conclusion of such period, the head of the Bureau may report to a different Under Secretary or to an official holding a higher position than the Under Secretary for Political Affairs, including, if not less than 15 days prior to any change in such reporting structure, the Secretary of State consults with and provides to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives the following:

(A) A notification that the Secretary has, with respect to the reporting structure of the Bureau, consulted with and solicited feedback from—

(i) other relevant Federal entities with a role in international aspects of cyber policy; and

(ii) the elements of the Department of State with responsibility over aspects of cyber policy, including the elements reporting to—

(I) the Under Secretary for Political Affairs;

(II) the Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights; or

(III) the Under Secretary for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment;

(IV) the Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security Affairs; and

(V) the Under Secretary for Management.

(B) A description of the new reporting structure in conjunction with the Bureau, as well as a description of the data and evidence used to justify such new structure.

(C) A plan describing how the new reporting structure will better enable the head of the Bureau to carry out the responsibilities specified in paragraph (2), including the security, economic, and human rights aspects of cyber diplomacy.

(D) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to preclude the head of the Bureau from being designated as an Assistant Secretary, if such an Assistant Secretary position does not increase the number of Assistant Secretary positions at the Department above the number authorized under subsection (c)(1).

(4) ORGANIZATIONAL PLACEMENT.—During the 1-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of the Cyber Diplomacy Act of 2021, the head of the Bureau shall report to the Under Secretary for Political Affairs or to an official holding a higher position in the Department of State than the Under Secretary for Political Affairs. After the conclusion of such period, the head of the Bureau may report to a different Under Secretary or to an official holding a higher position than the Under Secretary for Political Affairs, including, if not less than 15 days prior to any change in such reporting structure, the Secretary of State consults with and provides to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives the following:

(A) A notification that the Secretary has, with respect to the reporting structure of the Bureau, consulted with and solicited feedback from—

(i) other relevant Federal entities with a role in international aspects of cyber policy; and

(ii) the elements of the Department of State with responsibility over aspects of cyber policy, including the elements reporting to—

(I) the Under Secretary for Political Affairs;

(II) the Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights; or

(III) the Under Secretary for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment;

(IV) the Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security Affairs; and

(V) the Under Secretary for Management.

(B) A description of the new reporting structure in conjunction with the Bureau, as well as a description of the data and evidence used to justify such new structure.

(C) A plan describing how the new reporting structure will better enable the head of the Bureau to carry out the responsibilities specified in paragraph (2), including the security, economic, and human rights aspects of cyber diplomacy.

(D) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to preclude the head of the Bureau from being designated as an Assistant Secretary, if such an Assistant Secretary position does not increase the number of Assistant Secretary positions at the Department above the number authorized under subsection (c)(1).

(5) ORGANIZATIONAL PLACEMENT.—During the 1-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of the Cyber Diplomacy Act of 2021, the head of the Bureau shall report to the Under Secretary for Political Affairs or to an official holding a higher position in the Department of State than the Under Secretary for Political Affairs. After the conclusion of such period, the head of the Bureau may report to a different Under Secretary or to an official holding a higher position than the Under Secretary for Political Affairs, including, if not less than 15 days prior to any change in such reporting structure, the Secretary of State consults with and provides to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives the following:

(A) A notification that the Secretary has, with respect to the reporting structure of the Bureau, consulted with and solicited feedback from—

(i) other relevant Federal entities with a role in international aspects of cyber policy; and

(ii) the elements of the Department of State with responsibility over aspects of cyber policy, including the elements reporting to—

(I) the Under Secretary for Political Affairs;

(II) the Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights; or

(III) the Under Secretary for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment;

(IV) the Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security Affairs; and

(V) the Under Secretary for Management.

(B) A description of the new reporting structure in conjunction with the Bureau, as well as a description of the data and evidence used to justify such new structure.

(C) A plan describing how the new reporting structure will better enable the head of the Bureau to carry out the responsibilities specified in paragraph (2), including the security, economic, and human rights aspects of cyber diplomacy.

(D) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to preclude the head of the Bureau from being designated as an Assistant Secretary, if such an Assistant Secretary position does not increase the number of Assistant Secretary positions at the Department above the number authorized under subsection (c)(1).

(6) ORGANIZATIONAL PLACEMENT.—During the 1-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of the Cyber Diplomacy Act of 2021, the head of the Bureau shall report to the Under Secretary for Political Affairs or to an official holding a higher position in the Department of State than the Under Secretary for Political Affairs. After the conclusion of such period, the head of the Bureau may report to a different Under Secretary or to an official holding a higher position than the Under Secretary for Political Affairs, including, if not less than 15 days prior to any change in such reporting structure, the Secretary of State consults with and provides to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives the following:

(A) A notification that the Secretary has, with respect to the reporting structure of the Bureau, consulted with and solicited feedback from—

(i) other relevant Federal entities with a role in international aspects of cyber policy; and

(ii) the elements of the Department of State with responsibility over aspects of cyber policy, including the elements reporting to—

(I) the Under Secretary for Political Affairs;

(II) the Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights; or

(III) the Under Secretary for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment;

(IV) the Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security Affairs; and

(V) the Under Secretary for Management.

(B) A description of the new reporting structure in conjunction with the Bureau, as well as a description of the data and evidence used to justify such new structure.
"(f) With respect to any bilateral or multilateral cyberspace arrangement under subsection (e)(2)(B)(iii) and the information required to be transmitted to Congress under subsection (a) with respect to any arrangement that seeks to secure commitments on responsible country behavior in cyberspace consistent with the objectives specified in section 4(b)(5); and

(i) how such arrangement is consistent with the policy described in section 4 of such Act; and

(j) how such arrangement will be implemented.".

(c) STATUS REPORT.—During the 5-year period immediately following the transmittal to Congress of an agreement described in clause (ii) of section 112(b)(2)(B) of title 1, United States Code, as added by subsection (b)(2), or until such agreement has been discontinued, if discontinued within 5 years, the President shall—

(1) notify the appropriate congressional committees if another country fails to adhere to significant commitments contained in such agreement; and

(2) describe the steps that the United States will take to ensure that all such commitments are fulfilled.

(d) EXISTING EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall brief the appropriate congressional committees regarding any executive bilateral or multilateral cyberspace arrangement in effect before the date of enactment of this Act, including—

(1) the arrangement announced between the United States and Japan on April 25, 2014;

(2) the arrangement announced between the United States and the United Kingdom on January 16, 2015;

(3) the arrangement announced between the United States and China on September 25, 2015;

(4) the arrangement announced between the United States and Korea on October 18, 2015;

(5) the arrangement announced between the United States and Australia on January 19, 2016;

(6) the arrangement announced between the United States and India on July 7, 2016;

(7) the arrangement announced between the United States and Argentina on April 27, 2017;

(8) the arrangement announced between the United States and Kenya on June 22, 2017;

(9) the arrangement announced between the United States and Israel on June 26, 2017;

(10) the arrangement announced between the United States and France on February 9, 2018;

(11) the arrangement announced between the United States and Brazil on May 14, 2018; and

(12) any other similar bilateral or multilateral arrangement announced before such date of enactment.

SEC. 7. INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY FOR CYBERSPACE.

(a) STRATEGY REQUIRED.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President, acting through the Secretary of State, shall develop a strategy consistent with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall develop a strategy relating to United States engagement with foreign governments on international norms with respect to responsible state behavior in cyberspace.

(b) IMPLEMENTS.—The strategy required under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) A review of actions and activities undertaken to support the policy described in section 4.

(2) A plan of action to guide the diplomacy of the Department of State with regard to foreign countries, including—

(A) conducting bilateral and multilateral activities to—

(i) develop norms of responsible country behavior in cyberspace consistent with the objectives specified in section 4(b)(5); and

(ii) share best practices and advance proposals to strengthen private sector resiliency to threats and access to opportunities in cyberspace; and

(B) reviewing the status of existing efforts in relevant relevant multilateral fora, as appropriate, to obtain commitments on international norms in cyberspace.

(3) A review of alternative concepts with regard to international norms in cyberspace offered by foreign countries.

(4) A detailed description of new and evolving threats in cyberspace from foreign adversaries, state-sponsored actors, and private actors to—

(A) United States national security;

(B) Federal and private sector cyberspace infrastructure;

(C) intellectual property in the United States; and

(D) the privacy and security of citizens of the United States.

(5) A review of policy tools available to the President to deter and de-escalate tensions with foreign countries, state-sponsored actors, and private actors regarding threats in cyberspace, the degree to which such tools have been used, and whether such tools have been effective deterrents.

(6) A review of policy tools required to conduct activities to build responsible norms of international cyber behavior.

(7) A plan of action, developed in consultation with relevant Federal departments and agencies as the President may direct, to guide the diplomacy of the Department of State with regard to inclusion of cyber issues in mutual defense agreements.

(c) FORM OF STRATEGY.—

(1) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The strategy required under subsection (a) shall be available to the public in unclassified form, including through publication in the Federal Register.

(2) CLASSIFIED ANNEX.—The strategy required under subsection (a) may include a classified annex, consistent with United States national security interests, if the Secretary of State determines that such annex is appropriate.

(d) BRIEFING.—Not later than 30 days after the completion of the strategy required under subsection (a), the Secretary of State shall brief the appropriate congressional committees on the strategy, including any material contained in a classified annex.

(e) UPDATES.—The strategy required under subsection (a) shall be updated—

(1) not later than 90 days after any material change to United States policy described in such strategy; and

(2) not later than one year after the inauguration of each new President.

SEC. 8. ANNUAL COUNTRY REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

The Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 is amended—

(1) in section 316 (22 U.S.C. 2351n), by adding at the end the following subsection:

"(h)(1) The report required under subsection (d) shall include an assessment of freedom of expression with respect to electronic information in each foreign country, which information shall include the following:

(A) An assessment of the extent to which government authorities in the country inappropriately attempt to filter, censor, or otherwise block or remove nonviolent expression of political or religious opinion or belief through the Internet, including electronic mail, and a description of the means by which such authorities attempt to inappropriately block or remove such expression.

(B) An assessment of the extent to which government authorities in the country have persecuted or otherwise punished, arbitrarily and without due process, an individual or group for the nonviolent expression of political, religious, or ideological opinion or belief through the Internet, including electronic mail.

(C) An assessment of the extent to which government authorities in the country have persecuted or otherwise punished, arbitrarily and without due process, an individual or group for the nonviolent expression of political, religious, or ideological opinion or belief through the Internet, including electronic mail.

(2) In compiling data and making assessments under paragraph (1), the President shall consult with relevant entities, including human rights organizations, the private sector, the government and like-minded public and private sector organizations, civil society, and other organizations.

The term ‘electronic communication’ means data in a form that identifies a particular person; and the term ‘wireless communication’ has the meaning given the term in section 2510 of title 18, United States Code.

(2) in section 502B (22 U.S.C. 2304)—

(A) by redesignating the second subsection (i) (relating to child marriage) as subsection (j); and

(B) by adding at the end the following newly added subsection:

"(k)(1) The report required under subsection (b) shall include an assessment of freedom of expression with respect to electronic information in each foreign country, which information shall include the following:

(A) An assessment of the extent to which government authorities in the country inappropriately attempt to filter, censor, or otherwise block or remove nonviolent expression of political or religious opinion or belief through the Internet, including electronic mail, and a description of the means by which such authorities attempt to inappropriately block or remove such expression.

(B) An assessment of the extent to which government authorities in the country have persecuted or otherwise punished, arbitrarily and without due process, an individual or group for the nonviolent expression of political, religious, or ideological opinion or belief through the Internet, including electronic mail.
sought, inappropriately and with malicious intent, to collect, request, obtain, or disclose without due process personally identifiable information of a person in connection with that person’s nonviolent expression of political, religious, or ideological opinion or belief, including expression that would be protected by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, adopted at New York December 16, 1966, and entered into force March 23, 1976, as interpreted by the United States.”

“(2) In compiling data and making assessments under paragraph (1), United States diplomatic personnel should consult with relevant entities, including human rights organizations, the private sector, the governments of like-minded countries, technology and Internet companies, and other appropriate nongovernmental organizations or entities.”

“(3) In this subsection—

“(A) the term ‘electronic communication’ has the meaning given the term in section 2510 of title 18, United States Code;”

“(B) the term ‘wire communication’ has the meaning given the term in section 231(e)(3) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 231(e)(3));”

“(C) the term ‘personally identifiable information’ means data in a form that identifies a particular person; and

“(D) the term ‘wire communication’ has the meaning given the term in section 2510 of title 18, United States Code.”

SEC. 9. GAO REPORT ON CYBER DIPLOMACY.

Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report and provide a briefing to the appropriate congressional committees that includes—

(1) an assessment of the extent to which United States diplomatic processes and other efforts with foreign countries, including through multilateral fora, bilateral engagements, and negotiated cyberspace agreements, advance the full range of United States interests in cyberspace, including the policy described in section 4;

(2) an assessment of the Department of State’s organizational structure and approaches to diplomatic efforts to advance the full range of United States interests in cyberspace, including a review of—

(A) the establishment of a Bureau in the Department of State to lead the Department’s international cyber mission;

(B) the current or proposed diplomatic mission, structure, staffing, funding, and activities of the Bureau;

(C) how the establishment of the Bureau has impacted or is likely to impact the structure and organization of the Department;

(D) what challenges, if any, the Department has faced or will face in establishing such Bureau; and

(E) any other matters determined relevant by the Comptroller General.

SEC. 10. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON CYBERSECURITY SANCTIONS AGAINST NORTH KOREA AND CYBERSECURITY LEGISLATION IN VIETNAM.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the President should designate all entities that knowingly engage in significant activities undermining cybersecurity through the use of computer networks or systems against foreign governments, governments or other entities on behalf of the Government of North Korea, consistent with section 208(b) of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9229(b));

(2) the cybersecurity law approved by the National Assembly of Vietnam on June 12, 2018—

(A) may not be consistent with international trade standards; and

(B) may endanger the privacy of citizens of Vietnam; and

(3) the Government of Vietnam should work with the United States and other countries to ensure that such law meets all relevant international standards.

HOUSING FINANCIAL LITERACY ACT OF 2021

H.R. 1395

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 “Housing Financial Literacy Act of 2021.”

SEC. 2. DISCOUNT ON MORTGAGE INSURANCE PREMIUM PAYMENTS FOR FIRST-TIME HOMEOWNERS WHO COMPLETE FINANCIAL LITERACY HOUSING COUNSELING PROGRAMS.

The second sentence of subparagraph (A) of section 203(c)(2) of the Housing Act of 1934 (12 U.S.C. 1709(c)(2)(A)) is amended—

(1) by inserting before the comma the following: “and such program is completed by the holder before the mortgagor signs an application for a mortgage to be insured under this title or a sales agreement'; and

(2) by striking “not exceed 2.75 percent of the amount of the original insured principal obligation of the mortgage” and inserting “be 25 basis points lower than the premium payment amount established by the Secretary under the first sentence of this subparagraph”.

FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES FOR SERVICEMEMBERS ACT

H.R. 1498

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 “Fair Debt Collection Practices for Servicemembers Act”.

SEC. 2. ENHANCED PROTECTION AGAINST DEBT COLLECTION ABUSES OF COVERED MEMBERS.

(a) COMMUNICATION IN CONNECTION WITH DEFAULTED DEBT.—Section 802(c) of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (15 U.S.C. 1692c) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) COMMUNICATIONS CONCERNING SERVICE-MEMBER DEBTS.—

“(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term ‘covered member’ means—

“(A) a covered member or a dependent as defined in section 907(1) of title 10, United States Code; and

“(B)(i) an individual who was separated, discharged, or released from duty described in such section 907(1), but only during the 365-day period beginning on the date of separation, discharge, or release; or

“(ii) a person, with respect to an individual described in clause (1), described in subparagraph (A), (D), (E), or (I) of section 1072(g) of title 10, United States Code.

“(2) PROHIBITIONS.—A debt collector may not, in connection with the collection of any debt of a covered member—

“(A) threaten to have the covered member reduced in rank; or

“(B) threaten to have the covered member’s security clearance revoked; or

“(C) threaten to have the covered member prosecuted under chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code of Military Justice).”;

(b) UNFAIR PRACTICES.—Section 805 of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (15 U.S.C. 1692k) is amended by adding at the end the following—

“(B) the representation to any covered member (as defined under section 805(e)(1)) that failure to cooperate with a debt collector will result in—

“(a) a reduction in rank of the covered member;

“(b) a revocation of the covered member’s security clearance; or

“(c) prosecution under chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code of Military Justice).”;

SEC. 3. GAO STUDY.

The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study and submit a report to Congress on the impact of this Act on—

(1) the timely delivery of information to a covered member (as defined in section 805(e) of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, as added by this Act);

(2) military readiness; and

(3) national security, including the extent to which covered members with security clearances would be impacted by uncollected debts.

SEC. 4. 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 that the Congressional Budget Office has issued 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.

PROVIDING TRANSPARENT STANDARDS FOR CORPORATE INSIDERS ACT

H.R. 1528

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 “Providing Transparent Standards for Corporate Insiders Act”.

SEC. 2. STUDY.

(a) STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Securities and Exchange Commission shall carry out a study of whether Rule 10b-5-1 (17 CFR 240.10b-5-1) should be amended to—

(A) limit the ability of issuers and issuer insiders to adopt a plan described under paragraph (c)(1)(i)(A)(3) of Rule 10b-5-1 (“trading plan”) to a time when the issuer or issuer insider is permitted to buy or sell securities during issuer-adopted trading windows;

(B) limit the ability of issuers and issuer insiders to adopt multiple trading plans; (C) establish a mandatory delay between the adoption of a trading plan and the execution of the first trade pursuant to such a plan and, if so and depending on the Commission’s findings with respect to subparagraph (A)—

(i) whether any such delay should be the same for trading plans adopted during an issuer-adopted trading window as opposed to outside of such a window; and

(ii) whether any exceptions to such a delay are appropriate; and

(D) limit the frequency that issuers and issuer insiders may modify or cancel trading plans;

(E) require issuers and issuer insiders to file with the Commission trading plan adoptions, amendments, terminations and transactions outside of such windows; and

(F) require boards of issuers that have adopted a trading plan to
(i) adopt policies covering trading plan practices;
(ii) periodically monitor trading plan transactions; and
(iii) require that issuer policies discuss trading plan use in the context of guidelines or requirements on equity hedging, holding, and ownership;
(2) ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS.—In carrying out the study required under paragraph (1), the Commission shall consider—
(A) how any such amendments may clarify and enhance existing prohibitions against insider trading;
(B) the impact any such amendments may have on the ability of issuers to attract persons to become an issuer’s insider;
(C) the impact any such amendments may have on capital formation;
(D) the impact any such amendments may have on an issuer’s willingness to operate as a public company; and
(E) any other consideration that the Commission considers necessary and appropriate for the protection of investors.
(b) REPORT.—Not later than the end of the 1-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall issue a report to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate containing all findings and determinations made in carrying out the study required under section (a).
(c) RULEMAKING.—After the completion of the study required under subsection (a), the Commission may, subject to public notice and comment, revise Rule 10b5–1 consistent with the results of such study.

IMPROVING FHA SUPPORT FOR SMALL-DOLLOR MORTGAGES ACT OF 2021
H.R. 1565
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 “National Senior Investor Initiative Act of 2021” or the “Senior Security Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. SENIOR INVESTOR TASKFORCE.
Section 4 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78d) is amended by adding at the end the following:

(4) GAGE PRACTICES.
(5) MINIMIZING DUPLICATION OF EFFORTS.
(6) FUNCTIONS OF THE TASKFORCE.
(7) SUNSET.
(8) USE OF EXISTING FUNDS.

SEC. 3. GAO STUDY.
(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress and the Senior Investor Taskforce the results of a study of financial exploitation of senior citizens.
(b) CONTENTS.—The study required under subsection (a) shall include information with respect to—
(1) economic costs of the financial exploitation of senior citizens;
(2) costs associated with losses by victims that were incurred as a result of the financial exploitation of senior citizens;
(3) programs, and other public programs as a result

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of the financial exploitation of senior citizens;
(C) incurred by the private sector as a result of the financial exploitation of senior citizens;
(D) any other relevant costs that—
(i) result from the financial exploitation of senior citizens; and
(ii) the Comptroller General determines are necessary and appropriate to include in order to provide Congress and the public with a full and accurate understanding of the economic costs resulting from the financial exploitation of senior citizens in the United States;
(2) frequency of senior financial exploitation and correlated or contributing factors—
(A) information about percentage of senior citizens financially exploited each year; and
(B) information about factors contributing to increased risk of exploitation, including such factors as race, social isolation, income, net worth, religion, region, occupation, education, home-ownership, illness, and loss of spouse; and
(3) policy responses and reporting of senior financial exploitation—
(A) the degree to which financial exploitation of senior citizens unreported to authorities;
(B) the reasons that financial exploitation may be unreported to authorities;
(C) to the extent that suspected elder financial exploitation is currently being reported—
(i) information regarding which Federal, State, and local agencies are receiving reports, including adult protective services, law enforcement, industry, regulators, and professional licensing boards;
(ii) information regarding what information is being collected by such agencies; and
(iii) information regarding the actions that are taken by such agencies upon receipt of the report and any limits on the agencies’ ability to prevent exploitation, such as jurisdictional limits, a lack of expertise, resource challenges, or limiting criteria with regard to the types of victims they are permitted to serve;
(D) an analysis of gaps that may exist in empowering Federal, State, and local agencies to prevent senior exploitation or respond effectively to suspected senior financial exploitation;
(E) the hurdles of the legal hurdles that prevent Federal, State, and local agencies from effectively partnering with each other and private professionals to effectively respond to senior financial exploitation;
(c) SENIOR CITIZEN DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘‘senior citizen’’ means an individual over the age of 65.

ELIMINATE BARRIERS TO INNOVATION ACT OF 2021
H.R. 1602
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
(1) IN GENERAL.—The Working Group shall be composed of members appointed in accordance with paragraph (2).
(2) APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS.
(A) REPRESENTATIVES OF COMMISSIONS.—The Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission shall each appoint an equal number of representatives to serve as members of the Working Group. The SEC and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission shall jointly establish a working group (to be known as the ‘‘SEC and CFTC Working Group on Digital Assets’’) to carry out the report required under subsection (c)(1).
(B) MEMBERSHIP.—
(I) IN GENERAL.—The Working Group shall respond to senior financial exploitation—
(i) by striking paragraph (3) of subsection (c) and inserting the following new paragraph:
(3) Determination of high-demand occupations—
(a) In general.—Section 8006 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117–2) is amended—
(i) by striking paragraph (3) of subsection (c) and inserting the following new paragraph:
(3) Determination of high-demand occupations—
(i) In general.—The term ‘‘high-demand occupation’’ means a high-demand occupation as defined by the Secretary of Labor, in consultation with the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the Secretary of Agriculture, and includes occupations in fields such as health care, child care, and education; and
(ii) the Works Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) and the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program, as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act,
“(A) INITIAL IMPLEMENTATION.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall use the list of high-demand occupations prepared in conjunction with the Secretary of Labor.

(B) PUBLIC NOTICE.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may add and remove occupations from the list under subparagraph (A) as the Secretary determines appropriate.

(2) SERVICE PROVIDERS.—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting ‘‘other than such a program pursued solely through distance learning on a half-time basis or less’’ after ‘‘a covered program of education under the retraining assistance program under this section’’; and

(B) in subparagraph (C), by striking ‘‘less than a half-time basis’’ and inserting ‘‘half-time basis or less’’.

(3) by redesignating subsections (f), (g), and (h) as subsections (k), (l), and (m), respectively;

(4) by inserting after subsection (e) the following new subsections:

‘‘(f) EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor, shall contact each veteran who pursues a covered program of education under this section—


‘‘(1) not later than 30 days after the date on which the veteran begins the program of education to notify the veteran of the availability of an employment placement service upon completion of the program; and


‘‘(2) not later than 14 days after the date on which the veteran completes, or terminates participation in, such program to facilitate the provision of employment placement services to such veteran.

‘‘(g) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—For purposes of this section, a qualified nonprofit organization is a nonprofit organization that—


‘‘(A) is an association of businesses; and


‘‘(B) has for at least two years experience providing job placement services for veterans.

‘‘(h) FOLLOW UP OUTREACH.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in coordination with the Secretary of Labor, shall contact each veteran who completes a covered program of education under the retraining assistance program under this section and, not later than 90 days after the veteran completes such program of education to ask the veteran about the experience of the veteran in the retraining assistance program and the veteran’s employment status.

‘‘(i) QUARTERLY REPORTS.—Not later than the date that is one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall report to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives a report containing the following information about veterans who participate in the retraining assistance program under this section:


‘‘(1) The percentage of such veterans who had employment before the end of the second calendar quarter after exiting the program;


‘‘(2) The percentage of such veterans who found employment before the end of the fourth calendar quarter after exiting the program;


‘‘(3) The median earnings of all such veterans for the second quarter after exiting the program;


‘‘(4) The percentage of such veterans who attain a recognized postsecondary credential during the 12-month period after exiting the program.

(3) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the termination of the retraining assistance program under subsection (l), the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives a report on the outcomes and effectiveness of the program.

(5) in subsection (l), as so redesignated, by striking ‘‘No retraining assistance may be paid under this section after the date that is 21 months after the enactment of this Act’’ and inserting ‘‘No retraining assistance may be paid under this section for a covered program of education that begins on or after December 11, 2022’’;

(6) in subsection (m), as so redesignated, by striking the period at the end and inserting the following:—‘‘which shall be carried out as if such section were authorized for the payment of readjustment and rehabilitation benefits to or on behalf of veterans under chapters 30, 31, and 41 of title 38, United States Code.

(7) by adding to the end the following new subsection:

‘‘(n) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:


‘‘(1) The term ‘covered public health emergency’ means the declaration—


‘‘(A) of a public health emergency, based on an outbreak of COVID-19 by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d); or


‘‘(B) of a domestic emergency, based on an outbreak of COVID-19 by the President, the Secretary of Homeland Security, or State, or local authorities.


‘‘(2) The term ‘veteran’ means—


‘‘(A) a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged or released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable; or


‘‘(B) a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces who performs active service during a period of 30 days or longer by reason of the covered public health emergency.


‘‘(3) The term ‘active service’ has the meaning given such term in section 101 of title 10, United States Code.

‘‘(4) The term ‘minority serving institution’ means an institution of higher education that—


‘‘(A) is an association of businesses; and


‘‘(B) is a Hispanic-serving institution, as such term is defined in section 318(b)(6) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1089(b)(6)).

‘‘(C) a Tribal College or University, as such term is defined in section 318(b)(3) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1089(b)(3)).

‘‘(D) A predominantly Black institution, as such term is defined in section 318(b)(6) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1089(b)(6)).

‘‘An Alaska Native-serving institution or Native Hawaiian-serving institution, as such terms are defined in section 317(b) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1089(b)(6)).

‘‘The term ‘Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institution, as such term is defined in section 320(b) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1089(b)(3)).’’

‘‘(5) in clause (vi), by striking ‘‘nonprofit educational institution to a public educational institution’’ and inserting ‘‘or the conversion of a for-profit educational institution to a public educational institution’’.

‘‘(6) in clause (viii), by inserting ‘‘or the conversion of a for-profit educational institution to a public educational institution’’ after ‘‘nonprofit educational institution’’.

‘‘(7) by adding at the end the following new sentence: ‘‘To the extent practicable, the Secretary shall ensure that such information is provided in a searchable format.’’.

‘‘(b) DEFINITION.—Subsection (f) of such section is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:


‘‘(3) The term ‘College Navigator website’ has the meaning given that term in section 410 of the Higher Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1015a).

‘‘(4) The term ‘minority serving institution’ means any of the following:


‘‘(A) a part B education program, as such term is defined in section 322(2) of the Higher Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1061(2)).

‘‘(B) A Hispanic-serving institution, as such term is defined in section 322(2) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1061(a)(5)).

‘‘(C) A Tribal College or University, as such term is defined in section 318(b)(3) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1089(b)(3)).

‘‘(D) A predominantly Black institution, as such term is defined in section 318(b)(6) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1089(b)(6)).

‘‘(E) An Alaska Native-serving institution or Native Hawaiian-serving institution, as such terms are defined in section 317(b) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1089(b)(6)).

‘‘(F) An Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institution, as such term is defined in section 320(b) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1089(b)(3)).’’

‘‘(8) The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to the information provided under section 3698 of title 38, United States Code, beginning on the date that is two years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. DELAY OF EFFECTIVE DATE FOR LIMITATION ON COLOCATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF STATE APPROVING AGENCIES.

Section 1024 of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–315) is amended as follows:

‘‘SEC. 1024. LIMITATION ON COLOCATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF STATE APPROVING AGENCIES.

‘‘(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3671 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:


‘‘(c) The Secretary may not recognize a State department or agency as the State approving agency for purposes of this chapter if such department or agency is administered at, or colocated with, a university or university system that offers courses or programs of education that are subject to approval under this chapter by the State approving agency for that State.’’

‘‘(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply in a manner and effective for purposes of this chapter.’’

SEC. 5. CLARIFICATION OF APPLICABILITY OF TREATMENT OF CERTAIN FOR-PROFIT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

‘‘(a) CLARIFICATION.—Section 1022(c) of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–315) is amended by inserting ‘‘, or the conversion of a for-profit educational institution to a public educational institution, after ‘nonprofit educational institution’.’’

‘‘(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply as if included in the enactment of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–315).’’
SEC. 6. CLARIFICATIONS REGARDING REQUIREMENTS FOR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS PARTICIPATING IN THE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

Subsection (f) of section 3679 of title 38, United States Code, as added by section 1018 of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-315), is amended—

(1) In paragraph (1)(E), by inserting “, to the maximum extent practicable,” after “including”;

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “, or any person with whom the individual agrees to engage in educational programs, marketing, advertising, recruiting or admissions services,” after “educational institution”;

(B) by striking “1-month” and inserting “one-month”; and

(C) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following new subparagraph (B):

“(B) Provides a commission, bonus, or other incentive payment based directly or indirectly on success in securing enrollments or financial aid to any persons or entities engaged in marketing, advertising, recruiting or admissions services,” after “educational institution”;

(3) in paragraph (4)(A), by striking clause (ii) and inserting the following new clauses:

“(ii) Suspending the approval of the courses and programs of education offered by the educational institution by disapproving new enrollments of eligible veterans and eligible persons in each course or program of education offered by that educational institution;

“(iii) Revoking the approval of the courses and programs of education offered by the educational institution by disapproving all enrollments of eligible veterans and eligible persons in each course or program of education offered by that educational institution; and

(4) in paragraph (5)(A), by striking “1-academic-year period” and inserting “one-academic-year period”.

SEC. 7. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

(a) Title 38—Title 38, United States Code, is amended as follows:

(1) The second section 1146, as added by section 501 of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-315), is redesignated as section 1166 and transferred so as to appear after section 1165 (and the table of sections at the beginning of chapter 11 of title 38 is renumbered accordingly).

(2) Subsection (i) of section 3313, as added by section 1010 of such Act (as effective on August 1, 2021), is amended to read as follows:

“(i) Verification of Enrollment.—

“(1) In general.—The Secretary shall require—

“(A) each educational institution to submit to the Secretary verification of each individual enrolled in a course or program of education at the educational institution and receiving educational assistance under this chapter;

“(B) the Secretary to deem an individual enrolled from such time as the Secretary determines reasonable after the date on which the individual is enrolled; and

“(ii) not later than such time as the Secretary determines reasonable after the last date on which a student is able to withdraw from the course or program of education without penalty; and

“(B) the Secretary to deem an individual enrolled from such time as the Secretary determines reasonable after the date on which the individual is enrolled; and

Whereas Belarusian civil society, led by Sviatlana Tiskhanouskaya, has called for the resignation of Alyaksandr Lukashenka, the peaceful transition of power, the organization of new, free and fair elections and the release of all political prisoners;

Whereas Belarusian opposition leaders have faced intimidation, harassment, and detention, including during threats to the forced exile of Sviatlana Tiskhanouskaya in Lithuania as well as the kidnapping and imprisonment of Maria Kolesnikova and other opposition leaders;

Whereas in the months since the election, Belarusian authorities have arbitrarily detained and brutally assaulted thousands of peaceful protesters, journalists, and opposition figures, of which hundreds remain in detention;

Whereas human rights groups have documented hundreds of horrific accounts of torture, including sexual violence and rape, along with other instances of ill-treatment and excessive force used against detainees arrested for peaceful protest;

Whereas on August 13 and 14, 2020, relatives of detainees held in the infamous Akrestsina detention facility in Minsk recórded the sounds of “incessant beatings which were clearly audible in the street, and numerous voices screaming out in agony while being thrown or dragged,”;

Whereas thousands of Belarusians have fled to neighboring countries seeking political asylum;

Whereas independent journalists and the free media have faced intimidation, violence, mass arrests and prosecution, with many foreign journalists being stripped of their accreditation;

Whereas Katsyaryna Andreyeva and Darya Chultsovatwo, two journalists who work for Belsat, an independent Polish-based satellite television station aimed at Belarus, have been sentenced to two years in prison for their role in the democratic movement by depositing thousands of horrific accounts of torture, including sexual violence and rape, along with other instances of ill-treatment and excessive force used against detainees arrested for peaceful protest;

Whereas women have played a leading role in peaceful demonstrations across the country, protesting the police brutality and mass detentions by wearing red and white, carrying flowers, and forming “solidarity chains”;

Whereas the information technology (IT) industry in Belarus has played a prominent role in the democratic movement by demanding an end to violent oppression, as well as creating safe platforms for democracy protesters to communicate and track people who have been detained or went missing during mass detentions;

Whereas citizens of Belarus have demonstrated their strong desire to continue the democratic future by organizing peaceful protests in Minsk and across the country;
Whereas Belarusian authorities have continuously disrupted internet channels in an attempt to limit communication among demonstrators and targeted lead technology companies and their employees advocating for democracy;

Whereas Belarusian state-owned television channels have encouraged violence against peaceful demonstrators;

Whereas a recent survey of IT specialists found that 15 percent of IT specialists working in Belarus have already relocated to neighboring countries and over one-third of IT specialists no longer want to work in Belarus, resulting in a devastating loss of talent and possibly permanently damaging the Belarusian technology industry along with the Belarusian economy;

Whereas hundreds of former law enforcement officers in Belarus who have defected in defiance of illegal orders to commit human rights violations and cover up crimes against civilians and those who have assisted law enforcement officers in defector have faced harassment, financial penalties, arrest, detention, and other punitive measures;

Whereas several peaceful demonstrators have been victims of police violence including 31-year-old Roman Bondarenko who was violently beaten by plainclothes police officers and, as a result, suffered head injuries that led to his death;

Whereas Belarusian universities continue to expel students and dismiss educators and researchers for participating in peaceful protests;

Whereas child protection services have threatened multiple civic activists with termination of parental rights for bringing minor children to peaceful protests;

Whereas factory workers at state-owned enterprises have been continuously harassed for taking part in independent collective actions and have been forced to sign political letters opposing sanctions by the European Union under threat of termination of their employment;

Whereas a transatlantic community of legislators has emerged in support of uplifting the democratic aspirations of the Belarusian people;

Whereas international advocacy, including by co-host Latvia, succeeded in preventing the illegitimate Government of Belarus from hostiting the 2021 Ice Hockey World Championship;

Whereas the United States, the European Union, United Kingdom, and Canada have imposed sanctions and other punitive measures against dozens of individuals and entities found responsible for the perpetration of violence against peaceful demonstrators, opposition members, and journalists, among others;

Whereas Alyaksandr Lukashenka continued to undermine the sovereignty and independence of Belarus through efforts to integrate Belarus into a so-called “Union States” under the control of Russia;

Whereas Representatives passed the Belarus Democracy, Human Rights, and Sovereignty Act of 2020 with unanimous consent, sending a clear message of overwhelming bipartisan support for the democratic movement in Belarus;

Whereas the Belarus Democracy, Human Rights, and Sovereignty Act of 2020 was signed into law via the fiscal 2021 omnibus spending bill, expanding the President’s authority to impose sanctions related to Belarus, including on Russian individuals who help Belarus’ sovereignty, as well as authorizing increased assistance to counter internet censorship and surveillance technology, support women advocating for democracy, and provide humanitarian protections for political refugees fleeing the crackdown in Belarus, among other things; and

Whereas the Belarusian opposition, led by Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, organized a Day of Solidarity on February 7, 2020, where countries, cities, and political and elected leaders, as well as everyday citizens around the world demonstrated their support for the six months of historic peaceful protests since the fraudulent presidential election that took place on August 9, 2020. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives

(1) finds that the August 9, 2020, presidential election in Belarus was neither free nor fair and, therefore, does not recognize the government-sponsored results of Alyaksandr Lukashenka as the legitimate President of Belarus;

(2) calls for new free and fair elections under Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe observation;

(3) affirms that the people of Belarus have the right to determine the future of Belarus without unwelcome intervention from the Russian Federation or any outside actors in violation of Belarusian independence and sovereignty;

(4) condemns the human rights violations committed by Belarusian authorities, including against peaceful demonstrators, civil society, activists, opposition leaders, students, educators, employees at state-owned enterprises, medical personnel, and journalists, and calls for such authorities to halt any further acts of violence against civilians;

(5) calls for the immediate release of all political prisoners and those unlawfully detained in connection with the peaceful demonstrations including independent journalists and family members of United States citizens;

(6) recognizes the sacrifices and bravery of the Belarusian people and the incredible organization by Belarusian women to peacefully demand a free and fair democratic process while enduring the state-sponsored violence that followed the August 9, 2020, election;

(7) calls on Alyaksandr Lukashenka and Belarusian authorities to engage in an open and constructive dialogue with the opposition members and other stakeholders to bring about a peaceful transition of power;

(8) calls for the protection of civil society actors and members of the opposition against arbitrary arrest and violence while continuing to condemn sanctions and actions relating to the peaceful transition of power in Belarus;

(9) recognizes the Coordination Council established by Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya as a legitimate institution to participate in a dialogue on a peaceful transition of power;

(10) urges continued cooperation among the United States and its transatlantic allies and partners to explore avenues in support of the democratic movement in Belarus;

(11) calls for further targeted sanctions coordinated between the United States, the European Union, United Kingdom, Canada, and other allies and partners against Belarusian authorities who committed human rights violations and engaged in activities that resulted in the falsification of the August 9, 2020, election results;

(12) encourages when considering, in coordination with transatlantic partners, the sanctioning of Belarusian state-owned companies that have directly violated the rights of their workers as a result of their participation in or in connection to the ongoing demonstrations that the Administration take into consideration the potential implications of making these companies more vulnerable to takeovers by Russian or other foreign state entities;

(13) calls on the transatlantic community to review and consider reassessing any financial assistance that supports the Lukashenka regime, including participation in state debt issuances or procurement contracts;

(14) supports increasing funds available for foreign assistance to Belarusian civil society groups as well as legal assistance for activists and independent journalists, among others, called for in the Belarus Democracy, Human Rights, and Sovereignty Act of 2020; and

(15) urges the President to provide the United States Agency for Global Media with a surge capacity (as such term is defined in section 315 of the United States International Broadcasting Act of 1994 (22 U.S.C. 6216)) for programs and activities in Belarus, including to protect and provide brave independent journalists reporting from within Belarus as called for in the Belarus Democracy, Human Rights, and Sovereignty Act of 2020; and

(16) calls for an international investigation into the human rights abuses committed during and after the August 9, 2020, presidential election; and

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House suspend the rules and pass the bills and the resolution.

The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bills and the resolution.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3 of House Resolution 330, the yeas and nays on the temporary suspension of the rules and on the motions are ordered to be entered on the journals.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 355, nays 69, not voting 5, as follows: [Roll No. 125]
Mr. BURGESS changed his vote from 'nay' to 'yea.'

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended, the bills were passed, and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The motion to reconsider is laid on the table.

Mr. BIGGS. Madam Speaker, I object. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Objection is heard.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SORROW OF THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE WAYNE W. MONDALE

The resolution was agreed to.

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

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

The SPEAKER. The gentleman's request is accepted.

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN REMEMBRANCE OF VICTIMS OF THE SHOOTING IN BOULDER, COLORADO

I hope everyone in the House will now join me for a moment of silence.

The SPEAKER. The Chair asks all those present in the Chamber as Members and staff throughout the Capitol to please rise for a moment of silence.

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

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

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2091

Mr. CRAWFTON, Madam Speaker, I rise to inform the House I hereby remove my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 2091.

The SPEAKER. The Speaker's request is accepted.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER ON ADOPTION OF THE MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Mr. PHILLIPS, Madam Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

The Speaker pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Phillips of Minnesota moves to reconsider the vote on adoption of the motion to suspend the rules.

The motion to reconsider was tabled.

Ms. MCCOLLUM, Madam Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

The Speaker pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Ms. McCollum of Minnesota moves to lay the motion to reconsider on the table.

The Speaker pro tempore. The question is on the motion to table.

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

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

H. Res. 333

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Honorable Walter F. Mondale, a former Vice President of the United States of America.

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 for the memory of the deceased.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.
EC–891. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Service’s IRB only rule — Guidance on the Employee Retention Credit under the CARES Act for the First and Second Calendar Quarters of 2021 [Notice 2021-23] received April 15, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(2); 801(a)(3); 801(a)(12); 801(a)(12); 26 U.S.C. 6104; 6102; 26 U.S.C. 6011(10 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC–892. A letter from the Chief, Publications, Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Service’s IRB only rule — 2021 Calendar Year Resident Population Figures (received April 15, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(2); 801(a)(3); 801(a)(12); 26 U.S.C. 6104; 6102; 26 U.S.C. 6011(10 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:

By Mr. RASKIN: Committee on Rules. H. Res. 330. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 51) to provide for the admission of Washington, D.C. into the Union; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1573) to clarify the rights of all persons who are held or detained at a port of entry or at any detention facility overseen by U.S. Customs and Border Protection or U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1333) to transfer and limit Executive Branch authority to suspend or restrict the entry of a class of aliens; and for other purposes (Rept. 117–22). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. GÓMEZ: H.R. 2672. A bill to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to specify certain effects of guidelines, general statements of policy, and similar guidance issued by the Federal Trade Commission; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. By Mr. BILIRAKIS: H.R. 2671. A bill to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to require an annual plan and a report on elder fraud, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. By Mr. BLUMENTHAUER (for himself, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JONES, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. NEWMAN, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. SHERES): H.R. 2673. A bill to amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 to include certain landlocked releases of petroleum, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned. By Mr. BRADY (for himself, Mr. HERR, Mr. BANKS, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. WIEBER of Texas, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. ESTES, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. MCCaul, and Mr. SESSIONS): H.R. 2674. A bill to allocate noninterest Federal spending as a percentage of potential GDP to right-size the Government, grow the economy, and balance the budget; to the Committee on the Budget, 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. RUSH: H.R. 2675. A bill to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned. By Mr. BUCSHON: H.R. 2676. A bill to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to require that any legislative recommendation of the Federal Commission be accompanied by an economic analysis and include a description of the rationale for the recommended legislation; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. By Mr. BURGESS: H.R. 2677. A bill to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to require a time limitation for consent orders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. By Mr. CASTEN: H.R. 2678. A bill to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to initiate a rulemaking to reform the interregional transmission planning process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. By Mr. CHABOT (for himself and Mr. BOEHRINGER): H.R. 2679. A bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to revise the Federal charter for the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association; to the Committee on the Judiciary. By Ms. CHU: H.R. 2680. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit for investors in start-up businesses, to provide a credit for wages paid by start-up businesses to their first employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means. By Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. MENG, Ms. PARKER, Mr. RASKIN, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. KANNA, and Mr. SARBANS): H.R. 2681. A bill to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 to require the Integrity Committee of the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency to include additional information in requests and reports to Congress, to make information available to certain Members of Congress regarding certain allegations of wrongdoing closed without referral, to require the Integrity Committee to submit semiannual reports to Congress and the President, to expand the membership of the Committee, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform. By Mr. CROW (for himself and Mr. HICKS): H.R. 2682. A bill to establish an Outdoor Restoration Fund for restoration and resilience projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, 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. DAVIDS of Kansas: H.R. 2683. A bill to transfer title 23, United States Code, to increase a set-aside for the Rural Project Initiative of the TIPRA program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. By Mr. DIAZ-BALART (for himself, Ms. MURPHY of Florida, Ms. BALIARAS, and Mr. GREGG): H.R. 2684. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to establish a Cuban femicide identification parole program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary. By Mrs. ESHER: H.R. 2685. A bill to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications.
and Information to submit to Congress a report examining the cybersecurity of mobile service providers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BOST (for himself, Mr. MALA- 
zar, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. C. 
SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. POS- 
sey, Mr. DÍAZ-BALART, Mr. BIL- 
dih, Mr. RIORDAN of Massachusetts, Mr. MAST, and Mr. RUTHER- 
FORD): H.R. 2690. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 90 Palm Boulevard North in Niceville, Florida, as the “Doolittle Raiders Post Office Building”; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. GARCIA of Illinois (for himself, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. JOHNSON of Geor- gia, Mr. CAUSEY, Mr. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. COHEN, Mr. ESPAILLAT, and Mr. LOWENTHAL): H.R. 2687. A bill to increase the minimum levels of financial responsibility for transporting property, and to index future increases to changes in inflation relating to medical care; to the Committee on Transpor- tation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. GOODEN of Texas (for himself and Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas): H.R. 2688. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently allow a tax deduction for the mining, reclaiming, or recy- cling of critical minerals and metals from the United States, to support the develop- ment of domestic supply chains for rare earth elements and other critical materials essential to United States technology, manu- facturing, energy, healthcare and advanced medical devices, broadband infrastructure, transportation, and national defense; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GREEN of Texas (for himself, Mr. CLEAVER, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. HIMES, Mr. MPUMELENO, Mr. KILMER, Ms. CHU, and Mr. SHER- MAN): H.R. 2689. A bill to require the Minority Business Development Agency of the Depart- ment of Commerce to promote and admin- ister programs in the public and private sectors to assist the development of minority business enterprises, to ensure that such Agency has sufficient necessary support resources, particularly during economic downturns, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addi- tion to the Committee on Small Business, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consider- ation of such provisions as fall within the jurisdic- tion of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GUTHRIE: H.R. 2690. A bill to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to require annual reports to Congress regarding the status of investigations of unfair or deceptive acts or practices in or affecting commerce; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HAGEDORN (for himself, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. COLE, Mr. SMITH of Minnesota, Mr. LUTTKEMEYER, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. VALADAR, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. BACON, Mr. ESTES, Mrs. FISCHBAUM, Mr. LAMALPA, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Ms. HERRELL, Mr. GOSAI, Mr. MCKINLEY of Washington, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. BOST, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. BOWES, Mr. VAN DEWeede, Mr. SCHUMACHER, Ms. CAS- ACK, Mr. HAYES, and Mr. KIRKPATRICK): H.R. 2691. A bill to amend the Internal Rev- enue Code of 1986 to permit 529 plans to be used for certain non-degree technical training- certificate programs and apprenticeship programs; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HARDER of California (for him- self and Mr. GOLDEN): H.R. 2682. A bill to amend the Federal Elec- tion Campaign Act to limit the au- thority of corporations to establish and operate separate segregated funds utilized for po- litical purposes, including the establishment and operation of nonprofit corporations, and for other pur- poses; to the Committee on House Adminis- tration.

By Mrs. HARTZLER (for herself and Ms. SCHRIER): H.R. 2693. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to require that only a school food authority that had a negative balance in the nonprofit school food service account on June 30th of the year preceding the previous school year shall be required to establish a price for paid lunches; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. JEFFRIES (for himself, Mr. ROY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, and Mr. TAYLOR): H.R. 2694. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for transportation and subsistence for criminal justice defend- ants, and for other purposes; to the Com- mittee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. JOHNSON of Texas (for herself and Mr. LUCAS): H.R. 2695. A bill to provide for research to better understand the causes and con-sequences of sexual harassment affecting in- dividuals in the scientific, technical, engine- ering, and mathematics workforce and to examine policies to reduce the prevalence and negative impact of such harassment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania): H.R. 2696. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to designate certain con- sortia as Community and Technical College Centers of Excellence in Transportation Workforce Training, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infra- structure.

By Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself and Mr. MCKINLEY): H.R. 2697. A bill to establish a task force on developing a 21st century surface transpor- tation workforce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infra- structure.

By Mr. LAWSON of Florida (for himself and Mr. BUCK): H.R. 2698. A bill to extend the jurisdiction of the Commodity Futures Trading Com- mission to include oversight of markets which set reference prices for aluminum premiums, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. GOMZ, Mr. RASKIN, and Mr. CONNOLLY): H.R. 2699. A bill to extend certain deadlines for the 2020 census and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mrs. MCBATH (for herself, Ms. JAC- KINS of California, and Ms. MANNING): H.R. 2700. A bill to amend the Higher Educa- tion Act of 1965 to describe the process of converting a proprietary institution of higher education to a nonprofit institution of higher education; to the Committee on Educa- tion and Labor.

By Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin (for herself and Mr. BUCK): H.R. 2701. A bill to provide grants for the conduct of demonstration projects designed to provide education and training for eligible individuals to enter and follow a career path- way in the field of pregnancy or childbirth, under the health profession opportunity program in the jurisdiction of the Federal Superfund; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MULLIN: H.R. 2702. A bill to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to include require- ments for declaring an unlawful act or prac- tice, and for other purposes; to the Com- mittee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. PALLONE (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. PASCHELL, and Mr. McEACHIN): H.R. 2703. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the financing of the Superfund; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PAPPAS (for himself, Mrs. HINSON, and Ms. KUSTER): H.R. 2704. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the equal employ- ment opportunity functions of Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

By Mr. PFLUGER (for himself and Mr. CUPELLAR): H.R. 2705. A bill to amend the Natural Gas Act to provide for expedited approval of natural gas ex- ports; to the Committee on Energy and Com- merce.

By Mr. PORTER (for herself, Ms. UDALL, Mr. CHOW, and Mr. BLU- MENAUER): H.R. 2706. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require drug manufac- turers to pay a Medicare part B rebate for certain drugs if the price of such drugs in- creases faster than inflation; to the Com- mittee on Energy and Commerce, and in ad- dition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consider- ation of such provisions as fall within the jurisdic- tion of the committee concerned.

By Mr. RASKIN (for himself and Mrs. HAYES): H.R. 2707. A bill to authorize for a grant program for handgun licensing programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. SPARTZ (for herself, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. PERRY, Mr. STEWART, Mr. BUD, Mr. BUCK, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mrs. LESKO, and Mr. CLOUD): H.R. 2708. A bill to impose certain limita- tions on consent decrees and settlement agreements by agencies that require the agencies to take regulatory action in accord- ance with the terms thereof, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SPEIER (for herself, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. BEA, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BLU- MENAUER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BONAMICI, Mr. BRADLEY, Mr. BLUM, Mr. DENT, Mr. COOK, Mr. COPPER, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illi- nois, Ms. DEAN, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. DEGETTE, Mr. DELAURA, Mr. DELBENE, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. FOSSITER, Mr. LOUIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. GALLEGIA, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HIMES, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. HOULAHAN, Mr. JAC- KSON LEE, Ms. JACOBS of California, Mr. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Geor- gia, Mr. JONES, Mr. KEATING, Mr. KIANI, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. KIRKPATRICK, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. LAWRENCE, Mr.
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE

H. Res. 333. A resolution expressing the profound sorrow of the House of Representatives on the death of the Honorable Walter F. Mondale; considered agreed to.

By Mr. PASCRELL (for himself, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. SHIRES, Mr. Payne, Mr. NORTON, Mr. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. GORMAN, Mr. MCELHINNY, Mr. MALOWSKI, Mr. SHERILL, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, and Mr. VAN DREW):

H. Res. 334. A resolution commemorating the centennial anniversary of the New Jersey State Police Department's founding; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RUPPERSBERGER:

H. Res. 335. A resolution expressing support for the designation of May as Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome Awareness Month to increase the knowledge of this little-known, potentially fatal, genetic disease; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. STEVENS (for herself, Mr. WALTERS, Mr. BERKOWITZ, Mr. DINOVI, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. KILDER, and Mr. HUZENGA):

H. Res. 336. A resolution calling on the Government of the Russian Federation to provide evidence or to release United States citizen Paul Whelan; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. TAKANO:

H. Res. 337. A resolution congratulating the Department of Veterans Affairs on 75 years of psychology training and expansion of access to mental health care for veterans by expressing support for the designation of April 19 through April 23, 2021, as “VA Psychology Recognition Week” to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (for herself and Mr. CRENSHAW):

H. Res. 338. A resolution recognizing that infertility is a widespread problem that affects populations of diverse ages, races, ethnicities, and genders; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

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

By Mr. CARDENAS:

H. Res. 2668. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, the following statements are substantiated by the Rules of the House of Representatives.

By Mr. DUNN:

H. Res. 2669. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ:

H. Res. 2670. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.
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H1999

By Mr. JEFFRIES:
H.R. 2694.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. JOHNSTON of Texas:
H.R. 2696.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. LANGEVIN:
H.R. 2698.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution in that the legislation exercises legislative powers granted to Congress by that clause “to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States or any Department or Office thereof.”

By Mr. LAWSON of Florida:
H.R. 2698.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution in that the legislation exercises legislative powers granted to Congress by that clause “to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.”

By Mr. REED of New York:
H.R. 2699.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. MCBATH:
H.R. 2700.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. JEFFRIES:
H.R. 2694.

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 Ms. JOHNSON of Texas:
H.R. 2696.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. LANGEVIN:
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Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

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H.R. 2694.

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 Ms. JOHNSTON of Texas:
H.R. 2696.

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By Mr. LANGEVIN:
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By Mr. REED of New York:
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By Ms. JOHNSTON of Texas:
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By Mr. LAWSON of Florida:
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By Mr. REED of New York:
H.R. 2699.

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Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. MCBATH:
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Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. JEFFRIES:
H.R. 2694.
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution

By Ms. PORTER:
H.R. 2706.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Ms. SPARTZ:
H.R. 2708.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

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

H.R. 18: Ms. LETLOW.
H.R. 82: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 148: Mr. Kim of New Jersey.
H.R. 243: Ms. LETLOW.
H.R. 288: Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 333: Mrs. RODGERS of Washington.

H.R. 359: Mr. GOLDEN and Mr. YARMUTH.
H.R. 373: Ms. MACK.
H.R. 471: Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. BUD, and Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas.
H.R. 472: Mrs. Rice of Oklahoma, Mr. CARL, Mr. OWENS, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, and Mr. BUD.
H.R. 475: Mr. Kim of New Jersey.
H.R. 476: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 496: Mr. MELBER, Mr. PERRY, and Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 543: Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 554: Mr. CLYDE.
H.R. 558: Mr. Good of Virginia.
H.R. 568: Mr. MOONEY, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mrs. WALORSKI, and Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina.
H.R. 695: Ms. BOURDEAUX.
H.R. 704: Mrs. SPARTZ, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 746: Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana.
H.R. 749: Ms. HERRECA BEUTLER.
H.R. 763: Mr. Van DREW.
H.R. 820: Mr. BOST.
H.R. 822: Mr. COLE and Mr. MANN.
H.R. 890: Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. ESCORBAH, Ms. LOPUREN, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 959: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI.
H.R. 963: Ms. MANNING and Mrs. LE of Nevada.
H.R. 1012: Ms. STEFANIK.
H.R. 1060: Ms. FOXX.
H.R. 1080: Ms. LETLOW.
H.R. 1145: Mr. STEIL.
H.R. 1155: Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. LOPUREN, and Mr. JEFFREYS.
H.R. 1210: Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 1219: Mr. OWENS, Mr. BUMBAUER, Mr. MURPHY, and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 1221: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 1224: Mr. SMUCKER.
H.R. 1341: Mr. MACE.
H.R. 1345: Mr. NOHMAN.
H.R. 1346: Miss RICE of New York.
H.R. 1347: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 1351: Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 1394: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 1406: Mr. PETERS and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.
H.R. 1443: Mr. MALINOWSKI.
H.R. 1456: Mr. LYNCH, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. HIGGINS of New York.
H.R. 1539: Mr. Good of Virginia and Mrs. CAMMACK.
H.R. 1568: Mr. KUSTOFF.
H.R. 1655: Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 1699: Mr. CLOUD.
H.R. 1733: Mr. LEGER FERNANDEZ.
H.R. 1734: Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ.
H.R. 1834: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts and Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1853: Mr. MACE and Mr. ROUSER.
H.R. 1863: Mr. LOWENTHAL and Mr. KHALEEF.
H.R. 1897: Mr. PALMER.
H.R. 1916: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. CARSON, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. MATSU, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. KATKO, Mr. MOOLNAAR, Mr. DeFAZIO, Mrs. STEIL, Mr. BARR, Mr. OWENS, Mr. NORMAN, and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 1947: Ms. Wilson of South Carolina and Ms. HERRELL.
H.R. 1994: Mr. Kim of New Jersey.
H.R. 2059: Mr. KIND, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. CHU, and Ms. MATSU.
H.R. 2067: Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 2076: Mr. GROTHMAN and Mr. FALLON.
H.R. 2136: Miss GONZALEZ-GONZON.
H.R. 2144: Mr. ROYDEN DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 2187: Mr. DELIADI and Mr. KELLY of Mississippi.
H.R. 2193: Ms. SACHKOWSKY.
H.R. 2198: Ms. OMAR.
H.R. 2213: Mr. RICE of South Carolina.
H.R. 2214: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 2215: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.
H.R. 2234: Mr. BOWMAN.
H.R. 2249: Mr. LOWENTHAL and Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
H.R. 2302: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 2318: Mr. STEIL.
H.R. 2366: Mr. DEUTCH.
H.R. 2370: Mr. CUELLAR.
H.R. 2407: Mr. LAMALFA, Ms. STEIL, and Mr. MCCARTHY.
H.R. 2476: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 2497: Mr. Taylor.
H.R. 2488: Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana and Mrs. CAMPACK.
H.R. 2491: Mr. Wilson of South Carolina.
H.R. 2508: Mr. CRAWFORD and Mr. BACON.
H.R. 2510: Mr. BRYER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. DANNY K. Davis of Illinois, Ms. DEMINGS, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. ESPALLAT, Mr. EVANS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HOULAHAN, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MOUTON, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PETRES, Mr. POCAN, Mr. RASKIN, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. RUFFNER-SERBER, Mr. RYAN, Mr. SCANLON, Ms. SHERMAN, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Mr. SWALWELL.
H.R. 2518: Mr. CRAWFORD, Ms. STEFANIK, and Mr. BACON.
H.R. 2539: Mrs. HARSHBARGER.
H.R. 2543: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York and Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 2582: Mr. TURNER, Mr. STIVERS, and Ms. PENNY.
H.R. 2584: Mr. ESPALLAT, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. YARMUTH, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. ESCORBAH, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. BUSH, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mr. TAKANO, and Mr. KAHELE.
H.R. 2604: Mr. ARMSTRONG.
H.R. 2518: Mr. PENRY.
H.R. 2654: Mr. ROYDEN DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 2660: Mr. MANN and Mr. LONG.
H.J. Res. 11: Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. REED, Mr. MEIJER, and Mr. LATTU.
H.J. Res. 39: Mr. MEIJER and Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.
H.Con. Res. 29: Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. PAINETTI, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. SACHKOWSKY, and Mr. HIGGINS of New York.
H.Res. 135: Mr. CLINE.
H.Res. 204: Mr. SAN NICOLAS.
H.Res. 230: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.Res. 240: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.Res. 283: Ms. TENNEY.
H.Res. 294: Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. TITUS, Mr. PASSELL, Mr. PORTER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. JACOBS of California, Mr. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. LE of California, Ms. CHU, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. BERA, and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.Res. 317: Ms. WILD, Mr. Wilson of South Carolina, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. PULINICEK, Mr. BARR, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. KATKO, Mr. OWENS, Mr. MAST, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. JACKSON, and Ms. SALAZAR.
H.Res. 327: Mrs. HARSHBARGER.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions, as follows:
H.R. 2091: Mr. CRAWFORD.
The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable ALEX PADILLA, a Senator from the State of California.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:
I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

To the Senate:
Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable ALEX PADILLA, a Senator from the State of California, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE.

Mr. PADILLA thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME
The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS
The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

COVID–19 HATE CRIMES ACT—Resumed
The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 937, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:
A bill (S. 937) to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes.

Pending:
Schumer (for Hirono/Collins) Amendment No. 1445, of a perfecting nature.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER
The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader is recognized.

REMEMBERING WALTER FREDERICK MONDALE
Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, last night, the country lost a giant of Democratic politics, a kind and revered public servant, a Vice President who reimagined the position and expanded Americans’ views of who could hold America’s highest offices, Walter Mondale, known to friends and foes alike as “Fritz,” died at the age of 93.

As President Carter’s right-hand man, Fritz revolutionized the role of the Vice Presidency. There is an old yarn about two brothers: One went off to sea, and the other became Vice President. Neither was heard from again. That is not true of Walter Mondale.

Walter Mondale was an uncooperative subject for those Vice Presidential comedians. Not only was he often the last person in the room with the President when the tough decisions were made, but he became an unofficial ambassador for the administration. His relationship with Prime Minister Begin of Israel helped pave the way for a peace treaty between Israel and Egypt at Camp David in 1978.

In his ultimately unsuccessful run for the Presidency, Walter Mondale’s pick of my fellow New Yorker, the late Geraldine Ferraro, as Vice President was an early crack in the glass ceiling that our current Vice President, KAMALA HARRIS, would eventually shatter.

Vice President Mondale will be remembered as a lion of progressive politics; an ardent defender of civil rights, aid to schoolchildren, childcare, healthcare, and consumer protections. Mondale once said: My whole life I worked on the idea that government can be an instrument for social progress. We need that progress. Fairness requires it.

Indeed, as Mondale said, we need government to make social progress.

As we say goodbye to one of our country’s most decent public servants, let us follow in his example.

MARIJUANA

Mr. President, now on a much different subject, today is what you might call a very unofficial American holiday. 4/20. It is as appropriate a time as any to take a hard look at our laws that have overcriminalized the use of marijuana and put it on a par with heroin, LSD, and other narcotics that bear little or no resemblance in their effects.
either on individuals or on society, more broadly.

The war on drugs has too often been a war on people, particularly people of color. For decades, young men and women—disproportionately, young men and women of color—have been arrested and jailed for even carrying a small amount of marijuana, a charge that often came with exorbitant penalties and a serious criminal record from which they might never recover, being rejected from job after job because this minor, minor deviation from the law was listed as a serious criminal record.

It makes no sense. It is time for change. I believe the time has come to end the Federal prohibition on marijuana in this country, and I am working with Senators Booker and Wyden on legislation to do just that. My thinking on this issue has evolved.

A number of States—including, very recently, the State of New York—have legalized the recreational use of marijuana for adults, and those experiments, by and large, have been a success. The doom-and-gloom predictions, when States like Colorado or Oregon went forward and decriminalized and legalized marijuana, never occurred.

In State after State, through ballot initiatives and constitutional amendments, the American people are sending a clear message that they want this policy changed. Senators Booker, Wyden, and I are going to continue to work on our legislation, and in the near future, we hope to have a draft of a comprehensive reform effort, not only to end the Federal prohibition on marijuana but to ensure restorative justice, protect public health, and implement responsible taxes and regulations. This was the approach taken by legislators in New York. I believe it is the right approach, and it serves as a model that the Senate should deal with the issue in Congress.

Hopefully, the next time this unofficial holiday, 4/20, rolls around, our country will have made progress in addressing the massive overcriminalization of marijuana in a meaningful and comprehensive way.

VOTING RIGHTS

Mr. President, now on voting rights, today in the Judiciary Committee, Senators will hear testimony from a number of public officials and experts about voter suppression laws since the 2020 election, including former Georgia gubernatorial candidate Stacey Abrams.

These voter suppression laws—more than 250 proposed laws in more than 40 States—constitute a grave and immediate threat to the very core of our democracy. In ways both large and small, they seek to restrict the franchise, often targeting minority communities, younger voters, and dense urban districts.

Our Republican colleagues have tried in vain to defend these laws as meaningful and appropriate protections against voter fraud. In many cases, those attempts have been just laughable.

Just to take one example from earlier this week, the Republican-led Montana State Legislature passed a law that would have required that anyone registering to vote would have to prove they are a natural-born citizen. This legislation would have discriminated against voters who were born through adoption, or whose parents are citizens of other countries. The law would also make it more difficult for those living in a state without a driver's license to register to vote, and it would make it harder to change a voter's registration information. The law would have had the effect of disenfranchising the American-born children of immigrants. It was a manifestly unconstitutional and racist law.

That's just one example, but there have been many. We must act to protect the rights of all voters, including those who are the most vulnerable to voter suppression. After all, fully one in five registered voters in this country will have made progress in addressing the issue of marijuana in a meaningful and appropriate way when disaster strikes. That is why, in the American Rescue Plan, Democrats passed the largest, most comprehensive relief package for the people of Puerto Rico in a long, long time. I am proud to have worked with my House colleagues, particularly Representative Nydia Velázquez, to get it done.

Prior to the American Rescue Plan, the Federal Government had never supported Puerto Rico's tax credit for low-income workers. We did that for the first time ever.

And, finally, prior to the American Rescue Plan, only families with three or more children in Puerto Rico could claim the child tax credit. That seems, to me, to be racist in its application. We fixed that and made sure that every family in Puerto Rico can claim the credit, just like every other American family.

So as long as Democrats have a majority here in the Senate, I am going to make sure that Puerto Rico is treated fairly and gets its fair share of support. We know that it comes to this disaster aid. I am so glad the Biden administration is rectifying the issue. I hope we never repeat such a shameful delay.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The Acting President pro tempore. 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 Acting President pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Recognition of the Minority Leader

The Republican leader is recognized.

Mr. McConnell. Mr. President, the situation on our southern border is bad and getting worse. Last month saw overall migrant totals hit a nearly two-decade high. More unaccompanied minors than the Trump administration dealt with for a moment. What problems are the Biden administration claiming to solve on immigration. Finally, some Republicans have attempted to describe the situation on our southern border as a crisis. Fascinating.

But then, yesterday, at last, we saw a crisis. The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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vulnerable people to try their luck? No, not this either.

Here was the big news: The government will be adopting new, more politically correct rhetoric. Under this administration, we will no longer have ‘‘illegal aliens,’’ not because they will secure the border; just because they now will be called ‘‘noncitizens’’ or ‘‘undocumented migrants’’ and so on. These priorities are almost a parody of leftwing governance: not securing the border, but better plans for the children, just woke proofreading. This is not going to get the job done.

OPIOD EPIDEMIC

Mr. President, on a related matter, of course, the flow of actual people is not our only border security problem. Americans are dying and communities are being hollowed out because foreign drug dealers and profitiers have taken our opioid crisis as a business opportunity.

Fentanyl and fentanyl analogues that pour into our country impose a staggering, tragic loss. In 2020, the CDC recorded more overdose deaths than any year on record. They attributed the spike primarily to synthetic opioids like fentanyl.

My home State of Kentucky logged a 50-percent year-on-year increase in overdose deaths. Fentanyl and its constantly changing analogues are as toxic and lethal an illegal drug as there is. We are talking about substances that can be orders of magnitude more potent than morphine.

Customs and Border Protection say fentanyl seizures jumped more than 70 percent in fiscal year 2020. They are on pace for another record year in 2021. Much of this poison is manufactured in and exported from China.

The scope of this crisis is truly staggering. But incredibly, some on the political left want to respond to this national crisis by letting the criminal status of fentanyl analogues lapse this year.

People want to let these drugs become legal. They actually want to let this misguided plan to abandon the battlefield in Afghanistan.

As I said when this decision was announced, the enemies that threaten America and the people of Afghanistan are not vanquished. Taliban retribution and repression and the terror of al-Qaeda, ISIS, and the Haqqani Network will likely only grow after we have left.

I know many colleagues on both sides of the aisle share my concerns. I expect that the administration’s representatives will face tough questions about the rationale behind their plan for a rushed withdrawal of American forces from Afghanistan.

How does the administration plan to maintain our insight into terrorist activities or our ability to strike them without a presence on the ground, to sustain our partners who are doing the fighting? I worked hard to find common ground with this administration on foreign policy, but if the White House is serious about making America, our allies, and our interests more secure, it will need to start taking toward a more enduring approach centered on strength in reality and not wishful thinking.

I suggest the absence of a quorum. The acting President pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

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

The acting President pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AFGHANISTAN

Mr. President, now, on one final matter, this afternoon, President Biden is sending his top national security officials to brief Members on his misguided plan to abandon the battlefield in Afghanistan.

As I said when this decision was announced, the enemies that threaten America and the people of Afghanistan are not vanquished. Taliban retribution and repression and the terror of al-Qaeda, ISIS, and the Haqqani Network will likely only grow after we have left.

I know many colleagues on both sides of the aisle share my concerns. I expect that the administration’s representatives will face tough questions about the rationale behind their plan for a rushed withdrawal of American forces from Afghanistan.

So it is appropriate to ask: Does the Taliban share the administration’s commitment to a negotiated solution, to not harming Afghan women or girls or seeking vengeance on those who helped America, to not continuing to ban these analogues and keep this poison out of our land and out of our citizens’ bloodstream.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 1216 AND H.R. 7

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, understand there are two bills at the desk due for a second reading en bloc.

The Acting President pro tempore. The leader is correct.

The clerk will read the bills by title en bloc.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows: A bill (S. 1216) to extend the temporary scheduling order for fentanyl-related substances. A bill (H.R. 7) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in

Nothing is as terrible as a bad plan. Nothing is as terrible as a bad plan. Nothing is as terrible as a bad plan. Nothing is as terrible as a bad plan. Nothing is as terrible as a bad plan.
the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, in order to place the bills on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceeding en bloc.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bills will be placed on the calendar en bloc.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I suggest a quorum of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

COVID-19 HATE CRIMES ACT—Continued

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

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

The Republican whip.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, last fall, there was among many around the country, many Republican voters, that if elected—Democrats in the House, the Senate, and the White House—if they had the whole of government, they would try to implement massive, transformative change, as it was described. There was a consistent view articulated by Democrats in other places around the country that it would never happen because Joe Biden, after all, is a moderate. These ideas are crazy ideas. Nobody would ever do some of the things that are being talked about.

Well, I have to say that pretty much everything that was predicted is now coming true, at least as it pertains to legislation that is being advanced by Democrats here in the Congress and by the White House, starting, of course, with the massive amount of spending, the massive expansion of the government.

We saw that with the coronavirus relief bill, which ended up being about $2 trillion. That was on top of the $4 trillion that Congress, in a bipartisan way last year, had put toward coronavirus relief. Much of that $2 trillion—in fact, most of it, about 90 percent of it—didn’t have anything to do with coronavirus. Only about 10 percent of all that spending of nearly $2 trillion was actually related to the coronavirus. Most of it was other things that Democrats had wanted to fund, that had been on their wish list, if you will, for some time, and expansion of government.

Well, if that weren’t enough, there is now talk of an “infrastructure” bill that would spend on the order of another $2.5 to $3 trillion, again, much of which is unrelated to infrastructure. If you define “infrastructure” simply as roads and bridges, things that most people think of as infrastructure, the number that has been used is 6 percent of that entire bill is about infrastructure. If you add in broadband and a few other things, it gets slightly higher than that.

The point is that most of the spending in this new infrastructure bill is over $1 trillion in new taxes. The taxing, spending, borrowing patterns that we predicted would happen are, in fact, coming true. And so, to all of other things that were suggested and proposed throughout the fall and the course of the campaigns.

Subsequent to that included adding DC as a State. So adding DC as a State is going to pass the House of Representatives. I am not sure if they are voting on it today, but it has either been voted on or will be voted on. It will pass the House of Representatives. That is a very, very serious, serious purpose which dramatically changes the U.S. Senate and, I believe, what the Founders intended with respect to the District of Columbia.

Then you add to it legislation that has already passed the House and is being contemplated being passed here in the Senate that would federalize elections in this country, that would codify ballot harvesting, and that would ban voter ID, photo ID, which is something that, I think, most Americans would have to pay for energy. It would be done through mandates, regulations, and heavy-handed government requirements as opposed to incentivizing some of these things that, I think, we all agree we should be doing when it comes to cleaning up our environment. The Green New Deal is the opposite of that. The Green New Deal is a government, Washington, DC, mandate, requirement, heavy-handed regulatory approach to that issue and something that has struck fear in the hearts of literally tens of millions of Americans since it began being talked about only a few years ago.

Those are just a handful on the list of what I would call horribles for which I think the left has been advocating for some time in this country. All of these things could be accomplished if the Democrats are able to follow through with another thing that they said they would never do and are now talking about and if they have the votes to do so—whatever they would do, and that is to do away with the legislative filibuster, which is a feature of our democracy that goes back literally 200 years to our Nation’s founding and has ensured through those years that the minority has a voice in our policy-making process; that there is an opportunity for both sides to collaborate, compromise, and to ensure that there isn’t majoritarian rule. The Founders that has overseen and regulated elections in this country. So it would politicize it and give the Democrats an advantage, a partisan advantage, on the Federal Election Commission.

All of those things are in this election bill, which I—I mean, I am talking literally transform—the way we do elections in this country, which historically and by way of the Constitution and the law have been handled and administered at the State level. States have been very involved.

What this would do is consolidate more power in Washington, DC, and pull the regulation of elections up to the Federal Government, coupled with all of the changes that I just mentioned. There is no way—absolutely no way—that even if passed they could be done, could be implemented, for the upcoming 2022 election, which secretaries of state from across the country, including Democratic secretaries of state, have indicated they would not.

So that is another thing that is on the liberal wish list that I mentioned: the federalizing of our elections—taking them away from the States where, historically, elections have been administered and bringing them here, essentially nationalizing our elections.

Then there is the Green New Deal. The Green New Deal is, I believe, being considered again today by a number of Democratic Senators and House Members—something, again, that would completely change the way we fuel our country in ways that would drive up dramatically the costs that an average consumer in this country and an average family would have to pay for energy. It would be done through mandates, regulations, and heavy-handed government requirements as opposed to incentivizing some of these things that, I think, we all agree we should be doing when it comes to cleaning up our environment. The Green New Deal is the opposite of that. The Green New Deal is a government, Washington, DC, mandate, requirement, heavy-handed regulatory approach to that issue and something that has struck fear in the hearts of literally tens of millions of Americans since it began being talked about only a few years ago.
were very firm about that idea. They thought there needed to be checks and balances against that, and the legislative filibuster has provided that for 200 years.

It is something that we refused to do—in the Senate, the Republicans asked repeatedly during the last 4 years of the Trump Presidency, by the President himself, to get rid of the legislative filibuster—because we believe it is essential as a feature of our democracy. I think that protects the minority in this country, the minority rights, the voice of the minority, in our policymaking process. It ensures that we get solutions that, ultimately, are durable over time because they have been negotiated in a way that requires the input from both sides of the political equation.

That is something that has been sacred, so sacred, even despite the fact that President Trump, on 34 different occasions, asked the Republicans—or probably would say, would want to say, that would be a gentle word—and essentially said that the Republicans in the Senate needed to get rid of the legislative filibuster. He either did that by tweet or by public statement. It was clear that he believed that was a priority in order to implement his agenda. We resisted that. We resisted that even though we would have benefited from it on numerous occasions when it came to moving legislation through the Senate.

For the past 6 years, we had the majority, and for the past 4 years, we had the Presidency up until January of this year, and notwithstanding the constant barrage of suggestions—again, putting it mildly—to get rid of the legislative filibuster by a President from our own party, we resisted that simply because we believed the legislative filibuster is such an essential and critical part of our democracy. So here we go. The Democrats get elected. They have, on countless occasions, told me privately—individual Senators on their side of the aisle—that there is no way. We would never do that. We will never get rid of the legislative filibuster. It is too important. We are not going to do that. In fact, 33 Democrats signed a letter as recently as 3 years ago, basically, essentially ratifying their support for the legislative filibuster and, as to the suggestions that would want to do away with, suggesting that it would be a terrible, wrong thing to do for this country—essentially coming out strongly, strongly supporting the legislative filibuster. These are 33 Democratic Senators here in the U.S. Senate coming out in support of the legislative filibuster.

Now, the shoe is on the other foot. They are in the majority. They have been in the majority for about 2 months, and they are already talking about it openly, and many have come out and endorsed the idea. Frankly, to be honest with you, I think it would have been done already had it not been for a couple of Democrats who, I think, are thoughtful enough, contemplative enough, and revering enough of our institutions in this country not to be run over by the majority on their side and do away with something that is just so critical to the health and history but to our future. If it were not for that, I think it would have been done already. I think the Senator from New York, the Democratic leader, in a New York minute would get rid of the legislative filibuster if he had the votes to do it, partly out of fear that he would be savaged by his “woke” left if he wouldn’t do it.

Obviously, the President, President Biden, whom, as I mentioned earlier, many people thought would govern as a moderate and a unifier and as someone who fiercely defended the legislative filibuster as a U.S. Senator and made speeches on this very floor in defending fiercely the legislative filibuster, is now all of a sudden calling for getting rid of it in order to implement massive tax hikes, massive spending increases, and a massive growth in government—an expansion of government unlike anything we have seen in history, including the Green New Deal. This would dwarf that by comparison.

DC statehood, federalizing our elections, and passing the Green New Deal, all of that could be done with 51 votes if they could blow up and get rid of the legislative filibuster. All of those are very real, not hypotheticals—real. These are things that have already passed or are going to pass the House of Representatives and are being considered here on the floor of the U.S. Senate, including today when I think, the Green New Deal is being reintroduced. These are legislative proposals that are so far out of the political mainstream in the things that they are contemplating that it is hard to believe.

Just as an example of the impact that these tax increases could have, look at what the tax cuts that were passed—the reform act that was passed in 2017—were doing in terms of the economy and the benefits that they were having across all demographic sectors in this country. Up until the pandemic, we had the best economy probably in 50 years. We had the lowest unemployment rate, for sure. We had overall in income and wage levels among particularly minority groups.

In fact, this is census data from 2019 that shows that the real median household income hit its highest level ever for African-American, Hispanic, and Asian-American workers and retirees. The 2019 poverty rate was the lowest in more than 50 years for children at 14.4 percent, the lowest ever for individuals at 10.5 percent, for families at 8.5 percent, and for households headed by unmarried women at 22.2 percent. More importantly, after 10 years of economic expansion, the 2019 gains shattered all records as real household income leapt by $4,379 in 2019 alone, 13 times the average annual gain since data were first collected.

So the tax policies we had in place were working, and there have been record income gains, especially among lower income Americans. The poverty rate, as I mentioned, plummeted 11 percent in 2019, the most in 53 years. Things were moving in the right direction. So the question is, If it isn’t broke, why fix it? Why would we go and increase taxes in a massive way at a time when the economy is growing and expanding and creating better paying jobs?

What I would argue for those in any income group and across any ethnic group is that the best solution for improving their standard of living and their quality of life is to have a growing, expanding economy that is throwing off better paying jobs and higher wages. That is what raises the income levels that is what helps every American, and that is what we ought to be looking for, not how much government can we pull back to Washington, DC, and how much government can do for you but how we can put the right policies in place. And conditions in place for economic growth that will stimulate the kind of investment that will create those good-paying jobs and start lifting wages across this country.

It is about growth in our economy, I would argue. It is about good-paying jobs. It is about higher wages. That is what our arguments here ought to be about. Instead, right now, we are talking about growing and increasing taxes and reversing what I would argue, is a lot of progress that I just mentioned, that being from the 2019 U.S. Census Bureau’s data.

Why would we go back on the great progress that has been made? Why would we start to contemplate some of these suggestions that I mentioned, from the tax hikes, the spending increases, the federalizing of our elections, the Green New Deal, and repealing the filibuster which, again, would consolidate more control, more power, in the hands of a few people here rather than keeping it distributed? It would consolidate more and more power in Washington, DC.

That kind of brings me to the topic for today that is on that list of horrors and things that would undermine the integrity of our political institutions in a way that these other things would as well. It is about saying, on a much, much higher, much expanded level, and that is packing the Supreme Court which, again, people thought was a hypothetical. That was one of those things to which people said, oh, those Democrats, are not that crazy. There are some moderate Democrats out there. There are some people who would stand up in the way of that and keep something that crazy from happening.

Well, it didn’t take very long. It only took a week—just 1 week after President Biden established his Commission
to study Court packing, which is another ostensible Supreme Court re-form, for the Democratic Members of Congress in both Houses to introduce legislation that would actually pack the Court. This is no longer a hypothetical. This is the focus of this side of the aisle and the Democrats in the House of Representatives who are openly advocating for packing the Supreme Court in the form of legislation and not just adding a couple of members but adding enough members to give them a majority or even a majority on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Now, many people are probably wondering what the crisis was that precipitated this legislation, a crisis so grave that these Democrats couldn’t even wait for the results of the President’s stacked Commission. President Biden’s Commission, which is stacked with Democrats to give them the result that they want, is supposed to report back in the timeframe of, I believe, about 6 months. They couldn’t even wait for that. They had to introduce a bill that would pack the Court. So why did they have to do that? Well, I will tell you.

The crisis that requires us to immediately add four additional Justices to the Supreme Court after 150 years of having the Court at its current size is that a duly elected Republican President was able to get three Supreme Court nominees approved. Apparently, by confirming a duly elected President’s Supreme Court nominees, the Republicans stole the Court’s majority which, I guess, apparently, rightfully, belongs to the Democrats, and in doing so, it “politicized the Supreme Court” and “threatened the rights of millions of Americans.”

This legislation, the bill’s Senate sponsor says, will “restore the Court’s balance and public standing” and “begin to repair the damage done to our judiciary and democracy.” That is from the Democrat sponsor’s statement. Admittedly, this legislation is necessary to “restore the Court’s balance and public standing” and “repair the damage done to our judiciary and democracy.”

Well, there is only one problem, of course, and that is that this supposed crisis of confidence in the Supreme Court doesn’t actually exist. A majority of Americans approve of the job the Supreme Court is doing. The Supreme Court’s approval rating actually increased—increase—over the course of the Trump administration.

If the junior Senator from Massachusetts, who is one of the sponsors of this legislation, is looking to address a crisis of confidence, perhaps he should take a look at Congress, whose approval rating is consistently far lower than that of the Supreme Court.

The real crisis—the real crisis we are facing—is not a crisis of confidence in the Court. It is that Democrats are apparently willing to do long-term damage to our democracy for partisan gain.

Yes, Democrats are being hypocritical, and, yes, their Court-packing proposal is outrageously and transparently partisan. But, more than that, it is dangerous because Democrats’ Court packing would eliminate public confidence in the nonpartisan character of the Court.

Right now, the Supreme Court is generally well-liked, being at least somewhat above the partisan fray, as the Founders intended—a fact that I think is reflected in the Court’s positive approval rating.

And while some Justices are regarded as more conservative and some as more liberal, Americans don’t see Justices as partisan in the way that we see politicians as partisan, and rightly so. I can think of more than one significant case where supposedly conservative Justices have sided with the Court’s liberals, and there are plenty of cases where all of the Supreme Court’s Justices have ruled unanimously.

As Justice Breyer pointed out in his recent speech condemning Court packing, it would not fit neatly into conservative or liberal categories.

But that perception of Supreme Court Justices as above parshipanship would not last long if Democrats succeeded in packing the Court.

Just think about it. We have had the same number of Supreme Court Justices, nine—nine Justices—for more than 150 years. One hundred and fifty years, and then Democrats sweep in, and suddenly, the number of Justices. The Supreme Court isn’t to their liking, and propose adding four Justices, all of them appointed in one fell swoop by a Democratic President. And that is in addition to any nominations the President might make in the ordinary course of things.

Does any Democrat sincerely think that after that any Republican would regard the Supreme Court as nonpartisan? Or, for that matter, how many Democrats would regard the Supreme Court as nonpartisan?

Just imagine if the roles were reversed. Imagine that Republicans were proposing to expand the Supreme Court and add four Republican-nominated Justices. Imagine the howls of outrage that would ensue, and rightly so. Democrats, the media, the far left—all would rightfully decry the politicization of the Supreme Court.

Yet Democrats expect us to believe that if it is done to them, it is okay. If it is Democrats who pack the Supreme Court, somehow this move is not a partisan and self-serving one?

As Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg said, “If anything would make the court look partisan, it would be that—one side saying that we’re in power, we’re going to enlarge the number of judges, so we would have more people who would vote the way we want them to.”

That is from the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Or, in the words of Justice Breyer, “I hope and expect that the court will retain its authority, an authority that . . . was hard won. But that authority, like the rule of law, depends on trust—a trust that the court is guided by legal principle, not politics.” That is from Justice Breyer.

And Justice Breyer noted, “Structural alteration, including the perception of political influence can only feed that latter perception, further eroding that trust.”

As these two reliably liberal Justices make clear, Democrats’ Court-packing proposal would do the very thing Democrats claim to oppose, and that is to politicize the court. The Supreme Court would quickly lose its nonpartisan standing and quickly become a joke.

Democrats cannot possibly think that Court packing would begin and end with their move under the Biden administration. I can guarantee—guarante—that the next time there is a Republican President and a Republican Congress, Republicans would be moving to add a few seats of their own. Twenty Justices? Thirty Justices? Maybe more?

Instead of a respected and separate branch of government, the Supreme Court would be co-opted by the legislative and executive branches. The separation of powers of the Federal Government is built, would be destroyed. The consequences of politicizing and trivializing the Court, as packing the Court would do, would be grave. If Americans don’t respect the Court, they will have little reason to respect the Court’s decisions or regard them as either definitive or binding.

There has been a lot of concern, rightfully so, about the increasingly partisan and contentious nature of our politics. Politicizing the Court by packing the Court would further inflame partisan division and lead to increasingly bitter and dangerous friction in our society.

It is deeply, deeply disappointing that Democrat leaders—and others in their caucus who wish to be seen as serious and responsible policymakers—haven’t condemned this dangerous proposal to upend a bedrock institution of our democracy.

I frankly suspect that it may be difficult for them to stand up to the unhinged and far-left fringes of their party, and it is possible that some of them are reluctant to condemn this proposal because of the partisan advantage it would provide. But anyone who cares about the health, upon which our entire democracy and the stability of our country should be loudly and clearly opposing any discussion of Court packing.

I hope that at least some of my Democrat colleagues will find the courage to speak up and consign the idea of Court packing to the ash heap of history, where it should have remained.

I yield the floor.
I suggest the absence of a quorum. The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WARNOCK). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KELLY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today I come to the floor to talk about what is very obvious on television—the crisis at the southern border.

During the past several months, the American people have watched as a full-blown crisis has developed. It has reached a catastrophic phase, and it is not getting any better.

Let me reemphasize that whatever the Biden administration wants to call it, it is a crisis. Simply put, the administration is in denial, and that denial has caused a humanitarian and national crisis. For example, border crossings are at the highest level we have seen in the last 15 years. Last month, Customs and Border Patrol, Border Protection, encountered more than twice as many attempting crossings at the southern border. That number includes almost 19,000 unaccompanied children, which is the highest number ever recorded in a single month.

The surge has overwhelmed personnel and prompted the Biden administration to put out—would you believe this?—emergency calls for volunteers. They did that from across the Federal Government. According to news reports based on recent Biden administration emails, the administration is recruiting NASA employees to sit with children at border facilities. Really? That is NASA. The border crisis is so bad that the Biden administration is trying to pull people from NASA and place them at the border.

My fellow Senators, this situation is out of control. This is a humanitarian and national security crisis. Terrorists, smugglers, criminals have seen this as their golden opportunity, and they are surely taking advantage of it.

This can’t continue. I have written to the Biden administration. I have visited the border in person. I have seen overwhelmed facilities. I have heard the calls of the cartel members and human smugglers—callous, heartless—coming from across the Rio Grande, taunting Senators—you, taunting Senators.

Senator CORNYN and I have written to the chairman of the Judiciary Committee strongly urging him to hold border security hearings. During the Trump administration, while I served as chairman of the full committee and Senator CORNYN served as subcommittee chairman, we held no less than 15 hearings on oversight of the Department of Homeland Security and various border immigration policies. As chairman of the committee during the first 2 years of the Trump administration, I held hearings on immigration topics of bipartisan interest to all committee members, including Democratic committee members. Those hearings included oversight of family reunification efforts and the Trump administration’s decision to end DACA programs.

In that very same way, I am hopeful that Chairman DURBIN will be willing to hold hearings on matters of great importance to me and committee members on a time-sensitive basis. I am ready to work with him to put together hearings that address these problems productively.

During the Easter recess, I instructed my oversight and investigative staff to get a classified briefing from the Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement. That briefing provided important and time-sensitive information that further solidifies my belief that the Biden administration’s border crisis is a national security problem.

Moreover, the Biden administration’s denial that there is a border crisis is itself a national security problem. You can’t solve a problem if you refuse to admit that there is such a problem existing. This head-in-the-sand attitude will cost lives. That is what is so sad about the situation. It is not making anyone’s life any better. In fact, it is putting lives at risk, American lives and immigrant lives. Yet the administration refuses to solve the problem.

Earlier this month, I requested that the Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection, and the Department of Justice, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, after briefing my investigative staff, that they brief the full Judiciary Committee, Republicans and Democrats, on a member level. Members need to fully understand the national security problems at the border with respect to terrorists, narcotics, human smugglers, and every one of their criminal counterparts. We must also be fully read in to the methods and means that they use to plan and accomplish their criminal goals.

Yesterday, in response to my request of these Agencies, the committee had that briefing. What we learned is that the crisis at the border is getting worse, and bad actors are expanding their technological edge to become more efficient at accomplishing their criminal goals. Human smuggling networks, cartels, and other bad actors are continuing to take full advantage of the crisis.

As to where we go from here, the Biden administration knows it has a crisis on its hands. It is time to stop the denial and act now to solve this border crisis.

INFORMATION SHARING

Mr. President, on another issue, I would like to address my fellow Senators. This deals with counterfeits and the need for the Federal Government to modernize its approach to information sharing.

Counterfeits pose a danger to the health and safety of consumers. They also infringe on U.S. intellectual property rights and unfairly benefit international criminals.

This will come as no surprise to anyone: The majority of fake goods come from China and Hong Kong. And the trade is booming. Americans are increasingly turning to e-commerce to buy goods like personal protective equipment, household products, as well as household cleaners, children’s toys, and a lot of other items I won’t list. Counterfeiters use the Internet to e-commerce sites to sell their bogus goods. These sites give criminals an air of legitimacy and make it harder for law enforcement to catch them. E-commerce sites also let criminals create multiple product listings that can trick consumers into purchasing fake goods.

Unfortunately, when there is money to be made, criminals will find out how to profit and do it at the expense of others, even in the event of a global pandemic. However, there is some good news. We have ways of addressing the problem.

Last week, I introduced legislation that will give U.S. Customs and Border Protection, more authority to share information with rights holders and other interested parties on suspected counterfeit merchandise. This is an issue I first identified as chairman of the Senate Finance Committee when I investigated counterfeit activity on Amazon. During this investigation, I discovered that certain U.S. laws prevent Customs and Border Protection from sharing key pieces of information with their private sector partners. As a result, it is harder for Customs and Border Protection and its private sector partners to detect and disrupt counterfeiting networks. If they could work together and the law allowed it, it would be a lot easier to tackle the problem.

To give credit where it is due, Customs and Border Protection has recognized this problem and is taking steps to rectify it through the 21st Century Customs Framework—for short, 21CF—to improve data-sharing capabilities in real time. However, without statutory authority from Congress, in some ways, Customs and Border Protection has one hand tied behind its back. So my bill will get rid of some of these barriers for the Agency. It is one small but very crucial step toward a more secure supply chain.

Sharing information is a simple solution that often gets overlooked. However, it can be an effective tool in creating comprehensive strategy against counterfeit activity. So I am asking my colleagues to join me in making this legislative fix so that we may create a supply chain that addresses a 21st century problem.

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

INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, in a State as big as Texas—as the Presiding Officer knows, having lived in and around Houston for a number of years in his previous life—we rely on a strong network of roads and bridges to travel safely and efficiently.

We have I-35, which spans the entire length of Texas, from north to south, and from Laredo all the way to Dallas-Fort Worth. Much of that stretch, it seems like and feels like, is constantly under some construction.

There are bridges that are part of people's daily commutes, like RM 2900 in Kingsland. After this bridge was destroyed by floodwaters a few years back, it didn't just create inconvenience in the community but also risks. It could take a firefighter an hour to get around the water.

Fortunately, the Texas Department of Transportation and construction crews didn't waste any time, and I was able to join the dedication less than a year later. You heard that right. The bridge was destroyed, and less than a year later we dedicated the opening of that bridge.

Then we have critical projects in the works, like the “forts to ports” corridor of I-14, which stretches from Port Hood all the way to the Gulf of Mexico. This will connect our critical military installations to our seaports and provide a serious boost to our military readiness.

These are much more than just roads and bridges. They are vital parts of our daily lives, trade, emergency response, and, of course, national security.

And as we welcome more new Texans every day, things are nearing a breaking point. Our punch above our weight much longer when it comes to our transportation infrastructure. It is time—and I believe it is a bipartisan belief that this is the time—to invest in our Nation’s infrastructure, and we know, historically, that this has not been a partisan issue.

I am pro-infrastructure, and I imagine everyone in this Chamber would tell you the same thing, regardless of whether they are from a red State or blue State. It is a strong history of working together to fund the networks of roads, bridges, airports, railroads, tunnels, and the ports that the American people rely on. For example, in 2015, we passed a 5-year highway and transit bill called the FAST Act, with overwhelming bipartisan support. It received 83 votes here in the Senate and 359 votes in the House, as well as the signature of President Obama. This legislation provided the certainty and stability our States need to make long-term investments in critical projects, and it was the first of its kind in more than a decade.

Last Congress, we were poised to pass a similar bill. The Environment and Public Works Committee developed a truly bipartisan example of an infrastructure bill that built on the success of the FAST Act. That was led by Chairman CARASINO and Ranking Member CARPER, at the time, but it was unanimous. This legislation included provisions to rebuild our crumbling roads and bridges and improve road safety, protect the environment, and grow the economy. Once again, it received broad bipartisanship and passed the committee with unanimous support.

As we know, the last year has brought us untold changes and, unfortunately, put this and other legislative goals on pause while we battled COVID–19. But now is the time to pick up where we left off and get a strong infrastructure bill signed into law.

Unfortunately, the proposal by the administration is a far cry from what we all care about. As Senator LINCOLN and I laid out earlier this year, the cost of the plan is beyond comprehension. The nonpartisan Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget estimates said it will cost $2.65 trillion, nearly nine times the size of the last highway bill that became law.

When talking about this proposal, one House Democrat said: “It’s gonna be a kitchen sink.”

The founding director of the Cornell Program in Infrastructure Policy said: “Well, the administration certainly has a “giant definition” for what constitutes “infrastructure.”

But even journalists are making fun of the scope of this plan, with one writing: “Maybe the real meaning of infrastructure is what’s in our hearts.”

Well, these aren’t just jokes. Only about 5 percent of this proposal is directed at roads and bridges, what some have called core infrastructure. In fact, it puts more money toward electric vehicles than it does toward the pavement that we drive on every day.

The proposal funds a long list of programs that are a far cry from what most people consider to be infrastructure: caregiving for the elderly and disabled, community colleges, programs to improve diversity in STEM careers. All of these are significant and important issues, but they don’t belong in an infrastructure bill—certainly not one that proposes to raise taxes on the American people or to create more debt.

Then there are the most absurd policies that really resemble the Green New Deal, which I note was just reffered by Senator MARKET and Congresswoman OCASIO-CORTEZ: more than $260 billion to build or retrofit more than 2 million “affordable and sustainable” places to live, a “Civilian Climate Corp,” and an unrealistic goal of 100 percent renewable-generated electricity by 2035.

My State is an all-of-the-above State when it comes to energy, but I can tell you that if all you are depending on is renewable energy, without appropriate attention to the baseload you need, you are going to end up like we did, unfortunately, just a couple of months ago, with electricity going down due to extreme weather.

I support efforts to rebuild our infrastructure, but this infrastructure bill is not it. This is, really, much closer to the Green New Deal 2.0. It is an encore to the nearly $2 trillion wish list that our Democratic colleagues rammed through on a partisan basis earlier this year.

As we attempt to claim that Republicans won’t work with Democrats on an infrastructure bill is completely disingenuous because this is not a good-faith attempt at bipartisanship.

I would be happy to work with our colleagues on the other side of the aisle to craft an infrastructure bill that addresses our legitimate infrastructure problems, and I think every person on this side would agree with that. That would include traditional transportation projects, as well as certain forms of nontraditional infrastructure, for example, broadband.

The pandemic has really highlighted the digital divide that exists across our country, and as Americans relied on the Internet to work, school, shop, and grow the economy. Once again, it puts more money toward electric vehicles than it does toward the pavement that we drive on every day.

The final price tag of that bill should be the result of bipartisan negotiations between Democrats and Republicans, not in numbers handed down from the administration, unilaterally. There is one point I want to make abundantly clear: A bipartisan infrastructure bill must exist instead of, not in addition to, our Democrat colleagues’ unrelated priorities. We can’t work in a bipartisan way to pass one bill only to have our Democratic colleagues then attempt to jam through on a partisan basis on reconciliation legislation or long list of other priorities. In other words, we have to choose, and what I suggest we choose is bipartisan infrastructure legislation.

The choice before our Democratic colleagues is whether to work together or attempt to go it alone. You really can’t have both.

We also need to be serious about paying for our infrastructure in a sustainable way. We have just spent trillions of dollars on coronavirus, not to mention the long list of priorities included in the most recent partisan bill.

This is not a time to continue the spending spree. Investments in our...
roads and bridges are needed, but we need to figure out how they will be paid for. The massive tax hikes that the President has proposed are not a viable option. The burden will be borne by both American employers and workers.

In previous years, the vast majority of infrastructure funding came from the highway trust fund. Every State sends dollars to this fund, which finances infrastructure across the country. But the formula to distribute the funding is out of date and is facing serious deficiencies.

Making matters worse, Texans are getting short-changed and carrying the weight of these shortfalls, as a so-called donor State. We get 92 cents back on every dollar we send to Washington, DC.

The fix is not the same treatment for every State. In fact, we receive a lower rate of return than every other State. If we want to have any long-term success in maintaining our roads and bridges, we need to bring this funding formula up to speed as well.

Unfortunately, the administration’s proposal fails to do that, and instead of making any repairs to the highway trust fund, it leans on damaging tax hikes to pay for this broad range of unrelated policies.

The President has, indeed, proposed the largest set of tax hikes in more than a half a century. Economists 101 would teach you that tax increases aren’t a clear and easy way to boost revenue, especially when your economy is already on fragile footing.

I hope our friends on the other side of the aisle will be willing to work with us to pass a true infrastructure bill, one that will, first and foremost, improve roads, bridges, airports, and other critical projects all across the country.

Notably, we must find a responsible way to pay for this, but tax hikes are not the only option. We have always had this idea in the highway trust fund that user-fees—the people that buy gasoline and use the roadways—were the ones to pay for them, not pay for them out of general revenue. And I think we need to continue down this user-fee model, as opposed to deficit spending and adding to our debt.

Again, in closing, let me just say, if our Democratic friends want to act in a bipartisan way, there are people on this side of the aisle, including me, that would be happy to sit down and start talking. But, first of all, our Democratic colleagues must agree to abandon their long wish list of unrelated partisan provisions. They can’t work with us on an infrastructure bill and then follow it with a reconciliation bill that includes the kitchen sink.

A bipartisan bill to rebuild our crumbling roads and bridges is possible. We have done it before, and we can do it again.

I yield the floor.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m. Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:30 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. SINEMA).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the following nominations, 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 a term expiring June 5, 2026. (Reappointment)

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. 34, Gary Gensler, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for a term expiring June 5, 2026. (Reappointment)


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 Gary Gensler, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for a term expiring June 5, 2026, 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 Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, as we await a very important moment for justice in my State today. Our work goes on.

I am here today, first of all, to acknowledge the loss of my mentor, Vice President Walter Mondale. He defined the office of Vice President to arrive in the Senate. He worked on the forefront of the right to counsel in the landmark case Gideon v. Wainwright.

He followed in the footsteps of Hubert Humphrey to arrive in the Senate. He did great things passing civil rights legislation.

As Vice President, he defined the office of the modern-day Vice President. He was ‘Fritz’ to us. He was our attorney general, our Senator, and our Vice President, and I know he is up there right now rooting for justice.

I am going to speak more about Walter Mondale next week. Senator SMITH,

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate stands in recess until 4 p.m. Thereupon, the Senate, at 2:56 p.m., recessed until 4 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. BOOKER).

COVID–19 HATE CRIMES ACT—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, as we await a very important moment for justice in my State today. Our work goes on.
Senator GRASSLEY, and I have a resolution honoring him for his time in the Senate and for his time as Vice President, which we will be presenting next week.

NOMINATIONS OF VANITA GUPTA AND LISA O. MONACO

Mr. President, now, in the name of justice and the idea that justice must keep rolling along, I want to talk a little bit about some of the people we need in place as we look to the future, as we look to the future of police reform and the progress that you have done as the lead on this bill, Mr. President, and the work we have to do.

To do that, we need a functioning Justice Department. We have an Attorney General who is excellent in Merrick Garland. We congratulate Lisa Monaco, who is expected to be confirmed later today with a strong bipartisan vote.

But we need more. We need the presence of true leaders in the Justice Department to see Kristen Clarke and Vanita Gupta confirmed.

Walter Mondale was someone who always raised the bar. He was someone who was ahead of his time. When he introduced housing legislation and child care legislation, so we call on people said: Oh, why are you doing that right now?

I think that is a little bit like the experience of these two women, ahead of their time, doing the right thing, speaking of raising the bar.

We know that when many of the women of the Senate come to the floor, something important is going on. And given the challenges our States face today, the stakes are high.

So today we make the case for Vanita Gupta and Kristen Clarke, and we address the unfair and unsubstantiated attacks we have heard from the other side of the aisle against these eminently qualified women. I have worked closely with Ms. Gupta and Ms. Clarke for many years, and I am confident they will lead the Department of Justice with honor and integrity.

Their nominations also represent the historic opportunity to make progress toward the goal of ensuring that the government looks more like the people it represents, especially at the Department of Justice. When we confirm Ms. Gupta, she will be the first civil rights lawyer and the first woman of color to serve as the Attorney General. And when we confirm Ms. Clarke, she will be the first Senate-confirmed leader of the Civil Rights Division to be a woman of color.

They will bring years of experience to bear to take on the challenges we have right now, like hate crimes, on which we are taking action this week in the Senate; like voting rights, on which we just had a hearing today in the Judiciary Committee, and in just a few weeks we will be marking up the For the People Act in the Rules Committee, which I chair.

As my State and my country are reeling after the killing of Daunte Wright, and as we await the verdict in the murder of George Floyd, we need Ms. Gupta and Ms. Clarke at the Department of Justice to take on systemic police and criminal justice reform.

They are also the leaders that Attorney General Garland wants at the Department, which I asked him about at his nomination hearing. He said Vanita Gupta and Kristen Clarke “have skills that I do not have; they have experience that I do not have.” And he said: “No human being can have all of the skills necessary to run the Justice Department and I need this leadership team if I’m going to be successful.” Attorney General Garland, who was confirmed by a bipartisan vote of 76 to 23, needs his team to be successful. That is something all of us should want.

After what we saw during the previous administration, it is essential that the leaders of the Justice Department are committed to its independence in order to restore trust in our justice system. This is a priority for the Attorney General, and it is a priority for Vanita Gupta and Kristen Clarke.

Vanita Gupta has demonstrated her commitment to the pursuit of justice for her entire career. As an attorney for the ACLU Legal Defense and Educational Fund, she worked on the frontlines fighting in court to protect the civil rights of some of the most vulnerable people.

Later, at the American Civil Liberties Union, she investigated and prosecuting hate crimes and human trafficking. She also worked in the Division of Voting Rights.

Since 2016, she has been the president and executive director of the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, one of the country’s largest and most important civil rights organizations, dedicated to the pursuit of equal justice for all. It is important to note the history of the Lawyers’ Committee, which was created at the request of President John F. Kennedy in the summer of 1963, perhaps the defining year of the civil rights movement. This is an organization of attorneys founded to organize their peers to use their training to advance civil rights for all Americans. Isn’t that just who we want to lead the Civil Rights Division at the Department of Justice?

I have worked with Ms. Clarke for many years on election issues. She testified before the Rules Committee and impressed everyone on both sides of the aisle.

At that time, she said that following the direction of many, she is going to work to ensure “that the Civil Rights Division . . . is using the tools in its arsenal”—and she said that now as she stands unconfirmed for this position—“the Voting Rights Act, the National Voter Registration Act, the Uniformed and Overseas Absentee Citizens Voting Act—to ensure that eligible Americans have access to the ballot in our country.

She also mentioned that she was here in the Senate Chamber in 2006, when this body passed the reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act—on what vote?—98 to 0. That is why she has support from Republicans and Democrats who work on these issues, because.

Trevor Potter, who previously chaired the FEC as a Republican Commissioner, called Ms. Clarke “one of
the foremost legal experts in the country on voting rights" and described her as "smart, honest, and deeply committed to equal justice under law."

Tray Grayson, former Secretary of State from Kentucky, who is a Republican Association of Secretaries of State, sent a letter expressing his strong support of Ms. Clarke.

And we have also heard from former Assistant Attorneys General of the Civil Rights Division who served in both Republican and Democratic administrations, who wrote:

"We found Ms. Clarke to be an excellent candidate from the standpoint of experience, temperament and commitment to the rule of law. She has the experience, the commitment and the passion to do this job."

I am joined by a number of my colleagues today. Senator STABENOW was here earlier. Senator HIRONO is with us on the floor to stand up for Ms. Gupta and Ms. Clarke and to reject the falsehoods we have heard from our colleagues on the other side. But we are also here to make the case for why we must seize this historic opportunity to send two women of color to lead the Justice Department.

So at this pivotal moment we live in, at this very moment, my message to my friends, Vanita and Kristen, today, is this: We have your backs, just as you have the backs of the people of this country.

Those jurors in Minnesota, they are not talking to each other about if they are Democrats or Republicans. They have a job to do. The witnesses that came forward in that case, people who just happened to be there—a store clerk doing his job, a man who just happened to walk by, the police officers who testified—they didn’t ask people what political party they were in. They just came forward. That is why I ask my colleagues to step back and think about what justice really means today and what it will mean tomorrow, and ask them to support Ms. Gupta and Ms. Clarke to serve with Merrick Garland and Lisa Monaco to run the Department of Justice.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I echo the sentiments expressed by my colleague from Minnesota, and I rise today in support of the nomination of Vanita Gupta to be Associate Attorney General of the United States. Today, I am focusing my remarks on Ms. Gupta, but I will have some words of support for Kristen Clarke later.

For 4 years, Donald Trump treated Justice Department like his personal law firm. He ordered that the Department’s attorneys drop charges or reduce sentencing recommendations against his friends and cronies. He ordered investigations and prosecutions against his enemies. He even had the Department step in to defend him against the defamation claim relating to an allegation of rape.

By the end of the Trump administration, the Justice Department’s reputation was tarnished and the morale of its employees was lower than at any point since Watergate.

Thankfully, President Biden has named a professional, highly qualified team to lead the Justice Department and to restore its place of prominence and moral authority in following the rule of law.

It is significant that the Senate confirmed Merrick Garland as Attorney General and will shortly confirm Lisa Monaco as Deputy Attorney General with strong bipartisan support.

I am disappointed that Vanita Gupta, a similarly well-qualified nominee, is not receiving the same bipartisan support.

A few weeks ago, I sat in the Judiciary Committee for nearly 2 hours, listening to my Republican colleagues smear Ms. Gupta with lies about her record—lies that she wants to decriminalize all drugs, that she wants to elimi-
Donald Trump’s political appointees undermined the Department’s mission and demoralized its dedicated career civil servants through years of gross mismanagement and improper politicization. We desperately need leaders with integrity, honor, and just basic respect for the law, who will restore morale at the Department of Justice and empower the Agency to meet the moment.

Fortunately, I am confident that both Vanita Gupta and Kristen Clarke are among the most qualified and prepared to take on the daunting challenges that lie ahead.

For far too many people in this country, equal protection under the law is not a reality. All across this country, there are communities that believe—and for good reason—that the law is not on their side. Individuals fear coming forward to report that they have been a victim of a hate crime, or, even worse, law enforcement fails to identify and report racist violence and discrimination.

And the senseless killing of unarmed Black and Brown Americans at the hands of law enforcement has become an all-too-common occurrence. Just a few days ago, the country was shocked by video footage documenting local law enforcement officers brazenly threatening and assaulting an Army second lieutenant who was in his military uniform and simply asking to know why he had been pulled over.

If this is how the Windsor Police Department, while knowing it is being videotaped, treats an Army officer in uniform—a man who swore an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States with his own life, if necessary—one wonders if such misconduct represents a systemic pattern or practice of abuse. This incident simply reinforces why our Nation must have a strong and proactive DOJ Civil Rights Division.

Additionally, the promise of the ADA is still not a reality for far too many Americans with disabilities. After years of disability rights being neglected or, at worst, undermined by partisan efforts, it is time for the DOJ to step up and ensure that the rights of Americans with disabilities are fully recognized, enforced, and protected.

I look forward to working with Kristen Clarke and Vanita Gupta to fulfill the promise that America made to people with disabilities, including myself, 30 years ago.

We need Ms. Gupta and Ms. Clarke’s leadership at DOJ to energize and inspire the Department as it refocuses on its mission of ensuring the fair and impartial administration of justice for all Americans.

As a former head of the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division and leader of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, which is one of the largest civil rights organizations in the Nation, Ms. Gupta’s record shows that she is committed to advancing the rights of all Americans.

Her decades of effective leadership and advocacy are why her nomination has garnered widespread support not only from civil rights groups but also from prominent law enforcement organizations like the Fraternal Order of Police.

Likewise, Ms. Clarke is widely respected and admired as one of our country’s leading legal experts on civil rights. She has proven her effectiveness in defending the civil rights of all Americans and State official, as well as a leader of the NAACP, and, most recently, as the president of the national Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law.

Representation matters. Confirming these barrier-breaking women, who would both be the first women of color to formally occupy the positions to which they have been nominated, sends a clear message we are committed to having our Federal Government’s leadership look like the country that it serves.

There should be no doubts about these nominees qualifications for these critical DOJ leadership positions, and I urge my colleagues joining me to confirm Vanita Gupta and Kristen Clarke.

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.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum be dispensed.

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

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I rise today alongside my colleagues to urge the Senate to quickly confirm Vanita Gupta as Associate Attorney General. Ms. Gupta is eminently qualified, with an impressive background in public service and broad support from civil rights organizations and law enforcement organizations. It is pretty impressive when everyone who is supporting her because of her competency and her work.

She will be effective on day one, and we don’t have a good day to lose right now. Right now, Americans are at risk of losing their fundamental rights—our right to vote, our right to be treated fairly in a court of law, and even our right to safely walk down the street and not be targeted based on what we look like, who we are. It is the job of the Department of Justice to protect these rights and so much more.

Take voting rights. Across our Nation, this right, called “sacred” by our beloved late Congressman John Lewis, is under attack. It is under attack in Michigan, as well as other States, as well as the entire country. Republicans in the Michigan Legislature are trying to push through a package of bills that would take away people’s freedom to vote. Our secretary of state has said that in some ways, it is worse than what they passed in Georgia.

Let me remind everyone that last November, in the middle of a pandemic, more people in Michigan voted than ever voted in the history of our State. When audits were done, time after time after time, it was clear there was no fraud—no fraud that they found in this election.

President, 5.5 million people in Michigan voted. Michigan counties verified it. Our State certified it. That should be something we should all celebrate. But because they didn’t like who folks voted for, they didn’t like the results, Michigan Republicans are attempting to make Michiganders voters take away their freedom to vote.

Michigan voters need Vanita Gupta in their corner because it is a corner that she has been in before. During her time at the Department of Justice, she oversaw a number of high-profile voting rights cases, including challenges to voter suppression laws in North Carolina and Texas.

She has also been a leader in fighting discrimination. Across the country, we have seen increases in hate crimes, particularly those targeting Asian Americans. According to the group Stop AAPI Hate, there have been about 3,800 incidents of Asian Americans being targeted in the past year. Twenty-five of those incidents happened in Michigan. I know that Asian Americans across our country are living in fear right now, wondering if it is safe to go to the grocery store or if they need to tell their elderly mom or dad not to walk alone outside.

We have an important hate crimes bill on the floor of the U.S. Senate right now. It has bipartisan support. It is terrific, and we need to get that passed. But in order to make sure we fully implement that and have the leadership in the Department to do that, we need to make sure Vanita Gupta is confirmed. Under Ms. Gupta, hate crimes and discrimination will be taken seriously at the Department of Justice.

Vanita Gupta would be the first civil rights lawyer and the first woman of color to serve as Associate Attorney General. That is important because when agencies’ leaders have diverse experiences and backgrounds, agencies are better able to make more informed decisions. They make sense. And when our Nation’s leaders look like the diverse communities they serve, our communities are more likely to have confidence in their leadership.

Vanita Gupta is the right person at the right time for the Department of Justice. I urge my colleagues to support her nomination and to confirm her together on the floor of the U.S. Senate.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I understand a couple of my colleagues are on the way. I will defer to them when they arrive. But I want to thank, first, Senator STABENOW for her statement about Vanita Gupta.
This is an extraordinary person. The Presiding Officer, as a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, was there for her testimony and knows her personally, and I have come to know her. When you read and learn of her personal story, it is amazing, nothing short of miraculous.

She was 6 months graduated from law school when she was sent down to Texas, a town called Tulia, TX, to tackle an assignment that a veteran civil rights lawyer would have thought twice about tackling. There was a group of over 30 African Americans who had been falsely accused of drug dealing and convicted and were imprisoned when she was sent down there to try to do something after their conviction. It is an incredible story, the courage she showed 6 months out of law school, and she ultimately was successful. Those African Americans and others were pardoned by the Republican Governor of Texas, Governor Perry. They were given award for damages they had suffered as a result of it.

Her commitment to civil rights is more than just a cerebral commitment; it is a commitment where she has risked many times her personal safety to show how much she cared for the rights of others.

Thank you for saying those kind words about her. I am hoping that the Senate will give her a chance to continue to serve our Nation.

NOMINATION OF LISA O. MONACO

Mr. President, I would like to speak now, if I can, to a vote that is coming up momentarily, and that is the vote for Lisa Monaco to be the next Deputy Attorney General.

The Deputy Attorney General—commonly known as the DAG—is the second highest ranking official in the Justice Department. The DAG is effectively the DOJ’s chief operating officer, overseeing the Department’s day-to-day operations.

Lisa Monaco may be the most qualified individual ever nominated to be Deputy Attorney General. That is saying something, but I think we can back it up. Her credentials include a wealth of experience, her commitment to restoring independence and integrity at the Justice Department, and the broad, broad range of support she has garnered.

Let me begin with her experience. She has served at nearly every level of the Justice Department. She knows that Agency, and she knows what it can do. She was an assistant U.S. attorney, counselor and chief of staff to the Director of the FBI, Associate Deputy Attorney General, Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General, and the Assistant Attorney General for the National Security Division.

She is also one of the Nation’s foremost national security experts. That is when I first met her, working in the Obama White House. As President Obama’s Deputy National Security Advisor, Ms. Monaco coordinated the Federal Government’s response to major security threats, including pandemics, terrorism, mass shootings, and cyber attacks.

Our Nation is facing serious challenges today: the COVID-19 pandemic; a gun violence pandemic; a surge in hate crimes; and domestic terrorism, which culminated in an assault on the U.S. Capitol and this very Chamber just a few short weeks ago; and global threats and challenges from Russia, China, and elsewhere. Ms. Monaco’s experience responding to security threats, including in the White House, to oversee DOJ’s operations at this critical moment in history.

But it is not only Ms. Monaco’s national security expertise that makes her the right person for this role. After President Trump used the Justice Department to serve his own personal and political agenda, we need to restore a well-functioning, independent Department, committed to the principle of equal justice under the law. It is just that basic.

Ms. Monaco understands the importance of protecting DOJ’s independence. She has praised two of her mentors, Attorney General Janet Reno and FBI Director Bob Mueller, for their “reverence for the Institution, for upholding the norms and traditions of independence and of doing justice without fear or fervor, and never, ever letting politics or partisanship influence an investigation or prosecution decision.”

She committed to me that she would have the same reverence. That is precisely the attitude we need to restore the Justice Department’s integrity.

It is no surprise, then, that individuals from across the political spectrum support Ms. Monaco’s nomination. The Judiciary Committee received scores of letters from a broad range of advocacy groups: the Alliance for Justice, gun safety organizations, law enforcement organizations, environmental organizations, victims and survivors of crime, and so many more.

We also received a letter supporting Ms. Monaco’s nomination from 29 former senior DOJ officials who have served under Presidents of both parties, including Attorneys General Loretta Lynch and Eric Holder, who served in the Obama administration, and Attorneys General Michael Mukasey and Alberto Gonzales, who served in the George W. Bush administration. She has that kind of bipartisan support.

Those DOJ officials wrote of Ms. Monaco: “She has the values, temperament and strength to perform at the highest level of the Department.”

They went on to say: “Each of us knows how demanding this job is, with its extraordinary span of control and the need for strong principled leadership. We believe that Ms. Monaco is highly qualified for this role. She knows the Department from every angle. She understands the job. And she has prepared well for it. We urge her confirmation.”

Attorney General Garland has praised Ms. Monaco’s selection as the next Deputy Attorney General. He told us in the Judiciary Committee that he needed her on his leadership team at the Department, and so does the Nation. I look forward to voting for Ms. Monaco and, indeed, all of my colleagues to do the same.

ANNIVERSARY OF OKLAHOMA CITY BOMBING

Mr. President, it was an idyllic spring morning in Oklahoma City 26 years ago. Downtown, the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building was bustling with activity as people went about their morning routines. Parents dropped off their children at the daycare center on the second floor, office workers sat at their desks, with fresh mugs of coffee in hand—and parked under the building was a truck containing nearly 7,000 pounds of explosive materials.

At 9:02, the truck exploded, killing more than 165 people and injuring hundreds more. Oklahoma City and America would be forever scarred by the bombing. It was the deadliest act of homegrown terrorism in modern American history. For most people, that day—April 19, 1995—is a somber day in our history, but for some, it was an invigorating salvo in a war against America.

More than a quarter century after the Oklahoma City bombing, the threat of violent extremism looms larger than ever before. Recently, the Department of Homeland Security warned that violent, White supremacy is now the “most persistent and lethal threat in the homeland.”

Among the hundreds of Americans arrested for suspected ties to violent White supremacy in recent years, a common theme has emerged: The FBI has uncovered references to Timothy McVeigh and his attack on Oklahoma City in “several” of these investigations. In the eyes of far-right extremists, McVeigh’s Oklahoma City bombing is a lodestar, and like McVeigh, many of the violent extremists active today are motivated by baseless, anti-government conspiracy theories, conspiracy theories like the “Big Lie,” which inspired a mob of extremists to storm the Capitol on January 6.

More than 400 people are facing Federal charges for their involvement in the January 6 insurrection. Last week, we received word of the first guilty verdict in the McVeigh’s Oklahoma City bombing trial. The defendant’s affiliation with the Oath Keepers, a far-right extremist group that helped plot the insurrection.

The defendant’s affiliation with the Oath Keepers highlights an important distinction between the extremists of yesterday, like Timothy McVeigh, and the extremists of today. Today, violent White supremacists are not only peddling debunked conspiracy theories or neo-Nazi ideology; they are organizing online, on radical platforms like 8chan and Parler, and coordinating attacks under the cover of anonymity.
Worse yet, these radicals have easy access to high-grade military weapons designed for one purpose: human slaughter.

The extremists of today are galvanized. They are organized. And they are determined to help our law enforcement officials and intelligence agencies with new, modernized resources to combat the growing threat of violent White supremacy.

There are a number of steps we can take to weed out the threat of domestic terrorism. This week, the Senate is considering one such step: the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act. It would direct Federal resources toward addressing the rise in hate crimes against members of the Asian-American and Pacific Islander, AAPl, community. This legislation must be passed immediately.

Nearly 3,800 hate incidents against members of the AAPl community have been reported between March of last year and February of this year.

We also will consider Senator BLUMENTHAL and Senator MORAN’S NO HATE Act, which has been added as an amendment to the bill to improve hate crimes reporting. In addition to that legislation, there are more preventive steps we can take to address the broader threat of domestic terrorism. In March, I reintroduced the Domestic Terrorism Prevention Act. It will enhance the Federal Government’s ability to combat domestic terrorism. By establishing dedicated offices to combat domestic terrorism at the Department of Justice, the FBI, and the Department of Homeland Security, the Domestic Terrorism Prevention Act will bring the Federal Government’s efforts to weed out violent White supremacy into the 21st century.

Congress must also take steps to limit access to the weapons of war favored by violent extremists. This is a no-brainer. The House recently passed a bipartisan bill to close existing gaps in the background checks system. I certainly hope we can find 10 Republican votes to overcome a filibuster so that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

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

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

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I come to the floor this afternoon to support the nominations of Vanita Gupta and Kristen Clarke to the Department of Justice.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I offer the floor.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I come to the floor this afternoon to support the nominations of Vanita Gupta and Kristen Clarke to the Department of Justice.

It is so important that we get a Department of Justice that will fight for the civil rights and civil liberties of all Americans.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I offer the floor.

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Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I offer the floor.
believe she deserves the support of our colleagues.

In a letter to the Senate Judiciary Committee, the Fraternal Order of Police described Ms. Gupta as one who “always worked with us to find common ground when that seemed impossible.” So it is clear that she has the support of police. So we need someone like her who is going to bring back this important role of oversight to these important issues.

Ms. Clarke is the same. She is nominated to head the Civil Rights Division where she once worked as a trial lawyer. She previously cocdirected the voting rights work of the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, led the Civil Rights Bureau in the New York State Attorney General’s office, and has served as the president of the Lawyers Committee on Civil Rights Under the Law. I have called her; I have interviewed her. Why? Because I am tired of the violence and hate crimes in the State of Washington. I am tired of hearing, time and time again, about these issues. And it can be the synagogue in Spokane, where literally somebody spray-painted it. And you would think, Well, how are we going to find this sprayer who did a swastika on a synagogue in Spokane? You think. How are we going to find that person? Okay. Not a lot of trouble because people actually said, We did it purposely because we are an organization who believes in this. And we want to get our message out. That is what we’re facing.

And several years ago, we found a bomb planted in the Martin Luther King Day Parade in Spokane, just a few years ago. So these aren’t issues that we are sending somebody over to the Department of Justice to analyze and write a report on. We are asking people to help us with the situation in the United States of America to fight hate crimes and to bring about justice on the civil rights and civil liberties of all Americans. And so we have to have people that we have confidence that they are going to uphold our laws and enforce them.

We need to have consent decrees to hold police departments accountable for systematic violations of constitutional rights. We need to defend voting rights and to make sure that hate crimes against Asian-American and Pacific Islanders are prosecuted. And so this nomination is something that is very important. Ms. Clarke is so important. I ask my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, if you are facing any of this in your State, please get Kristen Clarke to be there to help us address these issues.

Advocating for increased investment in mental health and social work and school resources for minority communities is something that law enforcement agrees with. They agree that we should do these things. So that is not defunding the police, yet people accuse Kristen Clarke of the same thing. She must be for defunding the police. I have talked to prosecutors throughout the State of Washington, and they will tell me that these programs that help families and communities identify these problems early are actually the best things to keep them from having to really have problems later. I certainly hope that some of the false claims that people have made about Ms. Clarke being anti-police are also continued to be struck down as untrue.

Ms. Clarke understands law enforcement must collaborate with the State, local, and Federal level. She has a solid record of working cooperatively with law enforcement for decades. She is supported by the Major Cities Chief Association, the National Association of Black Law Executives, a bipartisan group of over 70 former State attorneys general, and more than 40 police chiefs and sheriffs throughout the United States. That can’t be somebody who sounds anti-law enforcement. They have the support of law enforcement.

What we need is the support of our colleagues to say that these are serious issues and the Federal Government does play a role. That is why it is called the Department of Justice, and that is why they oversee and make sure that the civil liberties of all Americans are upheld. As attorney general and as the Lawyers Committee, Ms. Clarke played a key role in launching a Religious Rights Initiative to address faith-based discrimination to fight anti-Semitic activities. When Ms. Clarke led the Lawyers Committee, she led the charge in shutting down abhorrent anti-Semitic websites that made racist comments. Some were in connection with stormfront.org, which was a central site used to organize the 2017 Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville.

She recognized that online hate is an emerging threat and that Congress must address that threat. After seeing what happened on January 6 and the plethora of anti-Semitic paraphernalia presented here even in the Capitol as we saw riots, Ms. Clarke’s expertise and dedication to fighting online hate would be extremely beneficial to the Department and to all Americans.

So I implore my colleagues, these are strong women, great qualifications, have been in the mix on these policy issues for a long time. They know what we are up against. We have to ask ourselves, Are we going to enforce the law? These women will enforce the law, and they have the support of law enforcement. We should proceed and confirm both of them.

I yield the floor.

Ms. CANTWELL. 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.

The result was announced—yeas 54, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 157 Ex.]

YEAS—54

Baldwin
Bennet
Blumenthal
Booker
Bombeck
Cantwell
Cardin
Carper
Casey
Collins
Coons
Cortez Masto
Duckworth
Durbin
Feinstein
Gillibrand
Gosar
Hassan

NAYS—45

Barrasso
Blackburn
Blunt
Boozman
Brann
Capito
Cassidy
Corzine
Costello
Cramer
Crapo
Daines
Barrasso
Blackburn
Blunt

The nomination was confirmed.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Lisa O. Monaco, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Attorney General.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, all post cloture time is expired.

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

Mr. MENENDEZ. 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 senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 98, nays 2, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 158 Ex.]

YEAS—98

Baldwin
Bennet
Blumenthal
Burr
Barrasso
Blackburn
Blunt

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKY). Under the previous order, the Senate will resume executive session in consideration of the Gensler nomination.

All time has expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Gensler nomination?
April 20, 2021

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

COVID-19 HATE CRIMES ACT—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume legislative session.

The Senate from Oklahoma.

DEFENSE BUDGET

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, last week—no, it wasn’t last week; it was about 3 weeks ago, I guess, now, President Biden released his “skinny budget,” which gave us a top-line for defense of $715 billion. This is a reduction, and I want to make sure everyone understands this because the cut is actually below inflation, and that is not where we are supposed to be.

You know, we have this document here that everyone agrees with. I don’t know one person—and this was written by six Democrats, six Republicans, and this was in 2018. This has been used as our blueprint ever since that time, and it is just remarkable the way it has come out. The recommendations on this, as I said, were made by six Republicans, six Democrats. All of them were experts in the field of defense, and they came out with recommendations. In this year, the amount in the budget for our military is supposed to be between 3 and 5 percent. This is in the document in front of us here. Of course, this is actually a reduction. So it is way below what has been prescribed.

When it comes to China, there are two big reasons why we need to make sure our budget matches our strategy. First of all, China is spending more on their military than ever before. As a result, they are getting more technologically advanced and starting to sway the military balance of power in their favor. There is no question about it, and I will document that in a minute.

The threat the Chinese military poses is not a distant threat. It is not something that might happen in 2030, 2035, or sometime in the future. It is a problem we face today, right now, and it only gets worse over time.

Admiral Davidson told the Armed Services Committee that he expects the threat to manifest “this decade, in fact, in the next six years.” That is the sense of urgency. That is when they become greater than we are in many areas of defense and aggression.

So today I would like to spend some time dealing with the Chinese military and what they are doing. This is what we are up against. This is why it is so important that we get our defense budget right.

Let’s start with China’s military budget. Since 2000, Beijing’s spending on the People’s Liberation Army has gone up 450 percent—450 percent. Now, we knew that back during the Obama administration, that actually went up. Our reduction—it was a reduction in inflation. At the same time, China went up by 83 percent. So this is what is going on in the world today. Beijing’s budget for the military went up 450 percent.

Now, you compare Beijing’s buildup with the United States. At the same time, our core allies and partners in the region—that is, Japan, Australia, South Korea, and Taiwan—have had basically flat defense budgets since 2000. Compare it with our own military spending. As I mentioned on the floor a couple of weeks ago, at the same time China was adding $200 billion to their defense budget, ours shrank by $400 billion.

We are certainly not provoking them with defense investment, and we have barely touched our force posture in the Western Pacific over the past two decades. So, if anything, our lack of action, our lack of investment, is what is provoking China into thinking they can push around and threaten our friends in the region.

The Biden administration says they want to take our allies and partners seriously. So we should listen when they say they are concerned about Chinese aggression. If the administration knows this, I have had visits with the President. He is fully aware of that.

Another progressive talking point is that the United States spends more on defense than the next 10 or 12 countries combined. Now, that is not true. The reality is that any honest comparison of numbers shows that, combined, the Chinese and Russians almost certainly spend more than us in real terms.

China’s purchasing power is significantly greater than ours because they pay their workers next to nothing and have much lower material costs. They also focus their defense spending on hard power. I am talking about airplanes, tanks, ships, missiles, and the like. Why? Because they don’t take care of their people.

People don’t understand this. At least 40 percent of our military budget goes to supporting our people. That is why the Department of Defense has the largest budget of any of the Communist countries that are out there. They do, they give them the guns and say go out and kill people. We don’t do that. And 40 percent is a conservative figure.

You do not have to be a member of the Armed Services Committee that was such a big issue; that you were concerned with; I was concerned with: we were all concerned with. That is something that other countries don’t have to worry about. China doesn’t worry about that. Russia doesn’t worry about that. These are things that—and yet that is almost half of our total budget goes to those things for our troops.

We take care of our troops. The rest of them don’t. That is the right thing to do. But that is just another reason you can’t do a dollar-for-dollar comparison between the Chinese and the defense spending. We need a better accounting.

And incidentally, Senator ROMNEY introduced an amendment to our last year’s NDAA, military defense act, to get us a real comparison in spending. And the Pentagon owes us that report by October.

Now, in October—we are going to talk about this. We are going to talk about this in our military because this is what the real spending is, not what a lot of people think that it is. All of this is to say, we don’t have a good sense of China’s true defense spending, but we do know it is going up.

General McMaster called it “the largest peacetime military buildup in history.” That is what General McMaster said just the other day at one of our hearings. It is not just expanding their military; they are modernizing and professionalizing at the same time.

Secretary Austin, our Secretary of Defense, rightfully, calls China our “pace threat.” But here are a few of the ways that they have been outpacing us because they are investing where we are not investing. The American people think we are, but we are not.

China has a 355-ship Navy. You know, we were just talking about that for a long period of time here—how we are going to grow to a 350-ship Navy, and we haven’t done it. Well, China has done it. They have achieved that last year. And while we were just talking about it, they were on the attack to get new ships by 2036.

By comparison, our Navy is around 300 ships, and it is likely to stay there if our defense budget doesn’t grow.

In the air, the combatant command assesses that China will have more fifth-generation aircraft than we do in the Pacific by 2025, again, the fifth-generation aircraft. We are down right now to the F-35. There are not
any others. We had the F-22. The F-22 was our first fifth-generation fighter, and it was one that we were all very excited about. They started out wanting 700 of them, and we ended up with 187, just for fiscal reasons. Again, that is where China is right now. That gets worse. We have a flat or declining budget here.

China is expanding its arsenals too. The Pentagon’s missile experts tell us that China is now over 350 launchers for medium-range ballistic missiles, which is about 60% of all its systems firing ballistic missiles and striking the U.S. warships in the Pacific.

They have produced exact copies of our bases, our ships, and our aircraft to serve as targets. And they are out there right now shooting those targets. That is us. That is America, and they are shooting on the replicas of our equipment to show that they can down them. By the way, they hit those targets successfully. I might add. And that has been going on for years.

They also have thousands of short-range missiles. Many of those are going right at Taiwan. China is also dubbing its nuclear stockpile and completing their own nuclear triad. That is something that is critical to the country, that we have a triad; that is, three ways of deflecting nuclear attacks on America.

So that is what is going on right now. China’s military is charging ahead in just about every arena. But not everyone who don’t think China is a problem—they say that none of the Chinese weapons are as good as ours. Well, that was true in 1990. That was true in the year 2000. That is not true anymore.

The Office of Naval Intelligence said in 2015 that China’s latest surface warships were comparable in many ways to the most modern Western ships. China has deployed thousands of ground-based missiles. We are still developing ours. They have deployed hypersonic strike weapons. We are still in the research and development.

You might remember, because we saw that, the parade that was taking place in Beijing. They were demonstrating that they have these weapons that we don’t have. And that was invested a year ago.

Just last month, the National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence assessed that the China rate of investment in artificial intelligence is comparable to the United States rate. Hence the struggle in this field.

And while the Chinese will spend almost $50 billion on tech infrastructure over the next few years, national security infrastructure is apparently the only thing that President Biden doesn’t consider infrastructure.

Not only is China spending more on its military, but it has the tools to beat us. Don’t take my word for it. The bipartisan NDS—again, this is the document that we have been using, and it has been remarkably accurate, since 2018. That NDS Commission said, right in this book, the U.S. military might struggle to win or perhaps lose a war against China or Russia. That is what they said in 2018. And China has been going up ever since.

Admiral Davidson told us the other week—only 2 weeks ago—that there is no guarantee that the United States would win a future conflict with China.

China’s military buildup isn’t just investment for the sake of it; they are already flexing their new muscle to challenge traditional American allies and American interests. And the PLA has deployed missiles, radars, stealth jet fighters, and bombers to islands in the South China Sea, claiming and militarizing islands in violation of international law.

Just last year, the PLA fired antiship ballistic missiles into the South China Sea, clearly practicing to target U.S. Navy ships in the area. And that is what they are doing today. Those are not just Group of 100 military sites in the West. China has deployed thousands of ground-base missiles. The PL is expanding its network of strategic ports and bases around the world from Djibouti to Pakistan and Cambodia and Sri Lanka and elsewhere.

Last year, China started going after the territory of India, which has resulted in dozens of dead Indian soldiers. They have continually harassed Japan and Taiwan in the air and on the sea. The Chinese military have occupied small Pacific island nations. Over 200 Chinese boats are taking out a reef in the South China Sea claimed by the Philippines.

China has just completed a new satellite constellation over Taiwan that allows for almost constant coverage of the island, the highest known frequency of satellite coverage in the world.

A few weeks ago, Taiwan reported the largest ever Chinese incursion when 25 combat aircraft flew into its airspace. And as the cochair of the Taiwan Caucus, this is of specific concern to me. Some people have forgotten that aggression by nation states is not a thing of the past. People have forgotten how costly it is when deterrence fails.

That is why I am arguing for sustained real growth in the defense budget. We know it is necessary. We know that it is attainable because the burden of defense spending on the economy today is half what it was at the height of the Cold War.

The Biden administration is trying to tell us that we can invest in economic and technological competition or the military competition. That is a false choice. We have to do the military.

The reality is, the Chinese are engaged in every dimension of this competition, especially the military dimension, and they are not going to stop anytime soon.

I would have to say, do we really want to be there for our allies or partners? Do we want our children and grandchildren to live in a world where our status of leader of the free world is in name only?

You know, my wife and I have been married for 61 years. We have 20 kids and grandkids so I have a stake in this. Do we want them, these kids, to grow up in a world where China—the same country that is committing genocide against the Uighurs, silencing free speech, and jailing activists in Hong Kong—gets to set the rules of international engagement?

This isn’t a hypothetical question. That is a question that we are answering each year when we set our military budget, and, frankly, I am disappointed in how the current administration is answering that call.

We have to be prepared to take on China from all angles of national power. And this begins with adequate resourcing of our U.S. military with real growth in the defense budget.

It is kind of a myth floating around. I know every time I give a speech someplace in the State of Oklahoma or elsewhere, there is kind of an assumption that we in the United States were the best of everything following World War II. That was true. But that isn’t true today. And if America chooses to sit on the sidelines in this competition, and we ask our allies and partners to face China alone, the failures of deterrence becomes more likely. And that is an outcome that nobody there or here wants.

With that, 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. DAINES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be discharged. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ELECTION INTEGRITY

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, it wasn’t enough for Democrats like Stacey Abrams and President Biden to lie about the new Georgia voting law. Now, today, CHUCK SCHUMER is sending his lawyers to swarm Montana courtrooms and has taken to the Senate floor with more distortion.

This time, it is about Montana's new voting laws.

I have a message for Leader SCHUMER and the Democrats who are trying to distort the facts and the will of Montanas voters: Please get your facts straight. In Montana we are putting in place some commonsense reforms that enjoy the strong support of Montanans.

Why is the leader so determined to strike down commonsense efforts to provide integrity and transparency to our elections?

Let’s talk about voter ID. A majority of Americans support needing a photo ID to cast a ballot. According to the Honest Elections Project, 77 percent of Americans support needing a photo ID
to vote—77 percent. Why? Because it is common sense and because you need a photo ID to do many tasks, some quite mundane. You need a photo ID to get a hunting or fishing license. You need a photo ID to rent a hotel room, to drive a car, to rent a car, to get on an airplane, to pack up tickets at will call. If these simple tasks require a valid ID, shouldn’t protecting the integrity of America’s election process require at least the same?

This isn’t the first time Leader SCHUMER and Democrats have tried to stick their nose into Montana’s business and tried to overturn the will of Montana voters. In fact, this past election, dark money groups backed by CHUCK SCHUMER pushed to loosen election standards, such as ballot harvesting, in Montana, and they won. This is despite the fact that nearly two-thirds of Montana voters passed a law to prohibit ballot harvesting.

Montanans want election integrity. They want to trust their elections. Yet it is not.

In Montana we want everyone legally allowed to vote to be able to, and we want there to be zero doubt that those votes should count. All Montanans—Republicans, Democrats, Independents, Libertarians—should have faith in our elections.

Montana’s legislature, Montana Secretary of State Christi Jacobsen, and Montana Governor Greg Gianforte wanted to strengthen this trust, and that is what they did with these commonsense bills.

The distortion by Democrats in this country is eroding this trust. This must stop.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate has the floor.

NOMINATION OF VANITA GUPTA

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I wanted to come to the floor today to just say a brief word and maybe set the record straight a little bit about President Biden’s nominee for Associate Attorney General of the United States, Vanita Gupta.

Let’s start with some facts about Ms. Gupta. She is the daughter of immigrants who worked hard to receive some of the best legal education this country has to offer. She spent 2 decades as a civil rights lawyer, where she has fought to defend Americans’ individual rights and freedoms, often against abuses by the government, something you would think some of my colleagues on the other side would appreciate.

When a small town in Texas wrongfully convicted 40 Americans of drug charges, based solely on the false testimony from undercover police officer, she fought to have them exonerated, and she won them a $36 million settlement for that miscarriage of justice.

She defended 25 children who had been separated from their parents and thrown into prison-like conditions at a private detention center in Texas. Her success in that case forced the center to improve its conditions and prevented more kids from being held there.

President Obama recognized her leadership by making her the top civil rights official at the Department of Justice, where she protected service-members from eviction, cracked down on gun traffickers, defended religious freedom, and protected Americans’ fundamental right to vote.

Over the past 4 years, Ms. Gupta has led the largest civil rights organization in America, where she has been at the forefront of efforts to reform our criminal justice system, strengthen our democracy, and make sure COVID relief reaches those who need it most.

That is her record. That is an outstanding record. I think my colleagues on the other side of the aisle know that it is an outstanding record because they don’t want to contend with her. They don’t want to contest her record. They can’t defeat her nomination. They can’t use just using talking points that aren’t true.

I heard the junior Senator from Texas say Ms. Gupta’s record “is that of an extreme partisan ideologue.” He called her an “extreme political activist.” He called her “radical,” and a “ zealot,” when all she has done her entire career is uphold the rule of law and defend our democracy, just like the 60 judges, many of them confirmed by Republican colleagues, who rejected President Trump’s utterly unsubstantiated claims of fraud in the 2020 election; just like the election officials who stood up to conspiracy theories about the election at great risk to themselves and to their careers, who were all determined by the loyal Members of Congress who sought to overturn the will of the voters for their own power.

I also heard the junior Senator from Texas say Ms. Gupta’s beliefs “don’t align with the majority of the American people.” I am willing to bet every single dollar in my pocket that most Americans are quite aligned with Ms. Gupta’s views.

Most Americans are very interested in having a Department of Justice that protects the right to vote, that keeps families together and kids out of prison-like conditions, to make sure that LGBT sons and daughters and neighbors can live free from discrimination.

I will tell you one other thing. Unlike some people around this place, Ms. Gupta actually has a record of reaching across the aisle to get things done. She worked with Grover Norquist and the top lawyer for the Koch brothers to pass criminal justice reform. It is why they both endorsed her, along with President Biden, former Secretary of Homeland Security, and virtually every major law enforcement organization in America, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the National Sheriffs’ Association, the Major County Sheriffs of America, and the Major Cities Chiefs Association.

So it is hard to take seriously all this talk on the other side about how Ms. Gupta wants to “defund the police.” She has never supported that. When someone asked the head of the Fraternal Order of Police what he thought about these attacks, he called it “partisan demagoguery.” And that is exactly what it is, and he is right.

There isn’t a serious debate about her record. It is a political campaign to defeat her nomination. The American people see through it, and I hope my colleagues will see through it as well. We should be lucky to have someone with Ms. Gupta’s experience and leadership at the Department of Justice.

Many years ago, I had the privilege to work at the Department, and I know how seriously the men and women there take their jobs and how grateful they would be to serve alongside someone as talented and committed to the mission as Ms. Gupta. It is why I believe tomorrow we should come to this floor and give her a re-sounding bipartisan vote to confirm her as the next Associate Attorney General of the United States.

I urge all of my colleagues to put aside the rhetoric and the false claims. Look at the record for what it is. The American police organizations have supported her. And vote yes for her nomination.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HASELTON). 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.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.
under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions for cloture under rule XXII, Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on Calendar No. 13, S. 387, a bill to facilitate the expeditious review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes.


Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, Tuesday, April 20, be waived.

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

APPOINTMENTS

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 106–7, and in consultation with the Chairpersons of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Committee on Finance, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission: Kimberly T. Glas of Virginia for a term beginning January 1, 2021 and expiring December 31, 2022.

The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to provisions of Public Law 99–93, as amended by Public Law 106–7, and in consultation with the Chairpersons of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Committee on Finance, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission: Kimberly T. Glas of Virginia for a term beginning January 1, 2021 and expiring December 31, 2022.

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1 Peter 2:21 says, “For God called you to do good, even if it means suffering, just as Christ suffered for you. He is your example and you must follow in his footsteps.” You know, reflecting on Jim’s life has impacted us all this week. It has impacted me and challenged me to think about being the best person I can be. So I’ve asked myself some tough questions. Am I following in Jesus Christ’s footsteps? Am I following in Jim Smith’s footsteps? Can I be a man that cares for my community like Jim Smith cared for this country? Can I provide excellent service to the people of West Virginia well in my 21-year career as an IRS Revenue Service Employee? John is retiring from his position as taxpayer advocate in order to spend more time with his family and enjoy the next stage of his life.

During his 10 years as taxpayer advocate, John was a valuable resource to my office and West Virginia’s citizens. He was well informed, quick to respond, and straightforward in his dealings as he advocated on behalf of his clients. He was a dedicated employee, fully committed to his many responsibilities. He was a pleasure to work with, and my staff were always confident that John was providing top-level service, regardless of the issue.

John also served his country through his military service with the U.S. Air Force, serving 6 years as a missile facilities specialist. A dedicated public servant, John has served his country and his community continually throughout his adult life.

John is the proud parent of daughter and a son, living in Little Hocking, OH, and Houston, TX, respectively. I am sure he is looking forward to spending more time with his five grandchildren, as well as with his favorite pastimes: hunting deer and turkey, fishing, and camping.

I would like to thank John for his service and wish him well in his next phase of life. My staff will miss working with him at the IRS, but we are all happy that we had him as long as we did to provide excellent service to the citizens of West Virginia. Good Luck, John. Thank you again for your commitment to our State.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING AUSTIN SORENSEN KLEIN

Mr. MORAN. Madam President, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Austin Sorensen Klein, a son, younger brother, and friend gone too soon. Austin’s loved ones remember him as a young man full of energy, talent, and passion for trying and conquering new things.

Austin loved to sing. He was known throughout the Overland Park community as a vocal talent. After winning the 2015 KC Superstar competition, he went on to pursue music through the men’s glee club at the University of Notre Dame and then the a cappella group at the University of Texas-Austin. Anyone who knew Austin and heard him sing will remember his sonorous voice and how his joy for music was contagious.

Austin was a kind, intelligent, patient young man who loved to learn and loved even more to make people laugh. He was a reader and, in many ways, a budding philosopher. Austin enjoyed traveling with his close family; they hiked the Black Hills and Yellowstone, toured Disney World and Washington, DC, and explored Europe, Australia, and New Zealand together. I know Austin’s friends, who are dear friends to me and Senator THUNE, and his brothers Kevin and Keith will treasure these memories forever. Our community hurts with them as they navigate life without their beloved son and brother.

After a brief but remarkable life, Austin passed away on March 3, 2021. I want to extend my sincerest condolences to the Klein family and Austin’s friends who mourn as they miss and remember Austin’s voice, his laugh, and the joy he brought to everyone he knew. May we all learn from Austin’s example to live every day to the fullest, hold close those who are dear to us, and do the things we love most.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:55 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 473. An act to require a review of Department of Homeland Security trusted traveler programs, and for other purposes.
H.R. 1083. An act to require a strategy for engagement with Southeast Asian and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.
H.R. 986. An act to create protections for financial institutions that provide financial services to cannabis-related legitimate businesses and service providers for such businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:
S. 1216. A bill to extend the temporary scheduling order for fentanyl-related substances.
H.R. 7. An act 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.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, April 20, 2021, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:
S. 164. An act to educate health care providers and the public on biosimilar biological products, and for other purposes.
S. 415. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the scope of new chemical exclusivity.
S. 578. An act 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.

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-707. A communication from the Director of the Regulations Management Division, Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Revolving Fund Program - Water and Environmental Provisions of the Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018” (RIN0572-AC52) 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-708. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army, Department of the Army, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Annual Status Report on the Destruction of the United States Stockpile of Highly and Radiochemical Agents and Munitions for Fiscal Year 2020” to the Committee on Armed Services.
EC-709. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Department of Defense Annual Report on...
a rule entitled “Policies and Procedures for Loan Guarantees for Projects that Employ Innovative Technologies and for Direct Loans Under the Advanced Technology Vehicles Program” ((RIN1904–AA44) (10 CFR Parts 430 and 431)) received in the Office of the President on April 14, 2021; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-743. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Definition of Showerhead” ((RIN1904–AA60) (10 CFR Parts 430 and 431)) received in the Office of the President on April 14, 2021; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-744. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Definition of Showerhead” ((RIN1904–AA60) (10 CFR Parts 430 and 431)) received in the Office of the President on April 14, 2021; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-745. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Establishment of New Product Classes for Residential Clothes Washers and Consumer Clothes Dryers” ((RIN1904–AF02) (10 CFR Parts 430 and 431)) received in the Office of the President on April 14, 2021; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-746. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Small Electric Motors and Electric Motors” ((RIN1904–AE18) (10 CFR Part 431)) received in the Office of the President on April 14, 2021; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-747. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Small Electric Motors and Electric Motors” ((RIN1904–AE18) (10 CFR Part 431)) received in the Office of the President on April 14, 2021; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-748. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Small Electric Motors and Electric Motors” ((RIN1904–AE18) (10 CFR Part 431)) received in the Office of the President on April 14, 2021; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-749. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Room Air Conditioners” ((RIN1904–AD47) (10 CFR Parts 429 and 430)) received in the Office of the President on April 14, 2021; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-750. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Room Air Conditioners” ((RIN1904–AD47) (10 CFR Parts 429 and 430)) received in the Office of the President on April 14, 2021; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-751. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Room Air Conditioners” ((RIN1904–AD47) (10 CFR Parts 429 and 430)) received in the Office of the President on April 14, 2021; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-752. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Room Air Conditioners” ((RIN1904–AD47) (10 CFR Parts 429 and 430)) received in the Office of the President on April 14, 2021; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-753. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Room Air Conditioners” ((RIN1904–AD47) (10 CFR Parts 429 and 430)) received in the Office of the President on April 14, 2021; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-754. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Room Air Conditioners” ((RIN1904–AD47) (10 CFR Parts 429 and 430)) received in the Office of the President on April 14, 2021; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-755. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Room Air Conditioners” ((RIN1904–AD47) (10 CFR Parts 429 and 430)) received in the Office of the President on April 14, 2021; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-756. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Room Air Conditioners” ((RIN1904–AD47) (10 CFR Parts 429 and 430)) received in the Office of the President on April 14, 2021; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-757. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Room Air Conditioners” ((RIN1904–AD47) (10 CFR Parts 429 and 430)) received in the Office of the President on April 14, 2021; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-758. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Room Air Conditioners” ((RIN1904–AD47) (10 CFR Parts 429 and 430)) received in the Office of the President on April 14, 2021; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-759. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Room Air Conditioners” ((RIN1904–AD47) (10 CFR Parts 429 and 430)) received in the Office of the President on April 14, 2021; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-760. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Room Air Conditioners” ((RIN1904–AD47) (10 CFR Parts 429 and 430)) received in the Office of the President on April 14, 2021; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.
to the Committee on Environment and Pub-
lic Works.
EC–761. A communication from the Sec-
retary of Health and Human Services, trans-
mitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled
"Finalizing Medicare Regulations under Sec-
tion 902 of the Medicare Prescription Drug,
Improvement, and Modernization Act (MMA)
of 2003"; to the Committee on Finance.
EC–762. A communication from the Sec-
retary of Health and Human Services, trans-
mitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled
"Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Report to Congress
on the Open Payments Program"; to the Com-
mittee on Finance.
EC–763. A communication from the Assist-
ant Legal Advisor for Treaty Affairs, Depart-
ment of State, transmitting, pursuant to law,
transmission other than Treaties entered into with Tai-
wan by the American Institute in Taiwan; to
the Committee on Foreign Relations.
PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS
The following petitions and memo-
rials were laid before the Senate and were
referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:
POM–6. A joint resolution adopted by the
Legislature of the State of Maine urging the
Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutri-
tion Service to include certain nonfood es-
sentials in the supplemental nutrition assist-
ance program; to the Committee on Agri-
culture, Nutrition, and Forestry.
SENATE PAPER 312
Whereas, the Supplemental Nutrition As-
sistance Program, or SNAP, is a federally
funded program under which the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service with shared state administration;
and
Whereas, SNAP currently provides nutri-
tion benefits to supplement the food budget of qualifying recipients so they can purchase healthy food but fails to account for nonfood essentials, including toilet paper, soap, de-
odorant, toothpaste and menstrual products; and
Whereas, toilet paper, soap, deodorant,
toothpaste and menstrual products are es-
sential products needed for human dignity and
health; and
Whereas, if a person struggles with access to food, that person likely also struggles with access to nonfood essentials; and
Whereas, a person who does not have ac-
cess to nonfood essentials, especially men-
strual products and toilet paper, may be forced to use inappropriate and unsafe alter-
atives, thereby putting that person’s health and the health of the person’s reproductive
system at risk; and
Whereas, a person without access to nonfood-essentials supplies by increasing the
food and nonfood-essentials purchasing
power of low-income families”; and be it fur-
ther
Resolved, That We, your Memorialists, re-
spectfully urge and request that the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service enter into rulemaking to add to the SNAP benefits included in the following nonfood essentials for recipient purchase: toilet paper, soap, deodorant, toothpaste and menstrual products includ-
ing but not limited to tampons, pads, liners and reusable cups, underwear and shields; and be it further
Resolved, That suitable copies of this reso-
dution, duly authenticated by the Secretary
of State, be transmitted to the Honorable
Joseph R. Biden, President of the United States, for consideration in the federal budg-
etting process; to the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service; to the Nutrition Service Administrator of the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service; to the Food and Nutrition Service Associate Administrator of the Supplemental Nutri-
tion Assistance Program, United States De-
partment of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service; to the Northeast Regional Office of the United States Department of Agri-
culture, Food and Nutrition Service; to the President of the United States Senate; to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States; to each Member of the Maine Congressional Delegation to the Maine Department of Health and Human Services.
POM–7. A joint resolution adopted by the
Legislature of the State of Maine urging the
United States Congress and the President of the United States to eliminate the Windfall
Elimination Provision that penalizes Maine state retirees; to the Committee on Finance.
SENATE PAPER 332
Whereas, under current federal law, indi-
viduals who receive a Social Security benefit and a public pension derived from
employment not covered under Social Secu-
riety are subject to a reduction in the Social
Security benefits; and
Whereas, that reduction is contained in the fed-
eral Social Security Act, 42 United States
Code, Chapter 7, Subchapter II, Federal Old-
Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance Benefits, that creates the Government Pen-
sion Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision, greatly affect public employees, particularly women; and
Whereas, the Windfall Elimination Provi-
sion reduces by a formula the Social Secu-
riety benefit of a person who is also receiving a pension from a public employer that does not participate in the Federal Retirement System; and
Whereas, the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision are particularly burdensome on the finances of low-income and moderate-income public service workers, such as school teachers, clerical workers and school cafeteria em-
ployees, whose grants are low to start; and
Whereas, the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision both unfairly reduce benefits for those public em-
ployees and their spouses whose careers cross the line between the private and public
sectors; and
Whereas, since many lower-paying public
service jobs are held by women, both the
Government Pension Offset and the Windfall
Elimination Provision have a disproportion-
ate adverse effect on women; and
Whereas, in some cases, additional support
in the form of income, housing, heating and
prescription drug and other safety net assist-
ance from state and local governments is
needed to make up for the reductions im-
posed at the federal level; and
Whereas, other participants in Social Secu-
riety do not have their benefits reduced in
this manner; and
Whereas, to participate or not to partici-
pate in Social Security in public sector em-
ployment is a decision of employees, even
though both the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision di-
rectly punish employees and their spouses; and
Whereas, although the Government Pen-
sion Offset was enacted in 1977 and the Wind-
fall Elimination Provision was enacted in 1983, many of the benefits in dispute were paid into Social Security prior to that time; now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That We, your Memorialists, re-
spectfully urge and request that the Presi-
dent of the United States and the Congress of the United States work together to sup-
port reform proposals that the following protections for low-income and mod-
erate-income government retirees:
1. Protections permitting retention of a
combined public pension and Social Security
benefit with no applied reductions;
2. Protections permanently ensuring that
level of benefit by indexing it to inflation; and
3. Protections ensuring that no current re-
cipient’s benefit is reduced by the reform legis-
lation; and be it further
Resolved, That suitable copies of this reso-
dution, duly authenticated by the Secretary
of State, be transmitted to the Honorable
Joseph R. Biden, President of the United States; the President of the United States Senate; the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives; and each Member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.
POM–8. A joint resolution adopted by the
Legislature of the State of Maine urging the
United States Congress and the President of
the United States to establish a national in-
frastucture bank; to the Committee on Bank-
ing, Housing, and Urban Affairs.
SENATE PAPER 347
Whereas, the American Society of Civil
Engineers states in its 2017 Report Card that
the United States received a grade of D+ re-
garding the current state of infrastructure and that more than $4.5 trillion would be
needed to restore the nation’s infrastructure
at a state of good repair, over $2 trillion in
national infrastructure projects is currently not
funded at the Federal level and the remain-
er of infrastructure projects is inad-
equately funded; and
Whereas, the Maine Section of the Amer-
ican Society of Civil Engineers gave the
State a grade of C– in 2020, including dams,
D+; hazardous waste, D+; roads, D; transit,
D; wastewater, D; and
Whereas, the state highway system projects a drastic funding shortfall due to

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the pandemic related to coronavirus disease 2019 and preexisting financial deficits; drive
ers in the State spend over $1 billion per year in vehicle operating costs, congestion and crashes. Hawaii has the highest High-
way fatality rate in New England; and the State has 1,073 dams with an average age of over 100 years, and a minimum of $289 mil-
nion is needed to maintain dam infrastruc-
ture; and

Whereas, a new National Infrastructure Bank could directly help finance all of these projects, and the United States Congress in-
troduced H.R. 6422, “National Infrastructure Bank Act of 2020,” which would create a $4 trillion bank that could help finance infra-
structure needs and hire millions who have lost their jobs during the pandemic, putting them into higher-paying infrastruc-
ture and related jobs; and

WHEREAS, the new National Infrastructure Bank is modeled on previous successful, similar institutions that built much of the nation’s infrastructure, and under United States Presidents George Washington, James Madison, Abraham Lincoln and Franklin D. Rho

POM–10. A concurrent resolution adopted by the 92nd Congress which clarifies the 1975 ratification by the United States Senate of the Equal Rights Amendment, to propose the Equal Rights Amendment, to the Constitution of the United States; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That suitable copies of this reso-

POM–11. A concurrent resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio urging the federal government to increase the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program’s security features, both internationally and domestically; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

WHEREAS, the 92nd Congress of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the Michigan congressional delegation,

Resolved, That suitable copies of this reso-

POM–11. A concurrent resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio urging the federal government to increase the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program’s security features, both internationally and domestically; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

WHEREAS, the 92nd Congress of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the Michigan congressional delegation,

Resolved, That suitable copies of this reso-

POM–11. A concurrent resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio urging the federal government to increase the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program’s security features, both internationally and domestically; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

WHEREAS, the 92nd Congress of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the Michigan congressional delegation,
Whereas, While we are in an unprecedented pandemic, and there is great need for expediency when processing unemployment claims, there must be some form of security check to prevent claims from being made in our constituents’ names without their knowledge or consent; and

Whereas, The federal attitude of “pay and chase” has an emphasis on expediting benefit payments without traditional safeguards, must be re-evaluated and changed; and

Whereas, Across the country, regardless of whether these fraudulent claims are through states’ traditional unemployment systems or the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program, the records are being spoofed off by domestic criminals and international thieves; and

Whereas, This fraud deprives our state and federal governments of necessary resources during a pandemic and costs our constituents money; and

Whereas, This fraud slows down the process by which unemployment benefits are distributed to those who are truly in need within our communities; and

Whereas, Instituting a system that stamps our fingerprints clear the way for resources to flow where they are needed more quickly and efficiently; and

Whereas, Ohioans who receive 1099-G forms do not receive must navigate a cumbersome, frustrating, and unresponsive system to clear the fraud status from their account; now therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of the 114th General Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the federal government to reinstitute the traditional safeguards as well as new identification verification to ensure that the individuals requesting and receiving benefits under the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program are those who truly need it, and not fraudulent actors; and be it further

Resolved, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate; and each member of the Ohio Congressional delegation, the U.S. Secretary of Labor, and the news media of Ohio.

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. DAINES (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):
S. 1221. A bill to require the Director of the Office of Personnel Management to create a classification that more accurately reflects the vital role of wildland firefighters; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. ROONEY (for himself and Mr. LEE):
S. 1222. A bill to designate and adjust certain lands in the State of Utah as component of the National Wilderness Preservation System, for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CORYN (for himself, Mr. Kaine, and Mr. Warner):
S. 1223. A bill to revise the treatment of urbanized areas experiencing population changes following a major disaster; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. Ernst (for herself and Mr. Grassley):
S. 1224. A bill to reauthorize, and increase the total funding cap for, the America’s Agricultural Heritage Partnership, to redesignate the America’s Agricultural Heritage Partnership as the “Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area”, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. Murphy:
S. 1225. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require institutions of higher education to report revenue generated by each sports team, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. Toomey):
S. 1226. A bill to designate the United States courthouse located at 1501 North 6th Street in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, as the “Sylvia H. Rambo United States Court House”, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. Kennedy (for himself, Mr. Barrasso, and Mr. Tillis):
S. 1227. A bill to avoid the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to set the rate of pay for employees of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection in accordance with the Federal Wage Rates Act of 1961, to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. Sanders (for himself, Ms. Warren, and Mr. Markey):
S. 1228. A bill to provide for equitable treatment for Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa, to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. Heinrich (for himself, Mrs. Capito, Mr. Risch, Mr. Cervantes, Mr. Crapo, Mr. King, Ms. Collins, Mr. Wyden, Mrs. Murray, Ms. Sinema, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Tester, Mr. Rounds, and Mr. Burr):
S. 1229. A bill to modify the procedures for issuing special recreation permits for certain public land units, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. Cramer (for himself, Ms. Warren, Ms. Lumms, Ms. Hirono, Mrs. Pressley, Mr. Rounds, and Mr. Boozman):
S. 1230. A bill to amend the Bank Service Company Act to provide improvements with respect to State bank agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. Portman (for himself and Ms. Hillon):
S. 1231. A bill to amend the Construction Consensus Procurement Improvement Act of 2020 to correct a provision on the prohibition on the use of a reverse auction, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. Lujín:
S. 1232. A bill to authorize a program to provide farm succession assistance to farmers and ranchers, sole proprietors, independent contractors, and self-employed individuals; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. Cardin (for himself and Mr. Portman):
S. 1233. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the meaning of “tip reporting” as a service industry; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. Gillibrand:
S. 1234. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the equal employment opportunity functions of Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

By Mr. Markley (for himself, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Merkley, Mrs. Gillibrand, and Mr. Booker):
S. 1235. A bill to establish a United States Commission on Hate Crimes to study and make recommendations on the prevention of the commission of hate crimes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. Baldwin (for herself and Mr. Braun):
S. 1236. A bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to develop best practices for incorporating resilience into emergency relief projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. Blumenthal (for himself and Mr. Murphy):
S. 1237. A bill to prevent the purchase of ammunition by prohibited purchasers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Casey (for himself, Ms. Collins, Mr. King, Ms. Hassan, Ms. Sinema, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Menendez, Ms. Stabenow, Mr. Brown, Mrs. Gillibrand, Mr. Blumenthal, Mr. Marky, Mr. Kaine, Mrs. Murray, Mr. Leahy, Mr. Cardin, Mr. Wyden, Ms. Smith, Ms. Warren, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Tester, Ms. Duckworth, Ms. Hirono, Mr. Merkley, Mrs. Feinstein, Mr. Whitehouse, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Bennett, Ms. Rosen, Mr. Booker, Mr. Carper, Mr. Klobuchar, Mr. Van Hollen, and Ms. Cortez Masto):
S. 1238. A bill to amend title 16, United States Code, to ensure that members of the Armed Forces and their families have access to the contraception they need in order to promote the health and readiness of all members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. Gillibrand:
S. 1239. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an exclusion from gross income for certain waste water management subsidies; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. Brown (for himself and Mr. Blumenthal):
S. 1240. A bill to expand and enhance the Manufacturing USA Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. Portman (for himself, Mr. King, Mr. Coons, Mr. Braun, and Ms. Hassan):
S. 1241. A bill to provide for the discharge of parent borrower liability if a student on whose behalf a parent has received certain student loans becomes disabled; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. Cotton (for himself and Ms. Ernst):
S. 1242. A bill to establish the Office of Intelligence in the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. Ernst (for herself and Mr. Grassley):
S. 1243. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the equal employment opportunity functions of Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

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S. 1244. A bill to amend the National and Community Service Act of 1990 to establish a Civilian Climate Corps to help communities respond to climate change and transition to a clean economy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRAHAM:
S. 1245. A bill to combat the theft of trade secrets by China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. CANTWELL:
S. 1246. A bill to amend the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 to authorize pumped storage hydropower development utilizing multiple Bureau of Reclamation reservoirs; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. CUMMINS, Mr. RUBIO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. HAWLEY, and Mr. TILLIS):
S. 1247. A bill to impose certain limitations on high-impact rules pending judicial review; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KING, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. MARSHALL):
S. 1249. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to modify the maximum paycheck protection program loan amount for farmers and ranchers, sole proprietors, independent contractors, and self-employed individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Ms. COONS, Mr. THUNE, Mr. KING, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. BENNET, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. SMITH, Mr. EINSTEIN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. COHEN, Mr. ROY, Mr. BROWN, Mr. Hoefflin, Mrs. SHABEEK, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. HERNICH, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. KENNISTON, Ms. MUKWOKWISI, Mr. CARPER, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. LUJAN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. WARNock, Mr. TUCKERVILLE, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. CRAMER):
S. 1250. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to postpone the effective date of high-impact rules pending judicial review; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself, Ms. STAUFFER, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. BENNET, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. SMITH, Mr. EINSTEIN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. COHEN, Mr. ROY, Mr. BROWN, Mr. Hoefflin, Mrs. SHABEEK, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. HERNICH, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. KENNISTON, Ms. MUKWOKWISI, Mr. CARPER, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. LUJAN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. WARNock, Mr. TUCKERVILLE, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. CRAMER):
S. 1251. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a program to reduce barriers to entry for farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners in certain voluntary or other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. SULLIVAN:
S. 1252. A bill to require each agency to repeal or amend 2 or more rules before issuing or amending a rule; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BRAUN:
S. 1253. A bill to cap noninterest Federal spending at a percentage of potential GDP to right-size the Government, grow the economy, and balance the budget; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. MARSHALL:
S. 1254. A bill to improve the processes by which environmental documents are prepared and permits and applications are processed and regulated by Federal departments and agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CORTÉZ MASTO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNock, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. MARKEY):
S. 1255. A bill to require the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce to promote and administer programs in the priority sectors to assist the development of minority business enterprises, to ensure that such Agency has the necessary supporting resources, particularly during economic downturns, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. CARDIN, and Ms. CORTÉZ MASTO):
S. 1256. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for investors in start-up businesses, to provide a credit for wages paid by start-up businesses to their first employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. THUNE):
S. 1257. A bill to establish a Federal artificial intelligence scholarship-for-service program; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO):
S. 1258. A bill to extend the authorization of each of the National Coal Heritage Area and the Wheeling National Heritage Area in the State of West Virginia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):
S. 1259. A bill to provide that crib bumpers shall be considered banned hazardous products under section 8 of the Consumer Product Safety Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. COONS, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. DAINES, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. ROMNEY, and Mr. KELLY):
S. 1260. A bill to establish a new Direc- torate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, innovation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. STABENOW):
S. Res. 185. A resolution calling on the President to provide evidence or to release United States citizen Paul Whelan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MARKZ (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. BOOKER):
S. Res. 186. A resolution recognizing the duty of the Federal Government to create a Green New Deal; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 90
At the request of Mr. SMITH, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 40, a bill to address the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality, and inhumanity of slavery in the United States and the 13 American colonies between 1619 and 1865 and to establish a commission to study and consider a national apology and proposal for reparations for the institution of slavery, its subsequent de jure and de facto racial and economic discrimination against African Americans, and the impact of these forces on living African Americans, to make recommendations to the Congress on appropriate remedies, and for other purposes.

S. 95
At the request of Mr. RURIO, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) 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. 99
At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 99, a bill to implement equal protection under the 14th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States for the right to life of each born and preborn human person.

S. 101
At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 101, a bill to establish the Environmental Justice Mapping Committee, and for other purposes.

S. 127
At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 127, a bill to support library infrastructure.

S. 134
At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 134, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a retraining assistance program for unemployed veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 152
At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 152, a bill to allow States to approve the use of diagnostic tests during a public health emergency.
At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 425, a bill to require States to establish complete street-level programs, and for other purposes.

S. 477

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 437, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to concede exposure to airborne hazards and toxins from burn pits under certain circumstances, and for other purposes.

S. 456

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BLANKENSHIP), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. ESCOBEDO), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. SMITH), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROY), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DUCKWORTH), and the Senator from New York (Mr. HARKIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 236, a bill to provide for training and employment for children of service members.

S. 373

At the request of Mr. HAMMACK, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. CORKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 768, a bill to prohibit the District of Columbia from using funds to provide sterilization services.

S. 768

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. RAFFERTY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1993, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a 5-year extension of the carbon oxide sequestration credit, and for other purposes.

S. 1993

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1225, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to improve the availability of health insurance products.

S. 1225

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. AXELROD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 896, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the new markets tax credit, and for other purposes.

S. 896

At the request of Mr. HERRERA, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1092, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make grants to eligible organizations to provide service dogs to veterans with severe post-traumatic stress disorder, and for other purposes.

S. 1092

At the request of Mr. SCOTT, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. BLACKBURN) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. THADDEUS) were added as cosponsors of S. 150, a bill to provide for the acquisition of qualified access technology for the blind.

S. 150

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 289, a bill to authorize appropriations for offsetting the costs related to reductions in research productivity resulting from the coronavirus pandemic.

S. 289

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURRI), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEVINE), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) 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. 321

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 401, a bill to amend the Public Health Services Act to prohibit governmental discrimination against health care providers that do not participate in abortion.

S. 401

At the request of Mr. LAND, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. McCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 144, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a $2,000 tax credit for a qualified educational opportunity account to be used for any qualified educational expenses, and for other purposes.

S. 144

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DALES) were added as cosponsors of S. 1166, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently allow a tax deduction at the time the investment in qualified property is made.

S. 1166

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor 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 a single employer under section 3(5) of such Act for purposes of sponsoring a group health plan, and for other purposes.

S. 896

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 911, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make grants to eligible organizations to provide service dogs to veterans with severe post-traumatic stress disorder, and for other purposes.

S. 911

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 265, a bill to provide for a 3-year extension of the carbon oxide sequestration credit, and for other purposes.

S. 265

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 986, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a 3-year extension of the carbon oxide sequestration credit, and for other purposes.

S. 986

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1006, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to list fentanyl-related substances as schedule I controlled substances.

S. 1006

At the request of Mr. COONS, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1099, a bill to designate residents of the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China as Special Priority 2 refugees of special humanitarian concern, and for other purposes.

S. 1099

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1148, a bill to amend the Employment Act of 1974 to permanently extend the depreciable rule for property used predominantly within an Indian reservation.

S. 1148

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DALES) were added as cosponsors of S. 1166, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently allow a tax deduction at the time the investment in qualified property is made.

S. 1166

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor 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 a single employer under section 3(5) of such Act for purposes of sponsoring a group health plan, and for other purposes.
(Mr. Tester) were added as cosponsors of S. 1168, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to improve the efficiency of summer meals.

S. 1200

At the request of Mr. Blumenthal, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. Feinstein) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. Murphy) were added as cosponsors of S. 1216, a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to clarify provisions enacted by the Captive Wildlife Safety Act, to further the conservation of certain wildlife species, and for other purposes.

S. 1205

At the request of Mr. Grassley, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. Shaheen) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1216, a bill to extend the temporary scheduling order for fentanyl-related substances.

S. J. RES. 14

At the request of Mr. Heinrich, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. Collins) was added as a cosponsor of S. J. Res. 14, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Oil and Natural Gas Sector: Emission Standards for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources Review”.

S. RES. 35

At the request of Mr. Cardin, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. Braun) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 35, a resolution condemning the military coup that took place on February 1, 2021, in Burma and the Burmese military’s detention of civilian leaders, calling for an immediate and unconditional release of all those detained and for those elected to serve in parliament to resume their duties without impediment, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 97

At the request of Mr. Risch, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. Rosen) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 97, a resolution calling on the Government of Ethiopia, the Tigray People’s Liberation Front, and other belligerents to cease all hostilities, protect human rights, allow unfettered humanitarian access, and cooperate with independent investigations of credible atrocity allegations pertaining to the conflict in the Tigray Region of Ethiopia.

S. RES. 126

At the request of Mr. Rubio, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. Hagerty) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 126, a resolution condemning the crackdown by the Government of the People’s Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party in Hong Kong, including the arrests of pro-democracy activists and repeated violations of the obligations of that Government undertaken in the Sino-British Joint Declaration of 1984 and the Hong Kong Basic Law.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION

By Mr. Schumer (for himself, Mr. Young, Ms. Hassan, Ms. Collins, Mr. Coons, Mr. Portman, Ms. Baldwin, Mr. Graham, Mr. Peters, Mr. Blunt, Mr. Daines, Mr. Van Hollen, Mr. Romney, and Mr. Kelly):

S. 1260. A bill to establish a new Directorate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, innovation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. Schumer. 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. 1260

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 “Endless Frontier Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) For over 75 years, the United States has been the unequivocal global leader in scientific and technological innovation, and as a result the people of the United States have benefited through good-paying jobs, economic prosperity, and a higher quality of life.

(A) Today, however, this leadership position is being eroded and challenged by foreign competitors, some of which are stealing intellectual property and trade secrets of the United States innovation ecosystem, it is only a matter of time before the global competitors of the United States overtake the United States in terms of technological prowess. The country that wins the race in key technologies—such as artificial intelligence, quantum computing, advanced communications, and advanced manufacturing—and supports those technologies domestically throughout the country to ensure the leadership of the United States in the industries of the future.

(2) The distribution of innovation jobs and investment in the United States has become largely concentrated in just a few locations, while much of the Nation has been left out of growth in the innovation sector. More than 90 percent of the Nation’s innovation sector employment growth in the last 15 years was created in just 5 metropolitan areas. The Federal Government must address this imbalance in opportunity by:

(A) dramatically increasing funding for science and engineering research to create knowledge and expanding partnerships with the private sector to build new technology hubs across the country;

(B) spreading high-quality innovation sector jobs more broadly;

(C) increasing the participation of underrepresented populations, engaging workers, and collaborating with labor organizations in innovation efforts to tap the talent and potential of the entire Nation to ensure the United States leads the industries of the future; and

(D) building regional capacity in such critical areas as entrepreneurship, access to capital and other investment, and supply chain development.

(5) As President Franklin D. Roosevelt stated, “[N]ew frontiers of the mind are before us, and if they are pioneered with the same vision, boldness, and drive with which we have waged this war we can create a fuller and more fruitful employment and a fuller and more fruitful life.”

(6) As Vannevar Bush stated in his 1945 report entitled Science, The Endless Frontier, “New products, new industries, and more jobs require continuous additional to knowledge. The laws of edge are the edge of knowledge to practical purposes. Similarly, our defense against aggression demands new knowledge so that we can develop new and improved weapons. This essential, new knowledge can be obtained only through basic scientific research.

Since their inception, the National Science Foundation and other key Federal agencies, like the Department of Energy, have carried out vital work supporting basic and applied research in areas such as entrepreneurship, access to capital and other investment, and supply chain development.

SEC. 3. IMPROVING TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION RESEARCH AT THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.

(a) PROVIDING AUTHORITY TO DISSEMINATE INFORMATION. Section 2 of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1861) is amended—

(1) in subsection (3), by striking “and” after the semicolon;

(2) in subsection (k), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(l) provide for the widest practicable and appropriate dissemination of information
within the United States concerning the Foundation’s activities and the results thereof.”

(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF DIRECTORATE FOR TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION.—The National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1862o–5), as amended, in section 321(f) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1062o–5), is amended by inserting after the first sentence the following: “Such divisions shall include the Directorate for Technology and Innovation established under section 8A.”

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMMUNITY COLLEGE.—The term ‘community college’ has the meaning given the term ‘junior or community college’ in section 101(d) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(d)).

(2) DISINGUISHED COUNTRY.—The term ‘distinguished country’ means a country that has been approved and designated in writing by the President for purposes of this section, after providing—

(A) not less than 30 days of advance notification and explanation to the relevant congressional committees before the designation; and

(B) to in-person briefings to such committees, if requested during the 30-day advance notification period described in subparagraph (A).

(3) DIRECTORATE.—The term ‘Directorate’ means the Directorate for Technology and Innovation established under subsection (b).

(4) EMERGING RESEARCH INSTITUTION.—The term ‘emerging research institution’ means an institution of higher education with an established undergraduate student program that has, on average, for the 3 years prior to an application for an award under this section, received less than $5,000,000 in Federal research funding.

(5) FEDERAL RESEARCH FACILITY.—The term ‘federal research facility’ includes a research laboratory of the Department of Agriculture and any other Federally funded research and development center.

(6) BLACK COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.—The term ‘historically black college or university’ has the meaning given the term ‘part B institution’ in section 322 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1062o–5).

(7) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the meaning given the term ‘educational institution’ in section 101(d) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(d)).

(8) KEY TECHNOLOGY FOCUS AREAS.—The term ‘key technology focus areas’ means the areas included in the most recent list under subsection (d)(2).

(9) LABOR ORGANIZATION.—The term ‘labor organization’ has the meaning given the term ‘labor organization’ under subsection (2) of the National Labor Relations Act (29 U.S.C. 152(5)), except that such term shall also include—

(A) any organization composed of labor organizations, such as a labor union federation or a State or municipal labor body; and

(B) any organization which would be included in the definition for such term under such section but for the fact that the organization represents—

(i) individuals employed by the United States, any wholly owned Government corporation, any Federal Reserve Bank, or any State or political subdivision thereof;

(ii) individuals employed by persons subject to the Railway Labor Act (45 U.S.C. 151 et seq.)

(iii) individuals employed as agricultural laborers.

(10) MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The term ‘minority-serving institution’ means an institution described in section 371(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067(a)).

(11) NATIONAL LABORATORY.—The term ‘National Laboratory’ has the meaning given the term in section 2 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 17011(a)).

(12) RELEVANT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ‘relevant congressional committees’ means—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

(13) STEM.—The term ‘STEM’ has the meaning given section 2 of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–358; 42 U.S.C. 6621 note).

(14) TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.—The term ‘tribal college or university’ has the meaning given the term in section 316(b)(3) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1008(b)(3)).

(15) UNDERREPRESENTED POPULATIONS.—The term ‘underrepresented populations’ means women, minorities, veterans, tribal populations, persons with disabilities, and other populations that are underrepresented in STEM.

(16) OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR.—(A) PROGRAM MANAGERS.—The employees of the Directorate may include program managers for the key technology focus areas.

(B) REPLACEMENT OF DIRECTOR.—In the event of the death, resignation, retirement, or other incapacitation of the Director, the Director shall designate an acting Director to serve for the remainder of the term of the Director, until a successor is appointed in accordance with the provisions of law.

(C) REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of the America COMPETES Act, the Director shall submit a report to the Congress regarding the establishment of the Directorate.

(17) IN DEPARTMENTAL ORGANIZATION.—The organization represents—

(i) individuals employed by the United States, any wholly owned Government corporation, any Federal Reserve Bank, or any State or political subdivision thereof;

(ii) individuals employed by persons subject to the Railway Labor Act (45 U.S.C. 151 et seq.)

(iii) individuals employed as agricultural laborers.

(18) INDEPENDENT LIVING.—The term ‘independent living’ has the meaning given such term in section 1431 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 741).

(19) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.—The term ‘National Science Foundation’ means the National Science Foundation established under section 3 of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1862o–5), through basic research in the United States in critical technologies, as described as a critical national need in section 7018 of the America COMPETES Act (42 U.S.C. 1862o–5), and through the activities authorized by this section, in order to further the following goals:

(A) Addressing and mitigating technology challenges integral to the geopolitical position of the United States through the activities authorized by this section.

(B) Enhancing the competitiveness of the United States in the key technology focus areas by improving education in the key technology focus areas and attracting more students to such areas at all levels of education.

(C) Consistent with the mission and operations of the Foundation, fostering the economic and societal impact of Federally funded research and development through an accelerated translation of basic advances in the key technology focus areas into processes and products, known as technology transfer, that can help achieve national goals related to economic competitiveness, domestic manufacturing, national security, environmental stewardship, the environment, health, education and workforce development, and transportation.

(D) Utilizing the full potential of the United States in the accelerated translation of basic advances in the key technology focus areas by underrepresented populations.

(E) Ensuring the programmatic work of the Directorate and Foundation incorporates a workforce perspective from labor organizations and workforce training organizations.

(F) The term ‘Director’ means the Director of the National Science Foundation established under section 8 of the America COMPETES Act (42 U.S.C. 1862o–5), as amended by the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–358; 42 U.S.C. 6621 note).

(G) The term ‘Directorate’ means the Directorate for Technology and Innovation established under section 8A.

(H) The term ‘Directorate of Technology and Innovation’ means the Directorate for Technology and Innovation established under section 8A.

(I) The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of Energy or other Secretary of the United States as defined in section 2 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 17011(a)).

(J) The term ‘grant’ means the award of any Federal grant or contract made to a Federal entity and any entity other than a Federal entity as defined in section 315 of the America COMPETES Act (42 U.S.C. 1862o–5).

(K) The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of the Department of Energy or other Secretary of the United States as defined in section 2 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 17011(a)).

(20) IN FEDERAL AGENCIES.—(A) PROGRAM MANAGERS.—The employees of the Directorate may include program managers for the key technology focus areas.

(B) REPLACEMENT OF DIRECTOR.—In the event of the death, resignation, retirement, or other incapacitation of the Director, the Director shall designate an acting Director to serve for the remainder of the term of the Director, until a successor is appointed in accordance with the provisions of law.

(C) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the America COMPETES Act, the Director shall prepare and submit a report to the relevant congressional committees regarding the use of alternative methods for the selection of recipients and the distribution of funding to recipients as compared to the traditional peer review process.

(D) ASSISTANT DIRECTORS.—The Director shall appoint an Assistant Director for the Directorate, in the same manner as other Assistant Directors of the Foundation are appointed.

(F) REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of the America COMPETES Act, the Director shall prepare and submit a report to the relevant congressional committees regarding the establishment of the Directorate.

(G) PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT AUTHORITIES FOR THE FOUNDATION.—In addition to the authorities and requirements of section 15, the Director shall have the following authorities:

(i) EXPERTS IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING.—The Director shall have the authority to carry out a program of personnel management authority in the same manner, and subject to the same requirements, as the program of personnel management authority authorized for the Director of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency under section 1590h of title 10, United States Code, for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.

(ii) HIGHLY QUALIFIED EXPERTS IN NEED EXCEPTED OCCUPATIONS.—In addition to the authority under paragraph (1), the Director shall have the authority to carry out a program of personnel management authority in the same manner, and subject to the same requirements, as the program to attract highly qualified experts carried out by the Secretary of Defense under section 9903 of title 5, United States Code. Individuals hired by the Director through such authority shall include individuals with expertise in business creativity, innovation management, design thinking, entrepreneurship, venture capital, and related fields.

(iii) ADDITIONAL HIRING AUTHORITY.—To the extent needed to carry out the duties in paragraph (1), the Director is authorized to carry out such authority under section 372 of title 5, United States Code, to staff the Directorate with employees from other Federal agencies.
(ii) LIMIT ON KEY TECHNOLOGY FOCUS AREAS.— Not more than 10 key technology focus areas shall be included on the list of key technology focus areas at any time.

(iii) UPDATING FOCUS AREAS AND DISTRIBUTION.— Immediately after each review under this subparagraph, the Director shall make the list of key technology focus areas readily available to the public and available for public comment, including, at a minimum, by publishing the list in the Federal Register even if no changes are expected to be made to the list.

(iv) ANNUAL BRIEFING.— Each year, the Director shall—

(1) prepare and distribute a list of all key technology focus areas;

(2) identify key technology focus areas to—

(A) the Congress;

(B) the Federal agencies and other entities, as appropriate, for the purposes of this Act.

(2) PROGRAM EVALUATION.— The Director—

(i) shall review the list of key technology focus areas, including the key technology focus areas that were revised or modified during the preceding year pursuant to this Act;

(ii) shall consider the challenges and recommendations identified in the report required by section 11 of the Endless Frontier Act and, as appropriate, shall work with the other departments and agencies to develop a list of key technology focus areas that are—

(A) comprehensive and consistent with the purposes of this Act;

(B) responsive to the challenges and needs of the Nation;

(C) innovative and dynamic;

(D) aligned with the strategic plans and programs of the participating agencies;

(E) consistent with the goals and objectives of this Act and the Endless Frontier Act;

(F) consistent with the national priorities for science and technology as described in this section;

(G) consistent with the strategic plans and programs of the participating agencies;

(H) consistent with the national priorities for science and technology as described in this section.

(8) ANNUAL REPORT.— Each year, the Director shall submit to the relevant congressional committees—

(i) an assessment of the progress of the activities of the Directorate, including a list of—

(A) the key technology focus areas;

(B) ongoing projects or research, and other activities described in this section;

(iii) the Director to be vital to the success of the program, and

(iv) any other information that may be relevant to the purposes of this Act.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.— For purposes of this section, the Director and the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, upon being granted an extraordinary circumstance waiver—

(i) shall submit to the relevant congressional committees—

(A) an extraordinary circumstance waiver report;

(B) an extraordinary circumstance waiver justification; and

(C) a list of key technology focus areas.

(iv) EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCE WAIVER.— In extraordinary circumstances, the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy may grant the ability to add or delete key technology focus areas without acting in coordination as described in clause (i). If such an ability is determined to be necessary by the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, the Director and the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall not later than 15 days after such a waiver being granted submit a detailed description and justification to the relevant congressional committees.

(v) ACTIVITIES.— (A) IN GENERAL.— In carrying out the duties and functions of the Directorate, the Director—

(i) may make awards in a technology-neutral manner for key technology focus areas to—

(A) individual institutions of higher education for work at centers or by individual researchers or teams;

(B) not-for-profit entities; and

(C) consortia that—

(aa) shall include at least one of the following:

(1) established private institutions or associated nonprofit organizations;

(2) a Tribal College or University;

(3) a historically Black college or university;

(4) an emerging research institution described in clause (i) of section 11 of the Endless Frontier Act; and

(bb) shall include at least one of the following:

(A) a historically Black college or university;

(B) a Tribal College or University;

(C) another minority-serving institution;

(DD) an institution that participates in the Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research under section 113 of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 19013); and

(E) an institution of higher education, or by a not-for-profit entity designed to support technology development, and may include 1 or more additional institutions of higher education;

(ii) shall include at least one of the following:

(A) a historically Black college or university;

(B) a Tribal College or University;

(C) another minority-serving institution;

(DD) an institution that participates in the Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research under section 113 of the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 19013); and

(E) an institution of higher education, or by a not-for-profit entity designed to support technology development, and may include 1 or more additional institutions of higher education;

(iii) may consider the challenges and recommendations identified in the report required by section 11 of the Endless Frontier Act and, as appropriate, shall work with the other departments and agencies to develop a list of—

(A) certain designated countries; and

(B) entities other than institutions of higher education; and

(ii) the planned activities of the Directorate to secure federally funded science and technology pursuant to section 1746 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92) and section 223 of William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116–28); and

(3) ANNUAL BRIEFING.— Each year, the Director shall submit to the relevant congressional committees—

(i) an assessment of the progress of the activities of the Directorate, including a list of—

(A) the key technology focus areas;

(B) ongoing projects or research, and other activities described in this section;

(iii) the Director to be vital to the success of the program, and

(iv) any other information that may be relevant to the purposes of this Act.
“(i) any funds provided under paragraph (3)(A)(ii) to other divisions of the Foundation; and
(ii) any funds provided under paragraph (3)(A)(i) to other federal research agencies.

“(5) PROVIDING SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND OTHER STUDENT SUPPORT.—
(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director, acting through the Office of Academic Innovation, shall make funds available for the establishment of scholarships, fellowships, and other support opportunities for graduate students in institutions of higher education, including institutions that are consortia involved in operating university technology centers established under paragraph (6); and
(B) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Director may carry out subparagraph (A) by providing funds—
(I) for making awards—
(ii) directly to students; and
(ii) through institutions of higher education or consortia or to other institutions of higher education, including consortia that experience awarding such scholarships, fellowships, traineeships, or postdoctoral awards.

“(6) UNIVERSITY TECHNOLOGY CENTERS.—
(A) IN GENERAL.—From amounts made available under paragraph (5), the Director shall establish a university technology center for purposes of—
(I) to build capacity at an institution of higher education to advance innovation in the key technology focus areas; and
(ii) to provide additional support for postsecondary students and faculty in the key technology focus areas.

(B) USES OF FUNDS.—
(i) IN GENERAL.—A center established under paragraph (A)—
(I) shall use support provided under such subparagraph—
(aa) to carry out basic and translational research to advance innovation in the key technology focus areas; and
(bb) to further the development and commercialization of innovations, including inventions, in the key technology focus areas, including—
(AA) innovations derived from research carried out under item (aa), through such activities as translational research, proof-of-concept development, and prototyping, in order to reduce the cost, time, and risk of commercializing new technologies; and
(BB) promoting patenting and commercialization of inventions derived from research carried out under item (aa); and
(cc) through the use of public-private partnerships; and
(ii) may use support provided under such subparagraph—
(aa) for the costs of equipment;
(bb) for the costs associated with technology transfer and commercialization, including patenting and licensing; or
(cc) for other activities determined necessary by the Director to accomplish the purposes of this section, including for operations and staff.

(C) SELECTION PROCESS.—In selecting recipients under this paragraph, the Director shall consider—
(I) the capacity of the applicant to pursue and advance basic and translational research;
(ii) the extent to which the applicant's proposed research would be likely to advance American competitiveness in 1 or more key technology focus areas;
(iii) the extent to which the applicant's proposed research would broaden participation by underrepresented populations in those areas;
(iv) the extent to which the applicant's proposed research would encourage the training and participation of entrepreneurs and the translation of research results to practice, including the development of new businesses;
(v) the capacity of the applicant to pursue and advance basic and translational research;
(vi) the capacity of the applicant to pursue and advance basic and translational research;
(vii) how the applicant will, where applicable, encourage the training and participation of entrepreneurs and the translation of research results to practice, including the development of new businesses;
(viii) how the applicant will, where applicable, encourage the training and participation of entrepreneurs and the translation of research results to practice, including the development of new businesses;
(ix) regional and geographic diversity;
(as) in the case of a consortium, the extent to which the proposal includes institutions listed in paragraph (3)(A)(I)(II) and (III); and
(bb) the extent to which the proposal includes activities described in subparagraph (A)(x) to illustrate their commercialization potential.

(D) REQUIREMENTS.—The Director shall establish—
(I) the capacity of the applicant to pursue and advance basic and translational research;
(ii) whether the applicant's proposed research will contribute to growth in domestic manufacturing capacity and job creation;
(iii) the quality of plans for dissemination of research technology results, in accordance with relevant export control laws;
(iv) the extent to which the applicant's proposed research will encourage the participation of inventors and entrepreneurs and the development of new businesses, where applicable;
(v) the extent to which the applicant's proposed research will encourage the participation of inventors and entrepreneurs and the development of new businesses, where applicable;
(vi) how the applicant will, where applicable, encourage the training and participation of entrepreneurs and the translation of research results to practice, including the development of new businesses; and
(vii) how the applicant will, where applicable, encourage the training and participation of entrepreneurs and the translation of research results to practice, including the development of new businesses.

(E) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPLANT.—The Director shall ensure that funds made available under this paragraph shall be used to create additional support for postsecondary students and shall not displace funding for any other eligible support.

(F) UNIVERSITY TECHNOLOGY CENTERS.—
(A) IN GENERAL.—From amounts made available under paragraph (5), the Director shall establish a university technology center for purposes of—
(I) to build capacity at an institution of higher education to advance innovation in the key technology focus areas; and
(ii) to provide additional support for postsecondary students and faculty in the key technology focus areas.

(B) USES OF FUNDS.—
(i) IN GENERAL.—A center established under paragraph (A)—
(I) shall use support provided under such subparagraph—
(aa) to carry out basic and translational research to advance innovation in the key technology focus areas; and
(bb) to further the development and commercialization of innovations, including inventions, in the key technology focus areas, including—
(AA) innovations derived from research carried out under item (aa), through such activities as translational research, proof-of-concept development, and prototyping, in order to reduce the cost, time, and risk of commercializing new technologies; and
(BB) promoting patenting and commercialization of inventions derived from research carried out under item (aa); and
(cc) through the use of public-private partnerships; and
(ii) may use support provided under such subparagraph—
(aa) for the costs of equipment;
(bb) for the costs associated with technology transfer and commercialization, including patenting and licensing; or
(cc) for other activities determined necessary by the Director to accomplish the purposes of this section, including for operations and staff.

(D) REQUIREMENTS.—The Director shall establish—
(I) the capacity of the applicant to pursue and advance basic and translational research;
(ii) the extent to which the applicant's proposed research would be likely to advance American competitiveness in 1 or more key technology focus areas;
(iii) the extent to which the applicant's proposed research would broaden participation by underrepresented populations in those areas;
“(ii) a reporting schedule for recipients of such awards that takes into account both short- and long-term goals of the program under this paragraph.

(b) Authorizations.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director, in coordination with the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, shall establish a program in the Directorate to make awards, on a competitive basis, to institutions of higher education or consortia described in subsection (A)(i)(IV) to establish and operate test beds and fabrication facilities to advance the operation, integration, development, and, as appropriate, manufacture of new, innovative technologies in the key technology focus areas, which may include hardware or software. The goal of such test beds and facilities shall be to accelerate the movement of innovative technologies into the commercial market through the private sector.

(2) COORDINATION.—In establishing the program under clause (1), the Director shall ensure coordination in establishing new test beds under this paragraph with other test beds protected by the Foundation or established under Manufacturing USA to avoid duplication and maximize the use of Federal resources.

(3) PROPOSALS.—A proposal submitted under this paragraph shall, at a minimum, describe—

(i) the technology or technologies that will be the focus of the test bed or fabrication facility;

(ii) the goals of the work to be done at the test bed or facility; and

(iii) the expected schedule for completing that work;

(iv) how the applicant will collaborate with firms in the key technology focus areas, including through coordinated research and development and funding, to ensure that work in the test bed or facility will contribute to the commercial viability of any technologies and will include collaboration from industry and labor organizations;

(v) how section 3(a) of Title 49, United States Code, will encourage the participation of inventors and entrepreneurs and the development of new businesses;

(vi) how the applicant will include participation by underrepresented populations;

(vii) how the applicant will demonstrate that the commercial viability of any new technologies will support the creation of high-quality domestic jobs;

(viii) how the test bed or facility will operate after Federal funding has ended; and

(ix) whether the test bed will disseminate lessons and other technical information to United States firms or allied or partner country firms in the United States.

(C) AUTHORIZED USE OF FUNDS.—An award made under this paragraph shall be for 7 years, with the possibility of 5-year extensions.

(4) AUTHORIZED USE OF FUNDS.—An award made under this paragraph shall be for 7 years, with the possibility of 5-year extensions.

(D) AUTHORIZED USE OF FUNDS.—An award made under this paragraph shall be for 7 years, with the possibility of 5-year extensions.

(E) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR AWARD RECIPIENTS AND APPLICANTS.—The Director may—

(i) coordinate with other Federal agencies to establish interagency and multidisciplinary teams to provide technical assistance to recipients of, and prospective applicants for, awards under this section;

(ii) by Federal interagency agreement and notwithstanding any other provision of law, transfer funds available to carry out this section to the Director of the National Science Foundation to support the provision of technical assistance; and

(iii) enter into contracts with third parties to provide such technical assistance.

(5) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS AND LIMITATIONS.—No funds may be appropriated to the Office of Inspector General. From any amounts appropriated for the Foundation for a fiscal year, there is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to provide for the Office of Inspector General of the Foundation an amount of not less than $10,000,000 in any fiscal year appropriation for the Foundation, and in fiscal years for which the program and activities established under this section in accordance with the Inspector General Act of 1978.

(6) SUPPLEMENT AND NOT SUPPLANT.—The amounts authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section shall supplement, and not supplant, any other amounts already appropriated to the Foundation or Office of Inspector General of the Foundation, except with respect to transfers described in paragraph (3).

(7) TRANSFER OF FUNDS AUTHORITY.—For fiscal years 2022 through 2024, the Director shall transfer any funds appropriated to the Directorate to any other directorate or office of the National Science Foundation directly related to the key technology focus areas.

(8) NO NEW AWARDS.—The Director shall not make any new awards for the activities described in this section in any fiscal year in which the total amount appropriated to the Foundation (not including amounts appropriated for the Directorate) is less than the total amount appropriated to the Foundation (not including such amounts), adjusted by the rate of inflation, for the previous fiscal year.

(9) NO FUNDS FOR CONSTRUCTION.—No funds provided under this section shall be used for construction.

(B) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act or any other Act made to this Act by the Endless Frontier Act shall be construed to alter the mission of any directorate of the Foundation existing prior to the date of enactment of such Act, or to alter the award selection methods or criteria used by such directorates.

SEC. 8b. CHIEF DIVERSITY OFFICER.

(a) CHIEF DIVERSITY OFFICER.—

(1) APPOINTMENT.—The Director shall appoint a Chief Diversity Officer of the National Science Foundation.

(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—The Chief Diversity Officer should have significant experience with diversity and inclusion, in particular within the Federal Government and science community.

(3) OVERSIGHT.—The Chief Diversity Officer shall be responsible for providing advice on policy, oversight, guidance, and coordination with respect to matters of the National Science Foundation related to diversity, equity, and inclusion. Other duties may include—

(i) establishing and maintaining a strategic plan that publicly states a diversity definition, vision, and goals for the National Science Foundation;

(ii) defining a set of strategic metrics that are—

(A) directly linked to key organizational priorities and goals; and

(B) actionable; and

(C) actively used to implement the strategic plan laid out under paragraph (1); and

(iii) advising in the establishment of a strategic plan for diverse participation by
institutions of higher education, including community colleges, historically Black colleges and universities, Tribal colleges or universities, and other minority-serving institutions. The $25,000,000 is defined in section 8(a), and individuals;

(4) advising in the establishment of a strategic plan for outreach to, and recruiting from, untapped locations and underrepresented populations; and

(5) performing such additional duties and exercising such powers as the Director may prescribe.”

(d) ANNUAL REPORT ON UNFUNDED PRIORITIES.—

(1) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 10 days after the date on which the President for a fiscal year is submitted to Congress pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, the National Science Board shall submit to the President and to Congress a report on the unfunded priorities of the National Science Foundation.

(2) ELEMENTS.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall provide—

(A) for each directorate of the National Science Foundation for the most recent, fully completed fiscal year—

(i) the research and education rate; (ii) the percentage and total funding of proposals that were not funded and that met the criteria for funding; and

(iii) a list, in order of priority, of the next research areas covered by proposals described in clause (ii); and

(B) a list, in order of priority, of the next activities approved by the National Science Board to be undertaken in the Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction account.

(e) PILOT PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director, acting through the Directorate, shall establish a 5-year pilot program for awarding grants to eligible partnerships to build research and education capacity at emerging research institutions to enable such institutions to contribute to programs run by the Directorate.

(2) APPLICATIONS.—An eligible partnership seeking a grant under this subsection shall submit an application to the Director at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Director may reasonably require, including a statement of how the partnership will use the funds awarded through the grant to achieve a lasting increase in the research and education capacity at emerging research institutions included in the eligible partnership.

(3) ACTIVITIES.—An eligible partnership receiving a grant under this subsection may use the funds awarded through such grant for—

(A) faculty salaries and training;

(B) research experiences for undergraduate and graduate students;

(C) maintenance and repair of research equipment and instrumentation; and

(D) any other activities the Director determines appropriate.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(A) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means the Director of the National Science Foundation.

(B) DIRECTORATE; EMERGING RESEARCH INSTITUTION.—The terms “Directorate” and “emerging research institution” have the meanings given such terms in section 8(a) of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, except that, with respect to the term “emerging research institution”, the reference in paragraph (4) of such section to an award under section 8(a) of that Act shall be deemed a reference to a grant under this subsection.

(C) ELIGIBLE PARTNERSHIP.—The term “eligible partnership” means a partnership of—

(i) at least 1 emerging research institution; and

(ii) at least 1 institution classified as a very high research activity by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.

SEC. 4. ENDLESS FRONTIER FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated a total of $112,410,000,000 for fiscal years 2022 through 2026 for the implementation of this Act and the amendments made by this Act. Such funds shall be available for the implementation of this Act and the amendments made by this Act, and the National Science Foundation shall be permitted to administer the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy (referred to in this section as the “Director”).

(b) USE OF FUNDS.—

(1) SUBMISSION OF ANNUAL ALLOCATION.—Until the date on which all of the amounts in the Fund described in subsection (a) are expended, the Director shall annually submit to Congress, together with the annual budget of the United States, a list of allocations to agencies and departments to implement this Act and the amendments made by this Act that includes a detailed description of each program proposed to be funded, including the estimated expenditures from the Fund for the programs for the applicable fiscal year.

(2) ALTERNATE ALLOCATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for the relevant fiscal year may provide for alternate allocation of amounts made available under this section.

(B) ALLOCATION BY PRESIDENT.—

(i) NO ALTERNATE ALLOCATIONS.—If Congress has not enacted legislation establishing alternate allocations as described in subparagraph (A) by the date on which the Act making full-year appropriations for Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the applicable fiscal year is enacted into law, amounts made available under this section shall be allocated by the Director.

(ii) INSUFFICIENT ALTERNATE ALLOCATION.—If Congress enacts legislation establishing alternate allocations for amounts made available under this section that are less than the full amount authorized to be appropriated for each of the fiscal years 2022 through 2026 for the activities approved by the National Science Foundation, the Director shall allocate the amounts available under this section equally among the eligible partnerships.

(c) LIMITATION.—No funds provided under this section shall be used for construction, except in the case of infrastructure projects described in subparagraph (A) by the date on which the Director, acting through the Office of Science and Technology Policy, in consultation with relevant nongovernmental organizations and the heads of other relevant Federal agencies and in consultation with relevant nongovernmental partners, shall—

(i) review such strategy, programs, and resources as the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy determines pertain to United States national competitiveness in science, research, innovation, and technology transfer, including patenting and licensing, to support the national security strategy; and

(ii) develop or revise a strategy for the Federal Government to improve the national competitiveness of the United States in science, research, and innovation to support the national security strategy.

(d) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Director shall submit to Congress, the Committees on Appropriations, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Budget, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committees on Appropriations, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Committee on Homeland Security, the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, the Committee on Ways and Means, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives a report on the implementation of this Act and the amendments made by this Act.

(e) ANNUAL REPORT ON UNFUNDED PRIORITIES.—(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall submit to Congress a report on the unfunded priorities of the National Science Foundation.

(2) ELEMENTS.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall provide—

(A) for each directorate of the National Science Foundation for the most recent, fully completed fiscal year—

(i) the research and education rate; (ii) the percentage and total funding of proposals that were not funded and that met the criteria for funding; and

(iii) a list, in order of priority, of the next research areas covered by proposals described in clause (ii); and

(B) a list, in order of priority, of the next activities approved by the National Science Board to be undertaken in the Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction account.

SEC. 5. STRATEGY AND REPORT ON ECONOMIC SECURITY, SCIENCE, RESEARCH, AND INNOVATION TO SUPPORT THE NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Budget, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committees on Appropriations, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Committee on Homeland Security, the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Oversight and Reform, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, the Committee on Ways and Means, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives;

(2) KEY TECHNOLOGY FOCUS AREA.—The term “key technology focus area” means an area included on the most recent list under section 8(a)(2) of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950.

(3) NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY.—The term “national security strategy” means the national security strategy described in section 108 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3043).

(b) STRATEGY AND REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In 2021 and in each year thereafter before the applicable date set forth under paragraph (2), the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, in coordination with the Director of the National Economic Council, the Director of the National Science Foundation, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Energy, the National Security Council, the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and heads of other relevant Federal agencies and in consultation with relevant nongovernmental partners, shall—

(i) review the national security strategy, programs, and resources as the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy determines pertain to United States national competitiveness in science, research, innovation, and technology transfer, including patenting and licensing, to support the national security strategy; and

(ii) develop or revise a strategy for the Federal Government to improve the national competitiveness of the United States in science, research, and innovation to support the national security strategy.

SEC. 6. APPROPRIATIONS.—

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Budget, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committees on Appropriations, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Committee on Homeland Security, the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Oversight and Reform, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, the Committee on Ways and Means, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives;
(A) An assessment of public and private investment in civilian and military science and technology and its implications for the geostrategic position and national security of the United States.

(B) A description of the prioritized economic security interests and objectives, including domestic job creation, of the United States relating to science, research, and innovation, as well as how Federal investment in civilian and military science and technology can advance those objectives.

(C) An assessment of how regional efforts are contributing and could contribute to the innovation capacity of the United States, including—

(i) programs run by State and local governments; and

(ii) regional factors that are contributing or could contribute positively to innovation.

(D) An assessment of—

(i) workforce needs for competitiveness and national security in key technology areas; and

(ii) Federal support needed—

(1) to expand domestic and international student pathways into key technology areas; and

(2) to improve workforce development and employment systems, as well as programs and practices to upskill incumbent workers.

(E) An assessment of barriers to competitiveness in the key technology focus areas and barriers to the development and evolution of start-ups, small and mid-sized business entities, and industries in key technology focus areas.

(F) An assessment of the effectiveness of the Federal Government, federally funded research and development centers, and national labs in supporting and promoting technology commercialization and technology transfer, including an assessment of the adequacy of Federal research and development funding in promoting competitiveness and the development of new technologies.

(G) An assessment of manufacturing capacity, including key chain dynamics of major export sectors, including access to a skilled workforce, physical infrastructure, and broadband network infrastructure.

(H) An assessment of how the Federal Government is increasing the participation of underrepresented populations in science, research, innovation, and manufacturing.

(I) An assessment of the effectiveness of the Federal Government, Federally funded research and development centers, and national laboratories in transitioning technology processes that emerge from Federally funded research to new domestic manufacturing growth and job creation across sectors in the United States.

(J) A plan to utilize available tools to address or minimize the leading threats and challenges and to take advantage of the leading opportunities, particularly in regards to technology central to competition between the United States and China, including the following:

(i) Specific objectives, tasks, metrics, and milestones for relevant Federal agencies.

(ii) Specific plans to support public and private sector investment in research, technology development, education and workforce development, and domestic manufacturing in key technology focus areas supportive of the national economic competitiveness of the United States and to foster the prudent use of public-private partnerships.

(K) A description of—

(i) how the strategy submitted under subsection (b)(1)(C)(i) supports the national security strategy; and

(ii) how the strategy submitted under such subsection is integrated and coordinated with the most recent national defense strategy under section 112(g) of title 10, United States Code.

(L) A plan to encourage the governments of countries that are allies or partners of the United States to cooperate with the execution of the strategy submitted under subsection (b)(1)(C)(ii), where appropriate.

(M) A plan to encourage certain international and multilateral organizations to support the implementation of such strategy.

(N) A plan for how the United States should develop local and regional capacity for building innovation ecosystems across the Nation by providing Federal support.

(O) A plan for strengthening the industrial base of the United States.

(1) An identification of additional resources, administrative action, or legislative action recommended to assist with the implementation of such strategy.

(M) A FORM OF REPORTS AND STRATEGIES.—Each report and strategy submitted under subsection (b)(1)(C) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 6. SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCE PROGRAM.

(a) Definitions.—In this section:

(1) CRITICAL INDUSTRY.—The term ‘‘critical industry’’ means—

(A) key technology focus areas, as defined in section 5 of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as added by section 3(b) of this Act; and

(B) areas identified by the report in subsection (f).

(2) CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.—The term ‘‘critical infrastructure’’ has the meaning given in the Critical Infrastructure Protection Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 5190 et seq.).

(3) FOREIGN ENTITY.—The term ‘‘foreign entity’’ means—

(A) an individual who is not a protected individual (as defined in section 722(b)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1322(b)(3))); or

(i) a partnership, association, corporation, organization, or other combination of persons described in subparagraph (A); and

(ii) any person, wherever located, that acts as an agent, representative, or employee of a person described in subparagraph (A); or

(iii) any person that acts in any other capacity at the request, or under the direction or control, of—

(I) a person described in subparagraph (A); or

(II) a person, the activities of which are directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed, or subsidized in whole or in part in any other country by a person described in subparagraph (A).

(b) Reports.—Not later than one year after the date of the submission of the first report submitted under subsection (b)(1)(C)(i), the Committee on Appropriations shall hold a hearing on the implementation of the report submitted under subsection (b)(1)(C)(i), and each subsequent year thereafter, the Committee shall hold a hearing on the implementation of the report submitted under subsection (b)(1)(C)(i).

(2) Each report and strategy submitted under subsection (b)(1)(C) shall include the following:

(A) A plan to utilize available tools to address or minimize the leading threats and challenges and to take advantage of the leading opportunities, particularly in regards to technology central to competition between the United States and China, including the following:

(i) Specific objectives, tasks, metrics, and milestones for relevant Federal agencies.

(ii) Specific plans to support public and private sector investment in research, technology development, education and workforce development, and domestic manufacturing in key technology focus areas supportive of the national economic competitiveness of the United States and to foster the prudent use of public-private partnerships.

(iii) Specific plans to promote environmental stewardship and fair competition for United States workers.

(iv) A description of—

(I) how the strategy submitted under subsection (b)(1)(C)(ii) supports the national security strategy; and

(ii) how the strategy submitted under such subsection is integrated and coordinated with the most recent national defense strategy under section 112(g) of title 10, United States Code.

(v) A plan to encourage the governments of countries that are allies or partners of the United States to cooperate with the execution of the strategy submitted under subsection (b)(1)(C)(ii), where appropriate.

(vi) A plan to encourage certain international and multilateral organizations to support the implementation of such strategy.

(vii) A plan for how the United States should develop local and regional capacity for building innovation ecosystems across the Nation by providing Federal support.

(viii) A plan for strengthening the industrial base of the United States.

(ix) An identification of additional resources, administrative action, or legislative action recommended to assist with the implementation of such strategy.

(x) A FORM OF REPORTS AND STRATEGIES.—Each report and strategy submitted under subsection (b)(1)(C) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(3) Foreign Entity of Concern.—The term ‘‘foreign entity of concern’’ means a foreign entity that is included as a foreign terrorist organization by the Secretary of State under section 219(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189(a)); or

(B) included on the list of specially designated nationals and blocked persons maintained by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury commonly known as the ‘‘SDN list’’;

(C) owned, controlled by, or subject to the jurisdiction or direction of a government of a foreign country that is a covered nation as defined in section 2353(c)(4) of title 10, United States Code;

(D) alleged by the Attorney General to have been involved in activities for which a conviction was obtained under—

(i) chapter 37 of title 18, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘‘Espionage Act’’);

(ii) section 951 or 1030 of title 18, United States Code;

(iii) a Foreign Entity of concern'; means a foreign entity that is included as a foreign terrorist organization by the Secretary of State under section 219(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189(a)); or

(B) included on the list of specially designated nationals and blocked persons maintained by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury commonly known as the ‘‘SDN list’’;

(C) owned, controlled by, or subject to the jurisdiction or direction of a government of a foreign country that is a covered nation as defined in section 2353(c)(4) of title 10, United States Code;

(D) alleged by the Attorney General to have been involved in activities for which a conviction was obtained under—

(i) chapter 37 of title 18, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘‘Espionage Act’’);

(ii) section 951 or 1030 of title 18, United States Code;

(iii) section 90 of title 18, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘‘Economic Espionage Act of 1996’’);

(iv) the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.); or

(v) section 224, 225, 226, 227, or 236 of the Arms Export Control Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, and 2281);

(vi) the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (50 U.S.C. 4801 et seq.); or

(vii) the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.); or

(E) determined by the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence, to be engaged in unauthorized conduct that is detrimental to the national security or foreign policy of the United States.

(c) Cross-Reference.—The term ‘‘labor organization’’ has the meaning given such term in section 5(a)(1) of the National Labor Relations Act (29 U.S.C. 152(1)), as added by section 903 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (P.L. 115-141).

(d) Relevance of Committees.—The term ‘‘relevant committees of Congress’’ means—

(A) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;
(c) the Committee on Finance of the Senate;
(d) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;
(e) the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;
(f) the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate;
(g) the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives;
(h) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives;
(i) the Select Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives;
(j) the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives;
(k) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives;
(l) the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives; and
(m) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

8. SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Commerce.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish in the Department of Commerce a supply chain resiliency and crisis response program to carry out the activities described in subsection (d).

(c) MISSION AND PRIORITIES.—
(1) MISSION.—The mission of the program is to—
(A) ensure the leadership of the United States with respect to industries that are essential to the long-term national security and economic competitiveness;
(B) promote, in partnership with the private sector and other relevant stakeholders, the resiliency of supply chains of the United States and allied or partner countries; and
(C) encourage partnerships between the Federal Government and industry, labor or- ganizations, and State, local, territorial, and Tribal governments in order to better re- spond to supply chain crises.

(2) PRIORITIES.—The program shall—
(A) work with allies or key partners to collectively build and strengthen resilient global supply chains (including through the mid-term and long-term diversification of key supply chains, which shall include the support of small- and medium-sized businesses) that can ensure the access of the United States to critical goods and services in the face of shocks, including pandemics; strategic national technical infrastructure operation or repair and replacement; cyberattacks, extreme weather events, terror- orist and geopolitical attacks, great power conflict, and other threats to national security, with key parts of such resilience being—
(i) the diversification of key supply chains with allies or key partners; and
(ii) working with allies or key partners through agreements and other commit- ments; and
(B) support collaboration with allies or key partners to collectively build and strengthen resilient global supply chains, including through identifying supply chain vulnerabilities, expanding productive capacity, and stockpiling essential goods.

(d) ACTIVITIES.—Under the program, the Secretary, acting through 1 or more bureaus or other divisions of the Department of Commerce as appropriate, shall carry out activi- ties—
(1) to map and monitor key supply chains and to identify current and future key sup- ply chain gaps and vulnerabilities in critical industries;
(2) to develop or identify opportunities to build domestic capacity, and cooperate with allies or key partners, to address supply chain gaps and vulnerabilities in critical in- dustries;
(3) to consult and collaborate with the Di- rector of the Office of Management and Budget, the Secretary of Defense, the Sec- retary of Homeland Security, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of State, the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, and, as appropriate, the heads of other Federal departments and agencies to invest in upstream supplier gaps;
(4) to encourage partnerships between the Federal Government and industry, labor or- ganizations, and State, local, territorial, and Tribal governments to better respond to cri- ses;
(5) to support the distribution of critical resources to areas that have the greatest needs during crises;
(6) to develop contingency plans to ensure a resilient supply chain response for poten- tial crises;
(7) to ensure that allies and key partners have supply chains that are capable of sup- porting critical industries; and
(8) to enter into agreements and partner- ships with allied or partner governments to promote diversified and resilient supply chains that ensure supply of critical goods to both the United States and allied companies.

(e) AUTHORITIES.—The Secretary may—
(A) study technical, engineering, and oper- ational data acquired on a voluntary basis from the private sector, in a manner that en- sures any data provided by the private sector is kept confidential and is subject to section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Freedom of Infor- mation Act'');
(B) directly receive whistleblower com- plaints with appropriate protection; and
(C) identify key competitiveness chal- lenges in critical industries;

(f) REPORT ON SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCY AND DOMESTIC MANUFACTURING.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Select Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, the report required under section 552 of title 5, United States Code, a report, in coordination with other relevant Federal departments and agencies—
(1) identifying—
(A) technologies critical to economic com- petitiveness and national security; and
(B) supplies critical to the crisis prepared- ness of the United States, such as medical supplies, personal protective equipment, dis- aster response necessities, electrical genera- tion technology, materials essential to crit- ical infrastructure operation or repair and renovation, and other supplies identified by the Secretary;
(2) describing—
(A) the current domestic manufacturing base that applies these technologies and supplies, including raw mate- rials, production equipment, and other goods essential to the production of those tech- nologies and supplies; and
(B) the ability of the United States to main- tain readiness and to surge produce these technologies and supplies in response to an emergency;
(3) identifying defense, intelligence, home- land, economic, domestic labor supply, nat- ural and environmental, and other tech- nologies and supplies that may disrupt, strain, compromise, or eliminate the supply chain for those technologies and supplies;
(4) assessing the resiliency and capacity of the domestic, allied, and partner manufac- turing base, supply chains, and workforce to support the need for those technologies and supplies, including vulnerabilities in supply chains that are capable of sup- porting critical industries;
(5) assessing the flexibility and capacity of the United States to mitigate risks and enhance supplies, including vulnerabilities in supply chains for those technologies and supplies, including vulnerabilities in supply chains for those technologies and supplies;
(6) identifying key competitiveness chal- lenges in critical industries;
(7) providing guidance on technologies and supplies to be prioritized for assistance and fill gaps in domestic purchasing; and
(8) identifying policies to maximize do- mestic job retention and creation, including workforce development programs;

(g) ADDITIONAL HIRING AUTHORITY.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—To the extent needed to carry out the program, the Secretary may use the hiring and appointment authorities under section 3372 of title 5, United States Code, to staff the program with employees from other Fed- eral agencies, institutions of higher edu- cation, and other organizations as described in that section with relevant experience in supply chain management and investment in the same manner and subject to the same requirements适用的人员，包括个体和企业，以支持其他任务的落实。
Sec. 25. Regional Technology Hub Program.

(a) Definitions.—In this section:

(1) appropriate committees of Congress.—The term ‘appropriate committees of Congress’ means—

(A) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Environment and Public Works, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) Cooperative extension.—The term ‘cooperative extension’ has the meaning given the term ‘extension’ in section 1404 of the Food and Agriculture Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 303).

(3) Key Technology Focus Areas.—The term ‘key technology focus areas’ means the areas included on the most recent list under section 8A(d)(2) of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950.

(4) Labor Organization.—The term ‘labor organization’ has the meaning given such term in section 8A(a) of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950.

(5) Large Metropolitan Communities.—The term ‘large metropolitan community’ means a metropolitan statistical area with a population of more than 500,000.

(6) Manufacturing Extension Center.—The term ‘manufacturing extension center’ means the entity established by the Department of Commerce to carry out the functions specified in section 25(a) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278k(a)).

(7) Manufacturing USA Institute.—The term ‘Manufacturing USA Institute’ means an Manufacturing USA institute described in section 34(d) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278d).

(8) Mid-sized Metropolitan Communities.—The term ‘mid-sized metropolitan community’ means a metropolitan statistical area with a population of more than 200,000 and not more than 500,000.

(9) Other Technology and Innovation Sectors Critical to National and Economic Security.—The term ‘other technology and innovation sectors critical to national and economic security’ means other technology and innovation sectors that the Secretary determines are critical to national and economic security.

(10) Small and Rural Communities.—The term ‘small and rural community’ means a noncore area, a micropolitan area, or a small metropolitan statistical area with a population of not more than 200,000.

(b) Venture Development Organization.—The term ‘venture development organization’ means a State or nonprofit organization focused primarily toward strengthening the regional economic development through innovation by—

(A) accelerating the commercialization of research and technology;

(B) strengthening the competitive position of startups and industry through the development, commercial adoption, or deployment of technology;

(C) providing financial grants, loans, or direct investment to commercialize technology;

(D) pairing direct financial assistance under paragraph (1) with entrepreneur- ship, technological, or business assistance to maximize the likelihood of success for a venture and increased employment growth for the region or a sector; and

(E) returning any proceeds gained from direct financial assistance made using paragraph (1) to the fund established in paragraph (1)(A) to support the region’s reinvestment, entrepreneurial assistance, and support of operations.

(c) Eligible Consortia.—For purposes of this section, an eligible consortium is a consortium that—

(i) includes 1 or more—

(A) institutions of higher education;
“(b) local or Tribal governments or other political subdivisions of a State;
“(c) State governments represented by an agency designated by the governor of the State that is a representative of the geographic area served by the consortium;
“(d) economic development organizations or similar entities that are focused primarily on improving science, technology, innovation, or entrepreneurship;
“(e) industry or firms in relevant technology or innovation sectors;
“(f)miscellaneous public and private organizations and institutions;
“(g) workforce training organizations, including State and local workforce development agencies or organizations established under section 101 of the Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3111); and
“(2) may include 1 or more—
“(A) nonprofit economic development entities with relevant expertise, including a district organization (as defined in section 300.3 of title 13, Code of Federal Regulations, or successor regulation);
“(B) for-profit entities with relevant expertise;
“(C) venture development organizations;
“(D) financial institutions and investment funds;
“(E) primary and secondary educational institutions, including career and technical education schools;
“(F) industry and industry associations;
“(G) National Laboratories (as defined in section 1 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15801));
“(H) Federal laboratories;
“(I) manufacturing extension centers;
“(J) Manufacturing USA institutes;
“(K) institutions receiving an award under paragraph (6) or (7) of section 8A(d) of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, and successor regulations);
“(L) a cooperative extension.

(c) DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBLE CONSORTIA.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ensure the geographic distribution in the designation of regional technology hubs under subsection (b)(1)(A).

“(2) NUMBER OF REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY HUBS.—During the 5-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of the Endless Frontier Act, the Secretary shall designate not fewer than 10 and not more than 15 eligible consortia as regional technology hubs under subsection (b)(1)(A), if the Secretary has received a sufficient number of qualified applications for and appropriations to carry out this section.

“(3) GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION.—In conducting the competitive process under paragraph (2), the Secretary shall ensure geographic distribution in the designation of regional technology hubs by—

“(A) aiming to designate regional technology hubs in any geographic region of the United States as possible; and
“(B) focusing on localities that have clear potential and relevant assets for developing a sustainable and competitive position in a technology or innovation sector but have not yet become leading technology centers.

“(4) ELIGIBLE CONSORTIA THAT SERVE SMALL AND RURAL COMMUNITIES.—Under subsection (b)(1)(A), the Secretary shall designate at least 3 eligible consortia that—

“(A) serve small and rural communities; and
“(B) have received a grant under section 29.

“(b) GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out subsection (b) of this section by awarding to eligible consortia a competitive grant or cooperative agreement under subsection (b)(1)(A) of this section.

“(2) PROVISIONS OF GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term of a grant or cooperative agreement awarded under paragraph (1) shall not exceed 5 years.

“(B) IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS.—For purposes of this paragraph, in-kind contributions may be used to reduce the non-Federal share of the total funding of a regional technology hub in a fiscal year.

“(C) MINIMUM THRESHOLD OR RURAL REPRESENTATION.—The Secretary shall ensure that, to the maximum extent practicable, a minimum threshold of rural representation for purposes of clause (1)(A).

“(D) USE OF GRANT AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FUNDS.—The recipient of a grant or cooperative agreement awarded under paragraph (1) shall use the grant or cooperative agreement for multiple activities determined appropriate by the Secretary.

“(A) The permissible activities set forth under section (c)(2)(A); and

“(B) activities in support of key technology focus areas and other technology and innovation sectors critical to national and economic security—

“(i) to develop regional venture and loan funds, including through venture development organizations, for financing technology commercialization, new business formation, and business expansions;

“(ii) to further the development, deployment, and domestic manufacturing of technologies in the key technology focus areas and other technology and innovation sectors critical to national and economic security, including innovations derived from research conducted at institutions of higher education; and

“(iii) to attract new private, public, and philanthropic investment in the region for technology and innovation, including establishing regional venture and loan funds, through venture development organizations, for financing technology commercialization, new business formation, and business expansions.

“(c) FUNDING.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a fund to provide for the purposes of this section.

“(2) USE OF FUNDS.—The recipient of a grant or cooperative agreement awarded under paragraph (1) to support the construction of physical infrastructure shall be
awarded pursuant to section 201 of the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3141) and subject to the provisions of such Act, except that subsection (b) of such section, paragraphs 204 and 301 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 3141, 3161) shall not apply.

‘‘(f) APPLICATIONS.—An eligible consortium seeking designation as a regional technology hub under subparagraph (A) of subsection (b)(1) and support under subparagraph (B) of such subsection shall submit to the Secretary, therefor at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may specify.

‘‘(g) CONSIDERATIONS FOR DESIGNATION AND AWARD OF GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

‘‘(1) IN GENERAL.—In selecting an eligible consortium to receive support under subsection (f) for designation and support under subsection (b)(1), the Secretary shall consider, at a minimum, the following:

‘‘(A) The potential of the eligible consortium to advance the research, development, deployment, and domestic manufacturing of technologies in a key technology focus area or other technology or innovation sector critical to national and economic security.

‘‘(B) The likelihood of positive regional economic effect, including increasing the number of domestic jobs creating new economic opportunities for economically disadvantaged and underrepresented populations and rural areas.

‘‘(C) How the eligible consortium plans to increase domestic supply chains in a key technology focus area or other technology or innovation sector critical to national and economic security.

‘‘(D) How the eligible consortium will engage with the private sector, including small- and medium-sized businesses to commercialize new technologies and improve the resiliency of domestic supply chains in a key technology focus area or other technology or innovation sector critical to national and economic security.

‘‘(E) How the eligible consortium will carry forward, under regional technology and acquisition programming, including through partnerships with entities that include State and local workforce development boards, institutions of higher education, including community colleges, historically Black colleges and universities, Tribal colleges and universities, and minority serving institutions, centers, organizations, and workforce development programs, and other related activities authorized by the Secretary, to support the development of a key technology focus area or other technology or innovation sector critical to national and economic security.

‘‘(F) How the eligible consortium will improve education, engineering, and mathematics education programs in the identified region in elementary and secondary school and higher education institutions in the identified region to support the development of a key technology focus area or other technology or innovation sector critical to national and economic security.

‘‘(G) How the eligible consortium plans to develop partnerships with venture development organizations and sources of private investment to support the private sector, including launching new or expanding existing companies, in a key technology focus area or other technology or innovation sector critical to national and economic security.

‘‘(H) How the eligible consortium plans to organize the activities of regional partners across sectors in support of the proposed regional technology hub, including the development of necessary infrastructure improvements and other related activities.

‘‘(I) How the eligible consortium will ensure that growth in technology and innovation sectors produces broadly shared opportunity across the identified region, including for economically disadvantaged and underrepresented populations and rural areas.

‘‘(J) The likelihood that the region served by the eligible consortium will be able to become a self-sustaining globally leading technology hub once Federal support ends.

‘‘(2) FINDINGS BASED ON COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY STRATEGIES.—The Secretary may use a comprehensive regional technology strategy supported by a grant under section 29 as the basis for making findings under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

‘‘(b) COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION.—

‘‘(1) COORDINATION WITH NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS.—

‘‘(A) COORDINATION REQUIRED.—The Secretary shall coordinate the activities of regional technology hubs designated under this title, the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership, and the Manufacturing USA Program with each other to the degree that doing so does not diminish the effectiveness of the ongoing activities of a Manufacturing Extension Partnership, a Manufacturing USA Institute, or other Federal research entities.

‘‘(B) ELEMENTS.—Coordination by the Secretary under this subsection (A) may include the following:

‘‘(i) The alignment of activities of the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership with the activities of regional technology hubs designated under this subsection, if applicable.

‘‘(ii) The alignment of the activities of the Manufacturing USA Program and the Manufacturing USA institutes with the activities of regional technology hubs designated under this subsection, if applicable.

‘‘(ii) INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION.—

‘‘(A) IN GENERAL.—In selecting and assisting regional technology hubs designated under subsection (b)(1)(A), the Secretary shall—

‘‘(i) shall collaborate, to the extent possible, with the interagency advisory committee established under subparagraph (B);

‘‘(ii) shall collaborate with Federal departments and agencies whose missions contribute to the goals of the regional technology hub; and

‘‘(iii) may accept funds from other Federal agencies to support grants and activities under this title.

‘‘(B) INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL.—

‘‘(i) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish an interagency coordinating council to coordinate with the Secretary in the development of a regional technology hub under subparagraph (A) of subsection (b)(1) and in the selection of eligible consortia to receive support under subparagraph (B) of such subsection.

‘‘(ii) COMPOSITION.—The interagency coordinating council established under clause (i) may include—

‘‘(I) The Secretary of Commerce.

‘‘(II) The Secretary of Education.

‘‘(II) The Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

‘‘(IV) The Under Secretary for Housing and Urban Development.

‘‘(V) The Director of the Community Development Financial Institution Fund.

‘‘(VI) The Director of the National Science Foundation.

‘‘(VII) The Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

‘‘(VIII) The Director of the National Economic Council.

‘‘(IX) The Assistant Secretary for Economic Development.

‘‘(X) The Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training.

‘‘(XI) The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

‘‘(XII) The Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering.

‘‘(XIII) The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment.


‘‘(XV) The Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology.


‘‘(XVII) The Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

‘‘(XVIII) The Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

‘‘(XIX) Such other Federal officials as the Secretary of Commerce considers appropriate.

‘‘(2) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not less frequently than once each year, the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall submit to the each head of a Federal agency that conducts research to set goals for at least doubling the amount of Federally-funded research awarded, as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Endless Frontier Act, to regions served by regional technology hubs designated under subsection (b)(1)(A).

‘‘(1) SETTING GOALS FOR FEDERA LLY FUNDED REGIONS SERVED BY RESEARCH IN REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY HUBS.—

‘‘(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall—

‘‘(I) establish an interagency coordinating council to coordinate with the Secretary in the development of a regional technology hub under subparagraph (A) of subsection (b)(1) and in the selection of eligible consortia to receive support under subparagraph (B) of such subsection.

‘‘(ii) collaborate with Federal departments and agencies whose missions contribute to the goals of the regional technology hub; and

‘‘(iii) may accept funds from other Federal agencies to support grants and activities under this title.

‘‘(B) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not less frequently than once each year, the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress an annual report on progress made relating to the goals set under subparagraph (A).

‘‘(1) PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT, TRANSPARENCY, AND ACCOUNTABILITY.—

‘‘(2) METRICS, STANDARDS, AND ASSESSMENT.—For each grant and cooperative agreement awarded under subsection (e)(1) for a regional technology hub, the Secretary shall—

‘‘(A) develop metrics to assess the effectiveness of the activities funded in making progress toward the purposes set forth under subsection (b)(2), which may include—

‘‘(i) research supported in a key technology focus area.

‘‘(ii) commercialization activities undertaken by any regional technology hub that is designated and supported under subsection (b)(1);
“(iii) educational and workforce development improvements undertaken by each regional technology hub that is designated and supported under subsection (b)(1); and

(iv) Any funding for each regional technology hub that is designated and supported under subsection (b)(1); and

(v) home job creation, patent awards, and business expansion and expansion relating to the activities of the regional technology hub that is designated and supported under subsection (b)(1); and

(i) A detailed description of the activities of the regional technology hub if the regional technology hub has such a strategy.

(ii) An evaluation of the planning process, and how the eligible entity overcame those obstacles.

(iii) A description of each project carried out using a grant awarded under this section. The Secretary may require an eligible consortium described in such paragraph to submit to the Secretary such interim reports as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(iv) NOT LESS FREQUENTLY THAN ONCE EACH YEAR, the Secretary shall—

(A) designate at least 1 regional technology hub under subsection (b)(1)(A) of such section, the Secretary shall—

(i) A description of each project carried out using a grant awarded under this section. the Secretary shall—

(ii) A detailed description of the activities of the regional technology hub designated pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this paragraph.

Sec. 8. COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY STRATEGY GRANT PROGRAM.

The Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (Public Law 96–480; 15 U.S.C. 3701 et seq.), as amended by section 7, is further amended, by inserting after section 28, as added by such section, the following:

SEC. 29. COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY STRATEGY GRANT PROGRAM.

(1) Definitions.—In this section:

(A) Labor organization.—The term ‘labor organization’ has the meaning given such term in section 1 of the National Labor Relations Act.

(B) Regional technology hub.—The term ‘regional technology hub’ means a consortium in the implementation of the regional technology hub and how the eligible entity overcame those obstacles.

(C) schlachterei, the Secretary shall—

(i) the development and implementation of a comprehensive regional technology strategy, including promoting sustainable development and security;

(ii) A discussion of any obstacles encountered by the eligible consortium in the implementation of the regional technology hub and how the eligible entity overcame those obstacles.

(iii) An evaluation of the success of the projects supported by the eligible consortium to implement the regional technology hub using the performance standards and measures in paragraph (a) of this section, including an evaluation of the planning process and how the project contributes to carrying out the comprehensive strategy for the regional technology hub if the regional technology hub has such a strategy.

(iv) The effectiveness of the eligible consortium in ensuring that, in the region of the eligible consortium’s regional technology hub, growth in technology and innovation sectors produces broadly shared opportunity across the region, including for economic disparity, the non-Federal share of the cost of the project carried out using a grant awarded under this section. the Secretary shall establish a program to award grants to eligible consortia to carry out projects—

(1) to coordinate locally defined planning processes, across jurisdictions and agencies, relating to developing a comprehensive regional technology strategy;

(2) to identify regional partnerships for developing and implementing a comprehensive regional technology strategy;

(3) to coordinate and prepare assessments to determine regional needs and promote economic and community development related to the resiliency of a small and rural community.

(3) to another state, community, or small and rural community.

(2) Federal share.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall—

(A) determine the percentage threshold set forth in subparagraph (A)(i).

(B) INSUFFICIENT APPLICATIONS.—If the Secretary, determines that there are insufficient number of sufficient quality applications for grants under this section have been submitted by eligible consortia that represent all or part of a small and rural community, the Secretary may reduce the percentage threshold set forth in subparagraph (A)(i).

(C) EFFECTIVE DIVERSITY.—In the case of an eligible consortium that represents all or part of a small and rural community, the Federal share of the cost of a project carried out using a grant awarded under this section may be up to 90 percent of the total cost of the project.

(D) INDIAN TRIBES.—In the case of an eligible consortium that is led by a Tribal government, the Federal share of the cost of a project carried out under the grant awarded under this section may be up to 100 percent of the total cost of the project.

(E) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—For the purposes of this paragraph, in-kind contributions may be used for all or part of the non-Federal share of the cost of a project carried out using a grant awarded under this section.

(F) OTHER FEDERAL FUNDING.—Federal funding from sources other than a grant awarded under this section may not be used for the non-Federal share of the cost of a project carried out using a grant awarded under this section.

(G) AVAILABILITY AND OBLIGATION OF GRANT FUNDS.—(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible consortium that receives a grant under this section
shall, as a condition on receipt of grant amounts:

‘‘(i) obligate any grant amounts received under this section not later than 1 year after the date on which the eligible consortium enters into an agreement under subsection (g); and

‘‘(ii) expend any grant amounts received under this section not later than 2 years after the date on which the eligible consortium enters into an agreement under subsection (g).’’

‘‘(c) OBBLIGATED AMOUNTS.—After the date described in subparagraph (A)(i), any amounts awarded to an eligible consortium under this section that remain unobligated by the eligible consortium shall be returned to the Secretary and made available to the Secretary for the award of grants to other eligible consortia under this section.

‘‘(d) IN GENERAL.—An eligible consortium seeking a grant under this section shall submit to the Secretary an application therefor at such time and in such manner as the Secretary shall prescribe.

‘‘(2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

‘‘(A) A description of the boundaries of the region served by the eligible consortium.

‘‘(B) A description of the research, technology, or manufacturing concentration of the eligible consortium.

‘‘(C) A general assessment of the local industrial ecosystem of the region described in subparagraph (A), which may include assessment of workforce and training, including partnerships with labor organizations, supplier network, research and innovation, infrastructure development, trade and international investment, operational improvements, and capital access components needed for manufacturing activities in such region.

‘‘(D) A description of how a grant under this section may assist in developing components of such local industrial ecosystem (selected by the consortium), including descriptions of—

‘‘(i) investments to address gaps in such ecosystem; and

‘‘(ii) how to make the research, technology development, and manufacturing of the region of the consortium uniquely competitive.

‘‘(E) A description of the process by which a comprehensive regional technology strategy will be developed by the eligible consortium to address gaps in such local industrial ecosystem and strengthen the resiliency of supply chains, competitiveness of the identified region, and domestic job creation in technology and innovation sectors critical to national and economic security.

‘‘(F) A budget for the projects that the eligible consortium plans to carry out using grant amounts awarded under this section, including the anticipated Federal share of the cost of each project and a description of the sources of the non-Federal share.

‘‘(G) The designation of a lead agency or organization, which may be the eligible consortium, to receive and manage any funds received by the eligible consortium under this section.

‘‘(H) A signed copy of a memorandum of understanding among members of the eligible consortium that demonstrates—

‘‘(i) the creation of an eligible consortium;

‘‘(ii) the nature and extent of planned collaboration between members of the eligible consortium; and

‘‘(iii) a commitment to develop a comprehensive regional technology strategy.

‘‘(I) Such other matters as the Secretary considers appropriate.

‘‘(3) EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS.—The Secretary shall evaluate each application received under paragraph (1) to determine whether the applicant demonstrates—

‘‘(A) a significant level of regional cooperation in their proposal;

‘‘(B) a focus on building a regional ecosystem to attract and build upon research institutions, and manufacturing and development facilities and developing the industrial ecosystem of the region described in section 34(d) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 276(d)), university technology centers established under paragraph (6) of section 8(a)(d) of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, the program established under paragraph (7) of such section 8(a)(d), test beds established and operated under paragraph (8) of such section 8(a)(d), or other Federal programs established under paragraph (9) of such section 8(a)(d);

‘‘(C) integration with local efforts in inclusive economic development and job creation;

‘‘(D) a plan for implementing a comprehensive regional technology strategy through regional infrastructure, workforce, and supply chain investment plans and local land use plans;

‘‘(E) diversity among the geographic regions and the size of the population of the communities served by recipients of grants under this section;

‘‘(F) a commitment to seeking substantial public input during the planning process and public participation in the development of the comprehensive regional plan;

‘‘(G) a plan to support the creation and growth of new companies; and

‘‘(H) such other qualities as the Secretary considers appropriate.

‘‘(4) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—An eligible consortium that receives a grant under this section shall use the amount of such grant to carry out a project that includes 1 or more of the following:

‘‘(1) Coordinating locally defined planning processes across jurisdictions and agencies.

‘‘(2) Identifying potential regional partnerships for implementing a comprehensive regional technology strategy.

‘‘(3) Conducting or updating assessments to determine regional needs, which may include—

‘‘(A) workforce development;

‘‘(B) supply chain development;

‘‘(C) increasing innovation readiness, including expanding research and technology development facilities and developing the local science, technology, engineering, and mathematics workforce;

‘‘(D) strategies to develop a comprehensive regional technology strategy;

‘‘(E) community and economic development to start new companies and to attract and support workers and firms; and

‘‘(F) and other such needs as determined by the consortium.

‘‘(4) Developing or updating—

‘‘(A) a comprehensive regional plan; or

‘‘(B) goals and strategies to implement an existing comprehensive regional plan for the purposes of strengthening domestic supply chain resiliency, competitiveness, and job growth in domestic technology and innovation sectors for national and economic security.

‘‘(5) Implementing local zoning and other code changes necessary to implement a comprehensive regional plan and promote sustainable development.

‘‘(g) GRANT AGREEMENT.—Each eligible consortium that receives a grant under this section shall, as a condition on receipt of grant amounts, agree to establish, in coordination with the Secretary, performance measures, reporting requirements, and such other requirements as the Secretary determines to be necessary, that must be met at the end of each year in which the eligible consortium receives funds under this section.

‘‘(h) REPORTS BY RECIPIENTS OF GRANTS.—

‘‘(1) FINAL REPORTS.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which a grant agreement into which an eligible consortium entered under subsection (g) expires, the eligible consortium shall submit to the Secretary a final report on the project the eligible consortium carried out under subsection (f) using the amounts of the grant awarded to the eligible consortium under this section.

‘‘(2) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

‘‘(A) A detailed explanation of the activities undertaken using the grant, including an explanation of how the comprehensive regional technology strategy of the eligible consortium may achieve specific improvements in domestic supply chain resiliency, research, development, and deployment of critical technologies, workforce development, domestic job creation, and entrepreneurship goals within the region served by the eligible consortium.

‘‘(B) A discussion of any obstacles encountered in the planning process of the eligible consortium and how the eligible consortium overcame the obstacles.

‘‘(C) An evaluation of the success of the project using the performance standards and measures established under subsection (g), including an evaluation of the planning process and how the project was carried out comprehensive regional technology strategy.

‘‘(D) The progress of the region identified by the consortium toward becoming a regional technology hub.

‘‘(E) The effectiveness of the region identified by the consortium in ensuring that growth in innovation sectors produces broadly shared opportunity in the region.

‘‘(F) Such other information as the Secretary may require.

‘‘(i) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR GRANT RECIPIENTS AND APPLICANTS.—The Secretary may—

‘‘(1) coordinate with other Federal agencies to establish interagency and multidisciplinary teams to provide technical assistance to recipients of, and prospective applicants for, grants under this section;

‘‘(2) by Federal interagency agreement, transfer funds to another Federal agency to facilitate and support the provision of such technical assistance; and

‘‘(3) enter into contracts with third parties to provide technical assistance to grant recipients and prospective applicants for grants under this section.

‘‘(j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary for the award of grants under this section, to remain available until expended, amounts as follows:

‘‘(A) $100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 and 2023.

‘‘(B) $125,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2024 through 2026.

‘‘(k) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may use not more than 5 percent of the
amounts made available under this subsection for a fiscal year for technical assistance under subsection (1).

SEC. 5. MANUFACTURING USA PROGRAM.

(a) In general.—The term "Manufacturing USA Program" means the program established under section 34(d) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278d(b)(1)) that is not a Manufacturing USA center.

(b) Manufacturing USA Network.—The term "Manufacturing USA Network" means an institution described in section 34(d)(3)(B) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278d(b)(3)) and recognized by the Secretary under such section for purposes of participation in the Manufacturing USA Network.

(c) Manufacturing USA Institute.—The term "Manufacturing USA institute" means an institution described in section 34(d) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278d(b)(4)) and recognized by the Secretary under such section for purposes of participation in the Manufacturing USA Network.

(d) Manufacturing USA Center.—The term "Manufacturing USA center" means an institution described in section 34(d)(3)(B) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278d(b)(3)) and recognized by the Secretary under such section for purposes of participation in the Manufacturing USA Network.

(e) Manufacturing USA Institute Authorized.—In establishing new Manufacturing USA institutes under subparagraph (A), the Secretary of Commerce shall coordinate with the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of Defense to ensure there is no duplication of effort or technology focus between new Manufacturing USA institutes and Manufacturing USA institutes that were in effect before the establishment of the new Manufacturing USA institutes.

(f) Consultation with Existing Manufacturing USA Institutes Authorized.—In carrying out coordination under clause (i), the Secretary of Commerce may consult with existing Manufacturing USA institutes that were in effect before the establishment of new Manufacturing USA institutes under subparagraph (A) to inform the Department of Commerce about additional existing Manufacturing USA institutes necessary to fill gaps in the support of innovation and growth in domestic manufacturing.

(g) Involvement of Existing Manufacturing USA Institutes Authorized.—In coordination with the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Commerce may involve Manufacturing USA institutes that were in effect before the establishment of new Manufacturing USA institutes under subparagraph (A) in the planning and execution of the new Manufacturing USA institutes.

(h) Manufacturing USA Centers and Public Service Grants.—Of the amounts appropriated to support the Manufacturing USA Program and Support Innovation and Growth in Domestic Manufacturing—

(1) In general.—There is authorized to be appropriated $100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026 for the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, in coordination with the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Defense, and the heads of such other Federal agencies as the Secretary of Commerce considers appropriate, to select alternative Federal agencies relevant to recognize additional institutes as Manufacturing USA institutes under section 34(d)(3)(B) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278d(b)(3)), giving particular consideration to partnerships and coordination with the Manufacturing USA institutes that were already established by the date of the enactment of this Act, and to support the activities of Manufacturing USA institutes and Manufacturing USA centers through the award of grants and contracts under section 34(e) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278e(c)), including grants and contracts that are intended to support such activities.

(2) Coordination between Manufacturing USA Network and Manufacturing USA Institutes Authorized.—In establishing new Manufacturing USA institutes under subparagraph (A), the Secretary of Commerce shall coordinate with the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Defense, and other relevant Federal agencies, consistent with the authorizations for appropriations in paragraph (1), to transfer the appropriate funds to that alternative Federal agency for operation and programming of the selected Manufacturing USA institute.

(3) Assignment of Manufacturing USA Institutes to Federal Agency Sponsors.—Following an open topic competition organized by the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Defense, and other relevant Federal agencies, shall assign each Manufacturing USA institute to a Federal agency to sponsor a selected Manufacturing USA institute based on its technology and may transfer the appropriate funds to that alternative Federal agency for the operation and programming of the selected Manufacturing USA institute.

(4) Authorization of Appropriations to Manufacturing USA Institutes Authorized.—Of the amounts appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations in paragraph (1), $725,000,000 shall be available for the period described in such paragraph for each Manufacturing USA institute that was in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, of which $5,000,000 shall be available (without regard to section 84(e) of such Act) to support each Manufacturing USA institute each year for such period for ongoing operation of the institute, including operational overhead, workforce training, and supply chain activities.

(5) Ongoing Support for Existing Manufacturing USA Institutes.—

(6) In general.—Of the amounts appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations in paragraph (1), $100,000,000 shall be available for Manufacturing USA institutes that were established under section 34(e) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278e(e)) and that were in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act.

(7) Each for one year.—Of the amounts available pursuant to paragraph (1), $10,000,000 shall be available each year for the period described in such paragraph for each Manufacturing USA institute that is participated in by at least one Federal agency, at the Secretary's discretion, for projects that advance commercialization, operational overhead, workforce training, and supply chain activities.

(8) Additional Support.—

(9) In general.—Of the amounts described in paragraph (7), the Secretary shall designate the amounts available to each Manufacturing USA institute for each period to be used to support the activities of the Manufacturing USA institute.

(f) Consultation Required.—In establishing new Manufacturing USA institutes under subparagraph (A), the Secretary of Commerce shall coordinate with the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Defense, and the heads of such other Federal agencies as the Secretary of Commerce considers appropriate, to select among Federal agencies for support the activities of the Manufacturing USA institute.

(g) Manufacturing USA Centers Authorized.—In coordination with the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Commerce shall coordinate with the Secretary of Agriculture and such other Federal agencies as the Secretary of Commerce considers appropriate to select an alternative Federal agency for the purposes of participation in the Manufacturing USA Network and to manage interagency solicitation processes.

(h) Coordination Between Manufacturing USA Programs Authorized.—In coordination with the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Commerce shall coordinate with the Secretary of Agriculture and such other Federal agencies as the Secretary of Commerce considers appropriate, to select between the Manufacturing USA Network and Manufacturing USA institutes the alternative Federal agencies that are best equipped to carry out the purposes of the Manufacturing USA Network and Manufacturing USA institutes.
(A) In general.—The Secretary of Commerce shall, in coordination with the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Energy, and the Secretary of Education, establish an advisory council for the Manufacturing USA Program on the development and dissemination of technologies, policies, and investments for high-road job creation and worker adaptation success with technological change, and increased worker participation across the Manufacturing USA Network.

(B) Membership.—The council established under subparagraph (A) shall be composed of:

(i) four shall be from labor organizations;

(ii) four shall be from education, training, and workforce institutions;

(iii) four shall be from workforce development, and nonprofit organizations, including those that focus on workforce diversity and inclusion;

(iv) three shall be from industry organizations or manufacturing firms, including small- and medium-sized manufacturers.

(C) Period of appointment; vacancies.—

(i) Each member appointed by the Secretary of Commerce, of whom—

(A) four shall be from labor organizations; and

(B) four shall be from education, training, and workforce institutions;

(ii) four shall be from workforce development, and nonprofit organizations, including those that focus on workforce diversity and inclusion; and

(iii) three shall be from industry organizations or manufacturing firms, including small- and medium-sized manufacturers.

(D) Meetings.—

(i) Initial meeting.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the council shall meet for the first time.

(ii) Additional meetings.—After the first meeting of the council, the council shall meet upon the call of the Secretary, and at least once every 180 days thereafter.

(E) Chairperson and vice chairperson.—The Secretary shall elect 1 member of the council established under subparagraph (A) to serve as the chairperson of the council and 1 member of the council to serve as the vice chairperson of the council.

(F) Assessments of technology improvements achieved by the Manufacturing USA institutes and the degree of domestic deployment of each new technology.

(G) Subcommittees as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(3) Report.—

(A) Appropriate committees of Congress.—In general.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(i) the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(ii) the Committee on Education and Labor, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(B) Report required.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the council established under paragraph (1)(A) holds its initial meeting under paragraph (1)(D)(i) and annually thereafter, the council shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report containing a detailed statement of the advice and recommendations of the council pursuant to paragraph (2).

(C) Compensation.—

(i) Prohibition of compensation.—Members of the Council may not receive additional pay, allowances, or benefits by reason of their service on the Council.

(ii) Travel expenses.—Each member shall receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with applicable provisions of law, while away from home in the performance of official duties.

(D) Financial interest disclosure.—Any member who is an employee of a Federal agency is required to disclose any financial interest, as defined in section 1105a(b) of title 5, United States Code.

(E) Recusal requirement.—In the case of a covered entity, a covered entity is a covered entity under this section, the council established under paragraph (1)(A) shall function solely in an advisory capacity, in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

(4) Compensations and other financial interests.

(A) Applicability.—

(i) Measures to assist with supplier scouting and other supply chain development, including the use of the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership to carry out such measures.

(ii) Measures to prioritize Federal procurement of goods, services, or technologies developed by the Manufacturing USA Network activities from domestic sources, as appropriate.

(iii) Measures to assist with supplier scouting and other supply chain development, including the use of the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership to carry out such measures.

(iv) Measures to prioritize Federal procurement of goods, services, or technologies developed by the Manufacturing USA Network activities from domestic sources, as appropriate.

(B) Requirements.—

(i) That is not under foreign ownership, control, or influence (FOCI) as defined in section 847 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 2509 note).

(ii) That is not under foreign ownership, control, or influence (FOCI) as defined in section 847 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 2509 note).

(iii) That is not under foreign ownership, control, or influence (FOCI) as defined in section 847 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 2509 note).

(iv) That is not under foreign ownership, control, or influence (FOCI) as defined in section 847 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 2509 note).

(v) That is not under foreign ownership, control, or influence (FOCI) as defined in section 847 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 2509 note).

(vi) That is not under foreign ownership, control, or influence (FOCI) as defined in section 847 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 2509 note).

(vii) That is not under foreign ownership, control, or influence (FOCI) as defined in section 847 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 2509 note).

(viii) That is not under foreign ownership, control, or influence (FOCI) as defined in section 847 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 2509 note).

(ix) That is not under foreign ownership, control, or influence (FOCI) as defined in section 847 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 2509 note).

(x) That is not under foreign ownership, control, or influence (FOCI) as defined in section 847 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 2509 note).

(xi) That is not under foreign ownership, control, or influence (FOCI) as defined in section 847 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 2509 note).

(xii) That is not under foreign ownership, control, or influence (FOCI) as defined in section 847 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 2509 note).

(xiii) That is not under foreign ownership, control, or influence (FOCI) as defined in section 847 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 2509 note).

(xiv) That is not under foreign ownership, control, or influence (FOCI) as defined in section 847 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 2509 note).

(xv) That is not under foreign ownership, control, or influence (FOCI) as defined in section 847 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 2509 note).

(xvi) That is not under foreign ownership, control, or influence (FOCI) as defined in section 847 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 2509 note).

(xvii) That is not under foreign ownership, control, or influence (FOCI) as defined in section 847 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 2509 note).

(xviii) That is not under foreign ownership, control, or influence (FOCI) as defined in section 847 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 2509 note).

(xix) That is not under foreign ownership, control, or influence (FOCI) as defined in section 847 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 2509 note).

(xx) That is not under foreign ownership, control, or influence (FOCI) as defined in section 847 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 2509 note).

(B) Management practices that prioritize the following:

(i) Worker participation, including worker adaptation and management opportunities for underrepresented populations.

(ii) Worker participation, including worker adaptation and management opportunities for underrepresented populations.

(iii) Worker participation, including worker adaptation and management opportunities for underrepresented populations.

(iv) Worker participation, including worker adaptation and management opportunities for underrepresented populations.

(v) Worker participation, including worker adaptation and management opportunities for underrepresented populations.

(vi) Worker participation, including worker adaptation and management opportunities for underrepresented populations.

(vii) Worker participation, including worker adaptation and management opportunities for underrepresented populations.

(viii) Worker participation, including worker adaptation and management opportunities for underrepresented populations.

(ix) Worker participation, including worker adaptation and management opportunities for underrepresented populations.

(x) Worker participation, including worker adaptation and management opportunities for underrepresented populations.

(xi) Worker participation, including worker adaptation and management opportunities for underrepresented populations.

(xii) Worker participation, including worker adaptation and management opportunities for underrepresented populations.

(xiii) Worker participation, including worker adaptation and management opportunities for underrepresented populations.

(xiv) Worker participation, including worker adaptation and management opportunities for underrepresented populations.

(xv) Worker participation, including worker adaptation and management opportunities for underrepresented populations.

(xvi) Worker participation, including worker adaptation and management opportunities for underrepresented populations.

(xvii) Worker participation, including worker adaptation and management opportunities for underrepresented populations.

(xviii) Worker participation, including worker adaptation and management opportunities for underrepresented populations.

(xix) Worker participation, including worker adaptation and management opportunities for underrepresented populations.

(xx) Worker participation, including worker adaptation and management opportunities for underrepresented populations.

(3) Prohibition.—

(A) Company defined.—In this paragraph, the term “company” has the meaning given such term in section 847(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 10 U.S.C. 2509 note).

(B) In general.—A company of the People’s Republic of China may not participate in the Manufacturing USA Program or the Manufacturing USA Network without a waiver, as described in paragraph (2)(C).

(SEC. 10. TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION REVIEW."

(A) Key Technology Focus Areas Defined.—In this section, the term “technology focus areas” means the areas included on the most recent list under section }
paragraph (2).
(A) review—(A) the structure of current technology research and development efforts conducted under Federal funding—
(i) has been used by foreign business entities domiciled in the People’s Republic of China.
(ii) is being used by foreign business entities domiciled or by foreign business entities affiliated with or subsidiary to foreign business entities in the People’s Republic of China.

C. Matters related to the review of key technology areas by the Directorate for Technology and Innovation of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950;
(D) an assessment of the current relative balance in leadership in addressing the challenges identified in paragraph (1)(A) between the United States and its key partners of the United States, and the People’s Republic of China.

(3) FRAMEWORK.— (A) Agreement.—The Secretary shall seek to enter into the agreement required by paragraph (1) on or before the date that is 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.
(B) Under an agreement entered into under paragraph (1), the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine shall, not later than 1 year after the date on which the Secretary and the National Academies enter into such agreement, transmit to the Secretary the findings of the National Academies with respect to the study conducted pursuant to such agreement.

(c) REPORT.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary reviews the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine with respect to the study conducted under subsection (b), the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report to the United States and Russian American Leadership” report on such study.

(2) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include the following:
(A) the findings of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine with respect to the study conducted under subsection (b).
(B) The conclusions of the Secretary with respect to such findings.
(C) The recommendations developed under subsection (b)(1)(B).
(D) Such other recommendations for legislative or administrative action as the Secretary may have with respect to such findings and conclusions.

(3) CLASSIFIED ANNEX.—The report submitted under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex if the Secretary determines appropriate.

(d) INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine may secure directly from a Federal department or agency such information as the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine consider necessary to carry out the study under subsection (b).
(2) FURNISHING INFORMATION.—On request of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine for information, the head of the department or agency shall furnish such information to the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.

(e) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence shall consult with other Federal agencies or upon request from the Secretary of Commerce or the National Academies to carry out this section.

(f) NON-DUPLICATION OF EFFORT.—In carrying out subsection (b), the Secretary shall, to the degree practicable, coordinate with the steering committee established under section 236(a) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–283).

SEC. 12. COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES.

The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Director of the National Science Foundation, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Secretary of Energy shall, as applicable, coordinate with respect to activities of—

(1) the university technology centers established under section 2 of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950;
(2) the regional technology hubs under section 28 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980, as added by section 7;
(3) the Manufacturing USA Program established under section 34(b)(1) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 3706);
(4) Federally funded research and development centers;
(5) National Laboratories, as defined in section 2 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 13501); and

SEC. 13. PERSON OR ENTITY OF CONCERN PROHIBITION.

No person published on the list under section 123(b) of the Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999 (Public Law 106–261; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) or entity identified under section 3(a)(1) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–283) may receive or participate in any grant, award, program, support, or other activity under—

(1) section 8A of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (Public Law 81–507), as added by section 3;
(2) the Endless Frontier Fund under section 4;
(3) the supply chain resiliency program under section 6;
(4) section 28(b)(1) of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (Public Law 96–480), as added by section 7(a); and
(5) the Manufacturing USA Program, as improved and expanded under section 9.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 165—CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO PROVIDE EVIDENCE OR TO RELESAE UNITED STATES CITIZEN PAUL WHELAN

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. STABENOW) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. Res. 165

Whereas United States citizen Paul Whelan is a resident of Novi, Michigan, and a United States Marine Corps veteran;
Whereas Paul Whelan was arrested at the Metropol Hotel for the wedding of a personal friend on December 29, 2018;
Whereas Russia’s Federal Security Service arrested Paul Whelan at the Metropol Hotel in Moscow on December 28, 2018, and charged him with espionage;
Whereas the Federal Security Service has not provided any evidence of supposed wrongdoing;
Whereas Paul Whelan was imprisoned in Lefortovo Prison and was held there for more than 19 months after his arrest in pre-trial detention;
Whereas the Federal Security Service has not provided any evidence of supposed wrongdoing;
Whereas a Moscow court extended Paul Whelan’s pre-trial detention multiple times

The Senate Resolution was agreed to:}

April 20, 2021
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE
S2085
SENATE RESOLUTION 166—RECOGNIZING THE DUTY OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO CREATE A GREEN NEW DEAL

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. PADILLO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BERNSTEIN, Mr. HERRADA, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

Whereas the October 2018 report entitled "Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C" of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the November 2018 Fourth National Climate Assessment report found that:

(1) human activity is the dominant cause of observed climate change over the past century;
(2) a changing climate is causing sea levels to rise and an increase in wildfires, severe storms, droughts, and other extreme weather events that threaten human life, healthy communities, and critical infrastructure;
(3) global warming at or greater than 2 degrees Celsius beyond preindustrialized levels will cause:
   (a) mass migration from the regions most affected by climate change;
   (b) more than $500,000,000,000 in lost annual economic output in the United States by the year 2100;
   (c) wildfires that, by 2050, will annually burn at least twice as much forest area in the western United States than was typically burned by wildfires in the years preceding 2019;
   (d) a less than 99 percent of all coral reefs on Earth;
   (e) more than 350,000,000 more people to be exposed globally to deadly heat stress by 2050; and
   (f) a risk of damage to $1,000,000,000,000 of public infrastructure and coastal real estate in the United States; and
(4) global temperatures must be kept less than 1.5 degrees Celsius above preindustrialized levels to avoid the most severe impacts of a changing climate, which will require:
   (A) global reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from human sources of 40 to 60 percent from 2010 levels by 2050; and
   (B) net-zero global emissions by 2050; but
Whereas climate change, pollution, and environmental destruction have exacerbated systemic racial, residential, environmental, and economic injustices (referred to in this preamble as "systemic injustices") by disproportionately affecting indigenous peoples, communities of color, migrant communities, deindustrialized communities, depopulated rural communities, the poor, low-income women, workers, the elderly, the disabled, and youth (referred to in this preamble as "frontline and vulnerable communities"); and
Whereas the Senate recognizes that a new national, social, industrial, and economic mobilization on a scale not seen since World War II and the New Deal created the greatest middle class that the United States has ever seen, but many communities, deindustrialized communities, depopulated rural communities, the poor, low-income families, workers, the elderly, the disabled, and youth (referred to in this preamble as "frontline and vulnerable communities"); and
Whereas then Secretary of State Mike Pompeo met with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov on May 14, 2019, and urged him to ensure United States citizens are not unjustly held abroad;
Whereas the Kremlin has refused Paul Whelan full access to his lawyer and the so-called evidence against him, and any evidence he has seen is in Russian, a language Paul does not read or speak;
Whereas Russian Federation-appointed lawyer, Vladimir Zherebenkov, stated on May 24, 2019, that ‘‘Russian authorities steadfastly refuse to provide medical treatment for Paul Whelan’s medical condition, despite being aware of its worsening state, resulting in emergency surgery on May 29, 2020;
Whereas Paul Whelan was wrongfully convicted on June 14, 2020, and sentenced to 16 years in a Russian labor camp by a three-judge panel, in a trial witnessed by United States Ambassador John Sullivan, who referred to it as ‘‘a mockery of justice’’ due to the denial of a fair trial and the exclusion of defense witnesses;
Whereas, in August 2020, on an unknown day because he was moved secretly, Paul Whelan was transferred to camp IK-17, a penal labor camp in Mordovia, where he is forced to work 6 days a week in a garment factory;
Whereas Ambassador John Sullivan, while visiting Paul Whelan at the labor camp in Mordovia, stated that ‘‘Russian authorities... have never shown the world evidence of his guilt,’’ and reiterated his call that the Russian authorities correct this injustice and release Mr. Whelan; and
Whereas Secretary of State Antony Blinken spoke with Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on February 4, 2021, and urged him to release Americans detained in Russia, including Paul Whelan and Trevor Reed, so that they are able to return home to their families in the United States; Now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That the Senate—
(1) implores the Government of the Russian Federation to provide Paul Whelan and all other political prisoners their constitutionally afforded due process rights and universal recognition of human rights; and
(2) recognizes human rights; and
(3) calls on the Government of the Russian Federation to provide Paul Whelan and all other political prisoners their constitutionally afforded due process rights and universal recognition of human rights; and
(4) expresses sympathy to the family of Paul Whelan for this travesty to justice and personal hardship, and expresses hope that their ordeal can soon be brought to a just end.

April 20, 2021
S2086
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE
projects that enhance biodiversity and support climate resiliency; 
(L) cleaning up existing hazardous waste sites and abandoned sites and ensuring economic development and sustainability on those sites; 
(M) identifying other emission and pollution sources and creating solutions to remove them; and 
(N) promoting the international exchange of technology, expertise, products, funding, and services, with the aim of making the United States a world leader in climate action and to help other countries achieve a Green New Deal; 
(3) A Green New Deal must be developed through transparent and inclusive consultation, collaboration, and partnership with frontline and vulnerable communities, labor organizations, worker cooperatives, civil society groups, academia, and businesses; and 
(4) to achieve the Green New Deal goals and mobilization, a Green New Deal will require— 
(A) providing and leveraging, in a way that ensures that the public receives appropriate ownership stakes and returns on investment, adequate capital (including through communitie grants, public banks, and other public financing), technical expertise, supporting policies, and other forms of assistance to communities, organizations, Federal, State, and local government agencies, and businesses working on the Green New Deal mobilization; 
(B) ensuring that the Federal Government takes into account the complete environmental and social costs and impacts of emissions through— 
(i) existing laws; 
(ii) new policies and programs; and 
(iii) ensuring that frontline and vulnerable communities, so that all people of the United States may be full and equal participants in the Green New Deal mobilization; 
(C) making public investments in the research and development of new clean and renewable energy technologies and industries; 
(D) directing investments to spur economic development, including in local and regional industries and businesses; 
(E) building a more sustainable food system; 
(F) ensuring the use of democratic and participatory processes that are inclusive of and led by frontline and vulnerable communities and workers to plan, implement, and administer the Green New Deal mobilization at the local level; and 
(G) ensuring that the Green New Deal mobilization creates high-quality union jobs that pay prevailing wages, hires local workers, offers training and advancement opportunities, and guarantees direct replacement of lost wages, health care, retirement, and other benefits for workers affected by the transition; 
(H) guaranteeing a job with a family-sustaining wage, adequate family and medical leave, paid vacations, and retirement security to all people of the United States; 
(I) strengthening and protecting the right of all workers to organize, unionize, and collectively bargain free of coercion, intimidation, and harassment; 
(J) strengthening and enforcing labor, workplace health and safety, antidiscri- 

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED
SA 1447. Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Mr. Hufroe, and Mr. Daines) 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 1448. Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 937, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS
SA 1447. Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Mr. Hufroe, and Mr. Daines) 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 of section 2, add the following: 
(c) Abortion Due to Race, Ethnicity, Color, National Origin, Sex, or Disability, Including a Chromosomal Disorder.—
(1) Reporting.—(A) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes of facilitating expedited review under subsection (a), the Attorney General shall include any abortion committed against an unborn child based on the race, ethnicity, color, national origin, sex, or disability, including a chromosomal disorder, of the unborn child.

SA 1448. Mrs. BLACKBURN 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 end of section 2, add the following:

(c) INVESTIGATION OF ORIGINS OF COVID–19.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of State, shall establish an independent fact-finding commission to investigate the origins of COVID–19 virus.

(2) REPORT ON FINDINGS.—Not later than September 1, 2021, the commission established under paragraph (1) shall submit to Congress a report of findings and conclusions based on the investigation required to be conducted by the commission.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I have 6 requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 20, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 20, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 20, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 20, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 20, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 20, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 2021

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 21; 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 the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of Executive Calendar No. 62, Vanita Gupta to be Associate Attorney General.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10:30 A.M. TOMORROW

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

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:12 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, April 21, 2021, at 10:30 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate April 20, 2021:

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

GARY GENSLER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 5, 2026.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LISA O. MONACO, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL.
EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

LANDIN JEFFREY
HON. ED PERLMUTTER
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Landin Jeffrey for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Landin Jeffrey is an 11th grader at Eagle Ridge Academy and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Landin Jeffrey 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 Landin Jeffrey for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE KIWANIS CLUB OF ANN ARBOR
HON. DEBBIE DINGELL
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the centennial anniversary of the Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor. I am proud to celebrate their 100 years of service to the children, youth, and families of our Ann Arbor community.

Kiwanis International was founded in 1915 in Detroit, Michigan. In its early years, members focused on business networking but changed its focus to service, particularly service to children, by 1919. Following this admirable mission of service to local communities, the Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor was organized on May 13, 1921 and was chartered on June 13, 1921 with 60 members. In 1922, Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor began working with the University of Michigan Hospital to provide recreation and education for children staying there, and later established a Michigan District project that enabled Kiwanis chapters to serve children in hospitals across the state. Beyond their work in hospitals, the Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor has raised money through their thrift sales that contribute to a variety of local charitable organizations.

A century later, the Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor continues to be a pillar of our Ann Arbor community. Since their founding, the club has inducted over 1,100 members and remains one of Michigan’s largest Kiwanis Clubs. Throughout the years, the Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor has made a tremendous difference in our community, completing tens of thousands of volunteer hours, and providing over $6 million in grants and services for children, students, and families in our community. With the help of great leadership and their dedicated members and volunteers, the Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor has lent its unwavering support to those in need, striving to improve our community and uplift everyone in it.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor. We are grateful for the club’s century of impactful work and wish the Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor continued success in service in the years ahead.

WILLIAM J. KRAUTWALD
HON. DONALD NORCROSS
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Mr. NORCROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of William "Billy" J. Krautwald.

Bill was born in Philadelphia, PA but lived out 30 years of his life in Franklinville, NJ before moving to Ellabell, GA. He then made his home in Richmond Hill, where he settled for the next 4 years.

My union brother, Billy Krautwald, believed, with his heart and soul, the basic principles and core values of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. He was a devoted member of the union who will be dearly missed.

Billy’s career with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers spanned almost five decades holding positions ranging from the executive board to president of the union. When Billy decided to retire, he would go on to train the next generation of union activists and speak about the politics to campaign for Habitat for Humanity.

Billy was a devoted father to his two sons, Jeff Krautwald and Billy Krautwald. He was a loving husband to Peggy Krautwald of 47 years, and supportive family member and friend to those around him. He is remembered for all the help, guidance, and direction he offered to the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, blessing my fellow brothers and sisters with the skills of a master electrician and the heart of a lion to make our union one of the greatest in the country.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring the late Mr. William “Billy” J. Krautwald of Philadelphia, PA, the “old guard” union worker, a leader, a friend, and a celebrated member of the New Jersey community.

HONORING EDDIE HILL’S 100TH BIRTHDAY
HON. ANDY KIM
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Eddie Hill’s 100th birthday. Mr. Hill is a loving father, grandfather, great-grandfather and great-great-grandfather. Mr. Hill proudly served his country in World War II as part of the 1695th Engineer Combat Battalion in an all-black combat unit. After serving in dangerous combat duty across Europe, Mr. Hill returned home, went to technical school, and went on to become an auto repair specialist. He even owned his own business, a true testament to his contributions to his community.

For his contributions, his community loved him back. For his pre-birthday celebrations, his neighbors, friends, and family came together to honor Mr. Hill in a large drive-by parade. It is clear to everyone that knows Mr. Hill, that he has made the most of each of his one-hundred years. I wish him many more pursuing his passions of following baseball and gardening.

On behalf of my community and our neighbors across Burlington and Ocean Counties, I wish him a happy birthday and thank him for his service to our Nation.
IN RECOGNITION OF DIXIE COUNTY’S CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HON. NEAL P. DUNN
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Mr. DUNN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the centennial celebration of Dixie County, Florida. Dixie County, FL will turn 100 years old on April 25, 2021. Formerly part of Lafayette County, Dixie County was created in 1921 and is home to the incorporated towns of Cross City, Old Town, and Horseshoe Beach.

Dixie County is known for showcasing its rich history and beautiful landscapes. Home of the Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge, Dixie County is a main attraction for the historic Suwannee River, and the unique beaches nestled along the Gulf of Mexico.

Cross City is the county seat of Dixie and is known for its central location along the Old Spanish Trail, running East to West and “crossing” with Old Salt Road that leads to Horseshoe Beach. In addition, and around Cross City, you will find rural small towns that promote a thriving logging industry. South of Cross City you will find a coastal area where an abundance of commercial fishermen still exists today. In addition to logging and fishing, there is an array of farming operations that largely contribute to Dixie County’s economy.

Boat, plane, or train, there is no limit in getting to and from Dixie County. The Dixie County Airport has served the community and our nation for many years. The airport was previously used as an advanced fighter base during World War II.

Generations of some of the most hardworking, hospitable, and humble people have called Dixie County, Florida home. Since its inception, the citizens of Dixie County have taken pride in preserving its history and educating our youth. Built in 1910, Old Town Elementary School is the oldest public building in Dixie County and currently houses the Dixie County Historical Society. Year after year, the county has worked hard to promote community engagement by hosting annual festivals to showcase Dixie’s rich cultural history. This year is no exception.

It is my honor to recognize 100 years of growth and prosperity for Dixie County.

JASSMEN (JAY) ROZYC
HON. ED PERLMUTTER
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jassmen (Jay) Rozyc for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jassmen (Jay) Rozyc for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I hereby include in the RECORD the cost estimate prepared by the Congressional Budget Office for H.R. 1333, the National Origin-Based Antidiscrimination for Nonimmigrants Act. The cost estimate was not available at the time of the filing of the Committee Report.

H.R. 1333, NATIONAL ORIGIN-BASED ANTIDISCRIMINATION FOR NONIMMIGRANTS ACT

(Cost estimate for H.R. 1333 is as ordered by the House Committee on the Judiciary on April 14, 2021)

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<th>By fiscal year, millions of dollars</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)</td>
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Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply? No.

Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2023? No.

MANDATE EFFECTS

The Immigration and Nationality Act “grants the President broad discretion to suspend the entry of aliens into the United States.” H.R. 1333 would amend that act to narrow the President’s authority to impose restrictions on aliens (non-U.S. nationals) based on their country of birth, country of nationality, and certain other characteristics. By limiting the President’s authority to restrict entry into the United States, the bill could increase the number of aliens who arrive in the country and receive federal benefits. However, the current Administration has not proposed any entry or visa restrictions that would be affected by H.R. 1333; to the contrary, it has revoked several entry and visa restrictions that had been promulgated under the previous Administration. Therefore, CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 1333 would have no budgetary effects. (CBO has no basis for predicting whether a future Administration would seek to impose entry or visa restrictions in the absence of this legislation.)

CBO has reviewed sections 1, 3, and 4 of H.R. 1333 and determined that those provisions contain no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA). CBO has not reviewed section 2 of H.R. 1333 for UMRA effects. Section 4 of UMRA excludes from the application of that act any legislative provisions that would establish or enforce statutory rights prohibiting discrimination. CBO has determined section 2 of H.R. 1333 falls within that exclusion because it would extend protections against discrimination in the immigration process based on sex, national origin, and religion.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is David Rafferty. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, April 19, 2021.

HON. JERROLD NADLER
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

Dear Mr. Chairman: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 1333, the National Origin-Based Antidiscrimination for Nonimmigrants Act.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is David Rafferty. Sincerely,

PHILIP L. SWAGEL, Director.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kayla Burby for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Kayla Burby is a 12th grader at Prairie View High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kayla Burby 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 Kayla Burby for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to be joined by Ranking Member Lucas in introducing the Combating Sexual Harassment in Science Act.

Sexual Harassment in Science Act

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Mrs. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to be joined by Ranking Member Lucas in introducing the Combating Sexual Harassment in Science Act.

The academic workplace, when compared to the military, private sector, and government, has the second-highest rate of sexual harassment, with 58 percent of women in academia experiencing sexual harassment. This behavior undermines career advancement for...
women in critical STEM fields. Many women report leaving promising careers in academic research altogether due to sexual harassment. Women of color are even more likely to experience sexual harassment and to feel unsafe at work. We cannot afford—morally, scientifically, or economically—to continue to lose these skilled scientists and engineers, particularly from groups that are already underrepresented in STEM.

As recommended in the landmark report by the National Academies entitled Sexual Harassment of Women: Climate, Culture, and Consequences in Academic Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, this bill establishes a National Science Foundation program to support research into the factors contributing to sexual harassment in the scientific workforce, as well as the collection of data on the prevalence of sexual harassment in STEM. Furthermore, this bill directs the Office of Science and Technology Policy to issue uniform policy guidelines to Federal science agencies to ensure explicit anti-harassment policies and targeted resources to prevent and respond to incidents of sexual harassment at academic institutions receiving federal research funding. It also creates an interagency working group to improve coordination and communication among agencies.

It is my hope that this legislation will build upon progress already made by the National Science Foundation and other agencies over the last few years. In 2018, the Foundation updated its award terms and conditions to ensure the agency is alerted of findings of sexual harassment or administrative actions taken against NSF-funded researchers during the course of an investigation. It is vital that agencies and grantees, as stewards of Federal money, take seriously their responsibilities to foster a healthy working environment as they train the next generation of scientists. It is encouraging that other agency heads have taken steps to address sexual harassment in research. Following NSF’s lead, the National Institutes of Health instituted a similar update.

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Juan Arredondo for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. Juan Arredondo is a 12th grade student at Vantage Point High School and received this award because of his determination and hard work.

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS WAGE AND ECONOMIC STABILITY ACT

THOMAS JEFFERSON DAY

HON. MIKE ROGERS
OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 65th wedding anniversary of Loren C. and Eloise S. Sutton who were married on June 8, 1956.

Rev. Sutton serves as Pastor Emeritus and Senior Pastor at Airview Church of God in Opelika, Alabama. The Suttons were blessed with four children, two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Loren and Eloise and wishing them a happy 65th wedding anniversary.

HON. ED PERLMUTTER
OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Thomas Jefferson’s birthday.

As our third President, a Founding Father, and the main author of the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson was a formative voice in our nascent American democracy. Jefferson championed the ideas of religious tolerance, human rights, and liberty for all. He considered democracy, along with a free press and robust public education system, to be the embodiment of a thriving, successful society. These indelible notions continue to be fundamental to our country today.

On his 278th birthday, I extend my deepest thanks and respect to Thomas Jefferson for his commitment to the ideals of democracy and his stringent belief in the strength of the United States of America.

HON. GREGORIO KILLI CAMACHO
SABLAN
OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Northern Marianas Islands Wage and Economic Stability Act. This legislation delays for 18 months, in the Marianas only, any national increase in the federal minimum wage that Congress may enact. My bill, also, requires a Government Accountability Office report on the economic impact in the Marianas of such a national wage increase.

Unlike the rest of our nation, where minimum wage has been static, the minimum wage in the Marianas has more than doubled over recent years to reach the federal level of $7.25.

These substantial increases have made life better for thousands of Marianas families and encouraged more U.S. workers to enter the workforce.

But I had to carefully time those increases year-by-year with legislation and based on the help of Government Accountability Office reports to ensure—successfully—that wages went up without jeopardizing jobs.

Economic conditions in the Marianas remain separate from the national situation. Whereas Gross Domestic Product rose nationally in 2019, in the Marianas GDP plunged 11.2 percent that year. That decline came after a 19.3 percent decrease in 2018. And it is reasonable to expect the picture in the Marianas for 2020 will be no better. Our tourism-based economy will remain dormant until the pandemic has passed. Meanwhile, nationally, we expect growth on the order of 6 percent this year.

My point is simply this: If we are going to raise the wage in the Marianas—and, believe me, I do—then we must do it as we did before: with a close eye on the economic conditions in the islands. They are vastly different than conditions in the nation as a whole.

Again, I fully support raising the minimum wage in our country—I want workers to earn more.

I believe the best way to accomplish that goal in the insular area I represent, however, is through my legislation, the Northern Marianas Islands Wage and Economic Stability Act. My bill will give Congress the analytical tools and the time to consider how best to schedule wage increases in the Marianas to improve the lives of workers and their families, while ensuring the businesses employing those workers can thrive.
Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud John Faczak for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

John Faczak is an 11th grader at Bennett High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by John Faczak 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 John Faczak for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dhwani Kharel on being named South Dakota’s 2021 Truman Scholar.

The Truman Scholarship was established by Congress in 1975 as a living legacy to President Harry Truman to support and inspire the next generation of public service leaders.

As a Truman Scholar myself, I am honored to address the House today to congratulate Dhwani Kharel on being named South Dakota’s 2021 Truman Scholar.

The Truman Scholarship is one of the nation’s premier preprofessional awards, designated to prepare the next generation of public service leaders. Each year, the Foundation awards scholarships to 200-300 students across the nation, including 40-50 students from the State of South Dakota. In 2021, the selection committee chose Dhwani Kharel from a record number of 845 applicants.

As a junior at Dartmouth College, Dhwani has already demonstrated a commitment to public service and leadership. She is actively involved in sexual violence prevention advocacy on Dartmouth’s campus and has interned at both the Congressional Research Service and the Brookings Area United Way.

I commend Dhwani for her outstanding record of service, hard work, and leadership. I have no doubt she will excel in the future as she plans to pursue a career in the legal field to advance women’s rights.

As a Truman Scholar myself, I am honored to congratulate Dhwani on this honor. I look forward to seeing all that she accomplishes.

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HIGHLIGHTS

See Final Résumé of Congressional Activity (including the History of Bills) for the Second Session of the 116th Congress.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2043–S2088

Measures Introduced: Forty bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1221–1260, and S. Res. 165–166.

Measures Considered:

COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act: Senate continued consideration of S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pending:
Schumer (for Hirono/Collins) Amendment No. 1445, of a perfecting nature.

A motion was entered to close further debate on Schumer (for Hirono/Collins) Amendment No. 1445 (listed above), and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Thursday, April 22, 2021.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of Schumer (for Hirono/Collins) Amendment No. 1445.

Appointments:

The United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission: The Chair announced, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 106–398, as amended by Public Law 108–7, and in consultation with the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and the Senate Committee on Finance, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission: Kimberly T. Glas of Virginia for a term beginning January 1, 2021 and expiring December 31, 2022.

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 99–93, as amended by Public Law 99–151, appointed the following Senators as members of the United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: Senators Whitehouse (Chairman), Blumenthal, Hassan, and Luján.

GUPTA Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Wednesday, April 21, 2021, Senate resume consideration of the nomination of Vanita Gupta, of Virginia, to be Associate Attorney General, Department of Justice.

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 54 yeas to 45 nays, 1 responding present (Vote No. EX. 157), Gary Gensler, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for a term expiring June 5, 2026.

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 54 yeas to 44 nays, 1 responding present (Vote No. EX. 156), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

By 98 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. EX. 158), Lisa O. Monaco, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Attorney General.

Messages from the House:

Measures Referred:

Measures Placed on the Calendar:

Enrolled Bills Presented:

Executive Communications:

Petitions and Memorials:

Additional Cosponsors:
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S2070–87
Additional Statements: Page S2062
Amendments Submitted: Pages S2087–88
Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S2088
Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—158) Pages S2051, S2057–58
Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:12 p.m., until 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 21, 2021. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S2088.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM


AMERICAN JOBS PLAN

Committee on Appropriations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the American Jobs Plan, focusing on infrastructure, climate change, and investing in our nation’s future, after receiving testimony from Pete Buttigieg, Secretary of Transportation; Michael Regan, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency; Gina Raimondo, Secretary of Commerce; and Marcia Fudge, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded open and closed 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, after receiving testimony from Admiral Charles A. Richard, USN, Commander, United States Strategic Command, and General James H. Dickinson, USA, Commander, United States Space Command, both of the Department of Defense.

INVESTING IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine investing in rural communities, after receiving testimony from Wyoming State Senator Affie Ellis, Jackson Hole; William J. Bynum, HOPE, Jackson, Mississippi; Stacy Mitchell, Institute for Local Self-Reliance, Washington, D.C.; Marcia Erickson, GROW South Dakota, Sisseton; and Kathleen Sgamma, Western Energy Alliance, Denver, Colorado.

FTC AUTHORITY TO PROTECT CONSUMERS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine strengthening the Federal Trade Commission’s authority to protect consumers, after receiving testimony from Noah Joshua Phillips, Rohit Chopra, and Christine S. Wilson, each a Commissioner, and Rebecca Kelly Slaughter, Acting Commissioner, all of the Federal Trade Commission.

TAX CODE DISPARITIES

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine combatting inequality, focusing on the tax code and racial, ethnic, and gender disparities, after receiving testimony from Dorothy A. Brown, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia; Mihir A. Desai, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Himalaya Rao-Potlapally, Black Founders Matter Fund, Salem, Oregon; and Shay Hawkins, Opportunity Funds Association, Washington, D.C.

COVID–19 RECOVERY

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine COVID–19 recovery, focusing on supporting workers and modernizing the workforce through quality education, training, and employment opportunities, after receiving testimony from Deniece Thomas, Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Nashville; Maria K. Flynn, Jobs For the Future, Boston, Massachusetts; Scott Ralls, Wake Technical Community College, Raleigh, North Carolina; and Alejandro Mendoza, Optimax Systems, Ontario, New York.

VOTING RIGHTS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine voting rights, after receiving testimony from Senator Warnock; Representative Owens; Bill Gardner, New Hampshire Secretary of State, Concord; Georgia Representative Jan Jones, Milton; Stacey Y. Abrams, Fair Fight Action, and Carol Anderson, Emory University, both of Atlanta, Georgia; and Sherrilyn Ifill, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc., Washington, D.C.
House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 48 public bills, H.R. 2668–2715; and 9 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 30; and H. Res. 331–338, were introduced.

Additional Cosponsors: 

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 330, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 51) to provide for the admission of the State of Washington, D.C. into the Union; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1573) to clarify the rights of all persons who are held or detained at a port of entry or at any detention facility overseen by U.S. Customs and Border Protection or U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1333) to transfer and limit Executive Branch authority to suspend or restrict the entry of a class of aliens; and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–22).

Recess: The House recessed at 12:57 p.m. and reconvened at 12 p.m.

Recess: The House recessed at 12:13 p.m. and reconvened at 2:15 p.m.

Question of Privilege: Representative McCarthy rose to a question of the privileges of the House and submitted a resolution. Upon examination of the resolution, the Chair determined that the resolution qualified. Subsequently, the House agreed to the Hoyer motion to table H. Res. 311, raising a question of the privileges of the House, by a yea-and-nay vote of 216 yeas to 210 nays, Roll No. 122.

Suspension—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.


Washington, D.C. Admission Act, Access to Counsel Act of 2021, and National Origin-Based Antidiscrimination for Nonimmigrants Act—Rule for Consideration: The House agreed to H. Res. 350, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 51) to provide for the admission of the State of Washington, D.C. into the Union; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1573) to clarify the rights of all persons who are held or detained at a port of entry or at any detention facility overseen by U.S. Customs and Border Protection or U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1333) to transfer and limit Executive Branch authority to suspend or restrict the entry of a class of aliens, by a yea-and-nay vote of 214 yeas to 207 nays, Roll No. 124, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 216 yeas to 206 nays, Roll No. 123. Pursuant to sec. 4 of H. Res. 330, H. Res. 316 is hereby adopted. Pursuant to sec. 7 (a) of H. Res. 330, H. Con. Res. 30 is hereby adopted.

Motion to suspend the rules and pass the bills and agree to the resolution en bloc: The House agreed to the Hoyer motion to suspend the rules and pass the following bills and agree to the following resolution considered on April 19, 2021, on which pursuant to section G of H. Res. 330 the ordering of the yeas and nays were vacated to the end that all such motions are considered as withdrawn: H.R. 367, H.R. 370, H.R. 396, H.R. 397, H.R. 408, H.R. 490, H.R. 965, H.R. 1251, H.R. 1395, H.R. 1491, H.R. 1528, H.R. 1532, H.R. 1565, H.R. 1602, H.R. 2523, and H. Res. 124, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 355 yeas to 69 nays, Roll No. 125. Subsequently, Representative Phillips moved to reconsider the vote, and Representative McCollum moved to table the motion to reconsider, on which proceedings were postponed.


Discharge Petition: Representative Roy presented to the clerk a motion to discharge the Committee on Rules from the consideration of the resolution, H. Res. 216, providing for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 471) to prohibit the Secretary of Health and Human Services from lessening the stringency of and to prohibit the Secretary of Homeland Security from ceasing or lessening implementation of the COVID–19 border health provisions through the
end of the COVID–19 pandemic, and for other purposes (Discharge Petition No. 2).

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on pages H1964–65.


Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and at 6:16 p.m., pursuant to House Resolution 333, it stands adjourned until noon tomorrow, April 21st, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable Walter F. Mondale, former Vice President of the United States.

Committee Meetings

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee held a business meeting to consider the Budget Views and Estimates Letter of the Committee on Agriculture for the agencies and programs under the jurisdiction of the Committee for Fiscal Year 2022. The Budget Views and Estimates Letter of the Committee on Agriculture was approved.

RURAL BROADBAND—EXAMINING INTERNET CONNECTIVITY NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN RURAL AMERICA

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Rural Broadband—Examining Internet Connectivity Needs and Opportunities in Rural America”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

FOOD, NUTRITION, AND CONSUMER SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held an oversight hearing on Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, Department of Agriculture. Testimony was heard from Stacy Dean, Deputy Under Secretary, Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, Department of Agriculture.

APPROPRIATIONS—U.S. EUROPEAN COMMAND

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a budget hearing on U.S. European Command. Testimony was heard from General Tod D. Wolters, Commander, U.S. European Command. This hearing was closed.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on the Department of the Interior. Testimony was heard from Deb Haaland, Secretary, Department of the Interior; and Rachel Taylor, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Policy, Management, and Budget, Department of the Interior.

BUILDING CAPACITY, BUILDING COMMUNITY: INCREASING INVESTMENTS IN COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled “Building Capacity, Building Community: Increasing Investments in Community Colleges”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

NATIONAL SECURITY CHALLENGES AND U.S. MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN THE GREATER MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA


BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Education and Labor: Full Committee held a business meeting to approve new subcommittee assignments. Subcommittee assignments were approved.

FOR-PROFIT COLLEGE CONVERSIONS: EXAMINING WAYS TO IMPROVE ACCOUNTABILITY AND PREVENT FRAUD

Committee on Education and Labor: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “For-Profit College Conversions: Examining Ways to Improve Accountability and Prevent Fraud”. Testimony was heard from Melissa Emrey-Arras, Director, Education, Workforce and Income Security Issues, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

GENERATING EQUITY: DEPLOYING A JUST AND CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing entitled “Generating Equity: Deploying a Just and Clean Energy Future”. Testimony was heard from Louise Carter-King, Mayor, Gillette, Wyoming; and public witnesses.
MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES
Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee began a markup on the Views and Estimates of the Committee on Financial Services on Matters to be Set Forth in the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022 Budget; A Resolution Establishing the Task Force on Artificial Intelligence in the Committee on Financial Services; A Resolution Establishing the Task Force on Financial Technology in the Committee on Financial Services; H.R. 1087, the “Shareholder Political Transparency Act”; H.R. 1187, the “ESG Disclosure Simplification Act”; H.R. 1277, the “Improving Corporate Governance Through Diversity Act”; H.R. 2123, the “Diversity and Inclusion Data Accountability and Transparency Act”; H.R. 2516, the “Promoting Diversity and Inclusion in Banking Act”; H.R. 2543, the “Federal Reserve Racial and Economic Equity Act”; H.R. 2547, the “Comprehensive Debt Collection Improvement Act”; and H.R. 2553, the “Real Estate Valuation Fairness and Improvement Act of 2021”.

RESTORATION OF THE TRANSATLANTIC DIALOGUE: THE GLOBAL FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE
Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Europe, Energy, the Environment, and Cyber held a hearing entitled “Restoration of the Transatlantic Dialogue: The Global Fight Against Climate Change”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES
Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 2393, the “No Oil Producing and Exporting Cartels Act of 2021”; H.R. 704, the “Artistic Recognition for Talented Students Act”; and H.R. 2453, the “Driving for Opportunity Act of 2021”. H.R. 2393 and H.R. 2453 were ordered reported, without amendment. H.R. 704 was ordered reported, as amended.

BUILDING BACK BETTER: REDUCING POLLUTION AND CREATING JOBS THROUGH OFFSHORE WIND
Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing entitled “Building Back Better: Reducing Pollution and Creating Jobs Through Offshore Wind”. Testimony was heard from Amanda Lefton, Director, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

RESTORING INDEPENDENCE: REBUILDING THE FEDERAL OFFICES OF INSPECTORS GENERAL
Committee on Oversight and Reform: Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing entitled “Restoring Independence: Rebuilding the Federal Offices of Inspectors General”. Testimony was heard from Kathy A. Buller, Inspector General, Peace Corps, and Executive Chair, Legislation Committee, Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency; Allison C. Lerner, Inspector General, National Science Foundation, and Chair, Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency; Mia M. Forgy, Deputy Inspector General, U.S. Election Assistance Commission; and public witnesses.

WASHINGTON, D.C. ADMISSION ACT; NO BAN ACT; ACCESS TO COUNSEL ACT OF 2021
Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 51, the “Washington, D.C. Admission Act”; H.R. 1333, the “NO BAN Act”; and H.R. 1573, the “Access to Counsel Act of 2021”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 7–4, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 51, the “Washington, D.C. Admission Act”, H.R. 1573, the “Access to Counsel Act of 2021”, and H.R. 1333, the “NO BAN Act”. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 51, the “Washington, D.C. Admission Act”, under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Reform or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Oversight and Reform now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 1573, the “Access to Counsel Act of 2021”, under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Reform or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Oversight and Reform now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides for consideration of H.R.
MAKING THE CASE FOR CLIMATE ACTION: CREATING NEW JOBS AND CATALYZING ECONOMIC GROWTH

Select Committee on the Climate Crisis: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Making the Case for Climate Action: Creating New Jobs and Catalyzing Economic Growth”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 2021

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

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, 2 p.m., SD–192.

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, to hold hearings to examine science and technology, technology maturation, and technology transition activities, 2:30 p.m., SR–222.

Subcommittee on Personnel, to hold hearings to examine the current and future cyber workforce of the Department of Defense and the military services, 2:30 p.m., SR–232A.

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, Lina M. Khan, of New York, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner, and Leslie B. Kiernan, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Department of Commerce, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Subcommittee on Aviation Safety, Operations, and Innovation, to hold hearings to examine America’s safe return to air travel, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

Committee on Foreign Relations: business meeting to consider S. 413, to promote security partnership with Ukraine, and an original bill entitled, ”Strategic Competition Act of 2021”, 10 a.m., SD–106.

Subcommittee on Near East, South Asia, Central Asia, and Counterterrorism, to hold hearings to examine U.S. policy on Yemen, 2 p.m., SD–106.

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 Minn, 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, Time to be announced.

Committee on 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, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights, to hold hearings to examine competition in app stores, focusing on antitrust, 2:30 p.m., 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, 2:30 p.m., SR–301.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SVC–217.

House


Subcommittee on Defense, budget hearing on U.S. Africa Command, 10 a.m., 2212 Rayburn. This hearing is closed.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Environmental Protection Agency, 10 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Defense, budget hearing on U.S. Central Command, 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn. This hearing is closed.

Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing entitled “FY22 Strategic Forces Posture Hearing”, 4 p.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.


Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, continue markup on Views and Estimates of the Committee on Financial Services on Matters to be Set Forth in the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022 Budget; A Resolution Establishing the Task Force on Artificial Intelligence in the Committee on Financial Services; A Resolution Establishing the Task Force on Financial Technology in the Committee on Financial Services; H.R. 1087, the “Shareholder Political Transparency Act”; H.R. 1187, the “ESG Disclosure Simplification Act”; H.R. 1277, the “Improving Corporate Governance Through Diversity Act”; H.R. 2123, the “Diversity and Inclusion Data Accountability and Transparency Act”; H.R. 2516, the “Promoting Diversity and Inclusion in Banking Act”; H.R. 2543, the “Federal Reserve Racial and Economic Equity Act”; H.R. 2547, the “Comprehensive Debt Collection Improvement Act”; and H.R. 2553, the “Real Estate Valuation Fairness and Improvement Act of 2021”, 12:30 p.m., 2128 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and Global Counterterrorism, hearing entitled “The Crisis in Yemen: Part 2”, 10 a.m., Webex.

Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1488, the “Global Electoral Exchange Act of 2021”; H.R. 1036, the “Bassam Barabandi Rewards for Justice Act”; H.R. 402, the “CROOK Act”; H.R. 2538, the “Fentanyl Results Act”; H. Res. 186, calling for the immediate release of Trevor Reed, a United States citizen who was unjustly found guilty and sentenced to nine years in a Russian prison; H.R. 2471, the “Haiti Development, Accountability, and Institutional Transparency Initiative Act”; H.R. 1228, the “Libya Stabilization Act”; H.R. 496, the “Ukraine Religious Freedom Support Act”; H.R. 826, the “Divided Families Reunification Act”; H. Res. 294, encouraging reunions of divided Korean-American families; H.R. 1155, the “Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act”; and H. Res. 317, 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, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.


Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, continue hearing entitled “Oversight of the United States Capitol Police and Preparations for and Response to the Attack of January 6th”, 2 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States, hearing entitled “Infrastructure in Indigenous Communities: Priorities for American Jobs Plan”, 10 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, hearing on H.R. 820, the “New Philadelphia National Historical Park Act”; H.R. 920, the “Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site Expansion Act”; H.R. 2497, the “Amache National Historic Site Act”; and H.R. 2626, the “Pullman National Historical Park Act”, 1 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Environment, hearing entitled “Working Towards Climate Equity: The Case for a Federal Climate Service”, 11 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Full Committee, markup on Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Views and Estimates of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 10:30 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Zoom.

Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing entitled “Sustainable Wastewater Infrastructure: Measures to Promote Resiliency and Climate Adaptation and Mitigation”, 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on H.R. 711, the “West Los Angeles VA Campus Improvement Act of 2021”; H.R. 1948, the “VA Employee Fairness Act of 2021”; H.R. 2082, the “VA Supply Chain Resiliency Act”; H.R. 2428, the “Strengthening Oversight for Veterans Act of 2021”; H.R. 2429, the “VA Police Improvement and Accountability Act”; legislation on Strengthening VA Whistleblower Protection Act of 2021; legislation on VA FOIA Reform Act of 2021; legislation on directing the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make certain information
publicly available on one internet website of the Department of Veterans Affairs; legislation on Improving VA Accountability to Prevent Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Act of 2021; legislation on VA Beneficiary Debt Collection Improvement Act; legislation on VA Equal Employment Counseling Modernization Act; legislation on Strengthening VA Background Checks Act; legislation on directing the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a plan for expending Coronavirus pandemic funding made available to the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; and legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to the Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes”, 10 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, hearing entitled “In Their Own Words: Paid Leave, Child Care, and an Economy that Failed Women”, 12 p.m., 1100 Longworth and Webex.
Résumé of Congressional Activity

SECOND SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

The first table gives a comprehensive résumé of all legislative business transacted by the Senate and House. The second table accounts for all nominations submitted to the Senate by the President for Senate confirmation.

DATA ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

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<td>Special reports</td>
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<td>2,325</td>
<td>4,108</td>
<td>6,433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bills</td>
<td>1,938</td>
<td>3,535</td>
<td>5,473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint resolutions</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concurrent resolutions</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple resolutions</td>
<td>346</td>
<td>498</td>
<td>844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quorum calls</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yea-and-nay votes</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recorded votes</td>
<td></td>
<td>34</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bills vetoed</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vetoes overridden</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*These figures include all measures reported, even if there was no accompanying report. A total of 147 written reports have been filed in the Senate, 357 reports have been filed in the House.

DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January 3, 2020 through January 3, 2021</th>
<th>Senate</th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Civilian nominees, totaling 373 (including 87 nominees carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed</td>
<td>172</td>
<td></td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unconfirmed</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withdrawn</td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned to White House</td>
<td>182</td>
<td></td>
<td>182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Civilian nominees, totaling 1,860 (including 1 nominees carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed</td>
<td>1,857</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned to White House</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force nominees, totaling 5,669, disposed of as follows:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed</td>
<td>5,654</td>
<td></td>
<td>5,654</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned to White House</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Army nominees, totaling 6,389 (including 3 nominees carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed</td>
<td>6,381</td>
<td></td>
<td>6,381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withdrawn</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned to White House</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy nominees, totaling 4,682 (including 2 nominees carried over from the First Session), disposed of as follows:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed</td>
<td>4,680</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned to White House</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Corps nominees, totaling 2,258, disposed of as follows:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed</td>
<td>2,157</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returned to White House</td>
<td>101</td>
<td></td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space Force nominees, totaling 716, disposed of as follows:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed</td>
<td>716</td>
<td></td>
<td>716</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Summary*

Total nominees carried over from the First Session: 93
Total nominees received this Session: 21,854
Total confirmed: 21,617
Total unconfirmed: 0
Total withdrawn: 21
Total returned to the White House: 309
HISTORY OF BILLS ENACTED INTO PUBLIC LAW

(116th Cong., 2D Sess.)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2638</td>
<td>2661</td>
<td>2685</td>
<td>2730</td>
<td>2904</td>
<td>2981</td>
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<td>3174</td>
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<td>3209</td>
<td>3221</td>
<td>3268</td>
<td>3305</td>
<td>3315</td>
<td>3338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.R.</td>
<td>434</td>
<td>473</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>561</td>
<td>748</td>
<td>835</td>
<td>886</td>
<td>948</td>
<td>3105</td>
<td>3147</td>
<td>3169</td>
<td>3174</td>
<td>3189</td>
<td>3209</td>
<td>3221</td>
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**BILLS ENACTED INTO PUBLIC LAW (116TH, 2D SESSION)**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H.R.</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>503</td>
<td>562</td>
<td>749</td>
<td>836</td>
<td>887</td>
<td>949</td>
<td>3105</td>
<td>3147</td>
<td>3169</td>
<td>3174</td>
<td>3189</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**BILLS VETOED**

S.J. Res. 68, to direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran that have not been authorized by Congress. Vetoed May 6, 2020.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Bill No.</th>
<th>Date introduced</th>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Date Reported</th>
<th>Report No.</th>
<th>Date of passage</th>
<th>Public Law</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure the Secretary of</td>
<td>H.R. 1424</td>
<td>Feb. 28, 2019</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 19, 2019</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans Affairs permits the display of Fallen Soldier Displays</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>in national cemeteries.</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To permit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a grant</td>
<td>H.R. 2385</td>
<td>Apr. 29, 2019</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td></td>
<td>Oct. 15, 2019</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>program to conduct cemetery research and produce educational</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>materials for the Veterans Legacy Program.</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide funding for</td>
<td>H.R. 2476</td>
<td>May 2, 2019</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 19, 2019</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>secure non-profit facilities from terrorist attacks, and for other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>purposes.</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To amend the Communications Act of 1954 to provide for enhanced</td>
<td>H.R. 583</td>
<td>Jan. 16, 2019</td>
<td>EC</td>
<td>CST</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jan. 24, 2020</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>penalties for pirate radio, and for other purposes.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>To rename the Oyster Bay National Wildlife Refuge as the</td>
<td>H.R. 263</td>
<td>Jan. 4, 2019</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>EPW</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 20, 2019</td>
<td>110</td>
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<tr>
<td>Congressman Lester Wolff Oyster Bay National Wildlife Refuge.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>To amend the National Trails System Act to provide for the study</td>
<td>H.R. 434</td>
<td>Jan. 10, 2019</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>ENR</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jan. 13, 2020</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of the Emancipation National Historic Trail, and for other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>purposes.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>To require that $1 coins issued during 2019 honor President George</td>
<td>S. 457</td>
<td>Feb. 12, 2019</td>
<td>BHUA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jan. 13, 2020</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.W. Bush and to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to issue</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>bullion coins during 2019 in honor of Barbara Bush.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>To implement the Agreement between the United States of America,</td>
<td>H.R. 5430</td>
<td>Dec. 13, 2019</td>
<td>WM</td>
<td>Fin</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jan. 15, 2020</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the United Mexican States, and Canada attached as an Annex to the</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>E&amp;L</td>
<td>HEL&amp;P</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 19, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Protocol Replacing the North American Free Trade Agreement.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>EPW</td>
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<td>To extend the temporary scheduling order for fentanyl-related</td>
<td>S. 3201</td>
<td>Jan. 16, 2020</td>
<td>EC</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jan. 16, 2020</td>
<td>114</td>
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<tr>
<td>substances, and for other purposes.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jud</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>To promote veteran involvement in STEM education, computer</td>
<td>S. 153</td>
<td>Jan. 16, 2019</td>
<td>SST</td>
<td>CST</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 18, 2019</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>science, and scientific research, and for other purposes.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>VA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Homeland Security to develop an engagement</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>strategy with fusion centers, and for other purposes.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>To improve efforts to identify and reduce Governmentwide</td>
<td>S. 375</td>
<td>Feb. 7, 2019</td>
<td>O&amp;R</td>
<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feb. 5, 2020</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>improper payments, and for other purposes.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing for the reappointment of John Fahey as a citizen regent</td>
<td>S.J. Res. 65</td>
<td>Jan. 9, 2020</td>
<td>HA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jan. 9, 2020</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Bill No.</td>
<td>Date introduced</td>
<td>Committee</td>
<td>Date Reported</td>
<td>Report No.</td>
<td>Date of passage</td>
<td>Public Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approving the request of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for a waiver under section 1705(b) of title 38, United States Code.</td>
<td>H.J. Res. 80</td>
<td>Dec. 11, 2019</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jan. 13, 2020</td>
<td>Mar. 3, 120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 6074</td>
<td>Mar. 4, 2020</td>
<td>App</td>
<td>Bud</td>
<td>Mar. 4, 2020</td>
<td>Mar. 5, 2020</td>
<td>Mar. 6, 123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To prohibit certain Federal subsidies from being used to purchase communications equipment or services posing national security risks, to provide for the establishment of a reimbursement program for the replacement of communications equipment or services posing such risks, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 4998</td>
<td>Nov. 8, 2019</td>
<td>EC</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 16, 2019</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>Dec. 16, 2019 Feb. 27, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to treat certain programs of education converted to distance learning by reason of emergencies and health-related situations in the same manner as programs of education pursued at educational institutions, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 3303</td>
<td>Mar. 16, 2020</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mar. 19, 2020</td>
<td>Mar. 16, 2020</td>
<td>Mar. 21, 128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To require the President to develop a strategy to ensure the security of next generation mobile telecommunications systems and infrastructure in the United States and to assist allies and strategic partners in maximizing the security of next generation mobile telecommunications systems, infrastructure, and software, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 893</td>
<td>Mar. 27, 2019</td>
<td>CST</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 19, 2019</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>Mar. 11, 2020 Apr. 4, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To require the Federal Communications Commission to issue rules relating to the collection of data with respect to the availability of broadband services, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 1822</td>
<td>June 12, 2019</td>
<td>CST</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 12, 2019</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>Mar. 3, 2020 Dec. 19, 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2020 through 2024, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4334  
Sept. 16, 2019  
E&L  
Oct. 28, 2019  
258  
Oct. 28, 2019  
Mar. 3, 2020  
Mar. 25, 2020  
131

To make technical corrections to the Guam World War II Loyalty Recognition Act.

H.R. 1365  
Feb. 26, 2019  
NR  
July 11, 2019  
149  
July 24, 2019  
Feb. 12, 2020  
Mar. 26, 2020  
132

To facilitate the automatic acquisition of citizenship for lawful permanent resident children of military and Federal Government personnel residing abroad, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4803  
Oct. 23, 2019  
Jud  
Dec. 3, 2019  
133

To enable registered apprenticeship programs to better serve veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 760  
Mar. 12, 2019  
HEL&P  
Mar. 11, 2020  
Dec. 4, 2019  
Mar. 26, 2020  
134

To express United States support for Taiwan's diplomatic alliances around the world.

S. 1678  
May 23, 2019  
FA  
Sept. 26, 2019  
0  
Mar. 4, 2020  
Oct. 29, 2019  
Mar. 26, 2020  
135

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on high cost employer-sponsored health coverage.

H.R. 4771  
Oct. 21, 2019  
VA  
Nov. 12, 2019  
Mar. 26, 2020  
Apr. 10, 2020  
137

Providing for the appointment of Denise O'Leary as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

S.J. Res. 66  
Jan. 9, 2020  
HA  
Jan. 31, 2020  
Jan. 9, 2020  
Apr. 10, 2020  
138

Making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

H.R. 266  
Jan. 8, 2019  
App  
Jan. 11, 2019  
Apr. 21, 2020  
Apr. 24, 2020  
139

To make certain improvements in the educational assistance benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in the case of changes to courses of education by reason of emergency situations, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6322  
Mar. 23, 2020  
VA  
Mar. 31, 2020  
Apr. 21, 2020  
Apr. 28, 2020  
140

To authorize the Director of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum to support Holocaust education programs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 943  
Jan. 31, 2019  
E&L  
Jan. 27, 2020  
May 13, 2020  
May 29, 2020  
141

To amend the Small Business Act and the CARES Act to modify certain provisions related to the forgiveness of loans under the paycheck protection program, to allow recipients of loan forgiveness under the paycheck protection program to defer payroll taxes, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7010  
May 26, 2020  
SB  
May 28, 2020  
June 3, 2020  
June 5, 2020  
142

To require the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to provide information on suicide rates in law enforcement, and for other purposes.

S. 2746  
Oct. 30, 2019  
Jud  
May 27, 2020  
May 14, 2020  
June 16, 2020  
143

To authorize major medical facility projects for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes.

S. 3414  
Mar. 5, 2020  
VA  
May 28, 2020  
Mar. 5, 2020  
June 16, 2020  
144

To condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China.

S. 3744  
May 14, 2020  
May 27, 2020  
May 14, 2020  
June 17, 2020  
145

To amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the limitation on pay for certain high-level employees and officers of the Department of Veterans Affairs.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Bill No.</th>
<th>Date Introduced</th>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Date Reported</th>
<th>Report No.</th>
<th>Date of passage</th>
<th>Public Law</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To extend the authority for commitments for the paycheck protection program and separate amounts authorized for other loans under section 7(a) of the Small Business Act, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 4116</td>
<td>June 30, 2020</td>
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<td>July 1, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>To amend section 1113 of the Social Security Act to provide authority for fiscal year 2020 for increased payments for temporary assistance to United States citizens returned from foreign countries, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 4091</td>
<td>June 29, 2020</td>
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<td>June 29, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>To impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons involved in the erosion of certain obligations of China with respect to Hong Kong, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 7440</td>
<td>July 1, 2020</td>
<td>FA Jud FS WM R</td>
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<td>July 1, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>To extend the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 4148</td>
<td>July 1, 2020</td>
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<td>July 20, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>To amend title IX of the Social Security Act to improve emergency unemployment relief for governmental entities and non-profit organizations.</td>
<td>S. 4209</td>
<td>July 2, 2020</td>
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<td>July 9, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>To amend title 54, United States Code, to establish, fund, and provide for the use of amounts in a National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund to address the maintenance backlog of the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Forest Service, and the Bureau of Indian Education, and to provide permanent, dedicated funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 1957</td>
<td>Mar. 28, 2019</td>
<td>WM FS</td>
<td>Apr. 9, 2019</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>Apr. 9, 2019</td>
<td>Aug. 4, 2020</td>
</tr>
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<td>To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for improvements to the specially adapted housing program and educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 3504</td>
<td>June 26, 2019</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>July 22, 2019</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>July 23, 2019</td>
<td>Aug. 8, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for an exception to certain small business contracting requirements applicable to the Department of Veterans Affairs procurement of certain goods and services covered under the Ability One program, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 4920</td>
<td>Oct. 30, 2019</td>
<td>VA VA</td>
<td>Dec. 16, 2019</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mar. 12, 2020</td>
<td>Aug. 8, 2020</td>
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<td>To establish the Commission on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys, to study and make recommendations to address social problems affecting Black men and boys, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 2163</td>
<td>July 18, 2019</td>
<td>HEL&amp;P</td>
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<td>July 27, 2020</td>
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<td>To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to designate 9-8-8 as the</td>
<td>S. 2661</td>
<td>Oct. 22, 2019</td>
<td>CST</td>
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<td>Sept. 21, 2020</td>
<td>172</td>
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<td>universal telephone number for the purpose of the national suicide</td>
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<td>prevention and mental health crisis hotline system operating through</td>
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<td>the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and through the Veterans</td>
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<td>Crisis Line, and for other purposes.</td>
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<td>Enforcers beyond Borders Act of 2006, and for other purposes.</td>
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<td>Sept. 24, 2020</td>
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<td>To establish a business incubator program within the Department of</td>
<td>S. 294</td>
<td>Jan. 31, 2019</td>
<td>NR IA</td>
<td>Apr. 8, 2019</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Sept. 21, 2020</td>
<td>174</td>
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<tr>
<td>the Interior to promote economic development in Indian reservation</td>
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<td>June 27, 2020</td>
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<td>communities.</td>
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<td>To nullify the Supplemental Treaty Between the United States of</td>
<td>S. 832</td>
<td>Mar. 14, 2019</td>
<td>NR IA</td>
<td>July 9, 2020</td>
<td>441</td>
<td>Sept. 21, 2020</td>
<td>175</td>
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<td>America and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of Indians of Middle</td>
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<td>Oregon, concluded on November 15, 1865.</td>
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<td>Oct. 20, 2020</td>
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<td>To amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish Vet Center readjust-</td>
<td>H.R. 1812</td>
<td>Mar. 18, 2019</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>May 20, 2019</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>May 21, 2019</td>
<td>176</td>
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<td>ment counseling and related mental health services to certain</td>
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<td>individuals.</td>
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<td>To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct</td>
<td>H.R. 2372</td>
<td>Apr. 25, 2019</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>May 17, 2019</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>May 21, 2019</td>
<td>177</td>
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<td>an assessment of all memoranda of understanding and memoranda of</td>
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<td>Sept. 24, 2020</td>
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<td>agreement between Under Secretary of Health and non-Department of</td>
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<td>Veterans Affairs entities relating to suicide prevention and mental</td>
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<td>health services.</td>
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<td>To increase, effective as of December 1, 2020, the rates of</td>
<td>H.R. 6168</td>
<td>Mar. 10, 2020</td>
<td>VA</td>
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<td>May 28, 2020</td>
<td>178</td>
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<td>compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and</td>
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<td>the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the</td>
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<td>survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.</td>
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<td>To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit interference with</td>
<td>S. 1321</td>
<td>May 6, 2019</td>
<td>Jud Jud</td>
<td>May 22, 2019</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Sept. 21, 2020</td>
<td>179</td>
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<td>voting systems under the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act.</td>
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<td>July 17, 2019</td>
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<td>To amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act</td>
<td>S. 209</td>
<td>Jan. 24, 2019</td>
<td>NR IA</td>
<td>May 22, 2019</td>
<td>422</td>
<td>Sept. 21, 2020</td>
<td>180</td>
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<td>to provide further self-governance by Indian Tribes, and for</td>
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<td>other purposes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>To improve understanding and forecasting of space weather events,</td>
<td>S. 881</td>
<td>Mar. 26, 2019</td>
<td>CST</td>
<td>Dec. 11, 2019</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>Sept. 16, 2020</td>
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<td>and for other purposes.</td>
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<td>July 27, 2020</td>
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<td>To amend the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure to remind</td>
<td>S. 1380</td>
<td>May 8, 2019</td>
<td>Jud Jud</td>
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<td>Sept. 21, 2020</td>
<td>182</td>
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<td>prosecutors of their obligations under Supreme Court case law.</td>
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<td>May 20, 2020</td>
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<td>To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the oversight of</td>
<td>H.R. 561</td>
<td>Jan. 15, 2019</td>
<td>VA VA</td>
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<td>Feb. 25, 2020</td>
<td>183</td>
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<tr>
<td>contracts awarded by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to small</td>
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<td>Sept. 30, 2020</td>
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<td>business concerns owned and controlled by veterans, and for other</td>
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<td>Oct. 30, 2020</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
To amend the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 to require the Secretary of State to report on intercountry adoptions from countries which have significantly reduced adoption rates involving immigration to the United States, and for other purposes.  

|--------|------|---------------|----|----|--------------|----------------|---------------|-----|

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report on the Department of Veterans Affairs advancing of whole health transformation.  

|--------|------|---------------|----|--------------|----|-------------|---------------|---------------|-----|

To amend the Nutria Eradication and Control Act of 2003 to include California in the program, and for other purposes.  

|--------|------|---------------|----|-----|--------------|-----|--------------|---------------|---------------|-----|

To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on disability and pension benefits provided to members of the National Guard and members of reserve components of the Armed Forces by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.  

|--------|------|---------------|----|----|--------------|---------------|---------------|-----|

To improve protections for wildlife, and for other purposes.  

|--------|------|---------------|-----|--------------|-----|-------------|---------------|---------------|-----|

To amend the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act to provide for congressional oversight of the board of directors of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee and to protect amateur athletes from emotional, physical, and sexual abuse, and for other purposes.  

|--------|------|---------------|-----|--------------|-----|-------------|---------------|---------------|-----|

To amend title 49, United State Code, to require small hub airports to construct areas for nursing mothers, and for other purposes.  

|--------|------|---------------|-----|--------------|-----|-------------|---------------|---------------|-----|

To amend the Klamath Basin Water Supply Enhancement Act of 2000 to make certain technical corrections.  

|--------|------|--------------|-----|-------------|---------------|---------------|-----|

To amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to provide for the release of certain Federal interests in connection with certain grants under that Act, and for other purposes.  

|--------|------|--------------|-----|-------------|---------------|---------------|-----|

To designate the airport traffic control tower located at Piedmont Triad International Airport in Greensboro, North Carolina, as the "Senator Kay Hagan Airport Traffic Control Tower".  

|--------|------|---------------|-----|-------------|---------------|---------------|-----|

To establish a program to facilitate the adoption of modern technology by executive agencies, and for other purposes.  

|--------|------|---------------|----|-------------|---------------|---------------|-----|

To award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the women in the United States who joined the workforce during World War II, providing the aircraft, vehicles, weaponry, ammunition and other material to win the war, that were referred to as "Rosie the Riveter", in recognition of their contributions to the United States and the inspiration they have provided to ensuing generations.  

|--------|------|---------------|----|-----|--------------|---------------|---------------|-----|

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 Tulip Avenue in Floral Park, New York, as the "Lieutenant Michael R. Davidson Post Office Building".  

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<td>Report No.</td>
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<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 114 Mill Street in Hookstown, Pennsylvania, as the “Staff Sergeant Dylan Elchin Post Office Building”.</td>
<td>H.R. 3207</td>
<td>June 11, 2019</td>
<td>O&amp;R</td>
<td>Mar. 12, 2020</td>
<td>House 116-0</td>
<td>Oct. 16, 2019</td>
<td>116-197</td>
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<td>To permit the Scipio A. Jones Post Office in Little Rock, Arkansas, to accept and display a portrait of Scipio A. Jones, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 3317</td>
<td>June 18, 2019</td>
<td>O&amp;R</td>
<td>Mar. 12, 2020</td>
<td>House 116-0</td>
<td>Feb. 5, 2020</td>
<td>116-198</td>
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<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5186 Benito Street in Montclair, California, as the “Paul Eaton Post Office Building”.</td>
<td>H.R. 3329</td>
<td>June 18, 2019</td>
<td>O&amp;R</td>
<td>Mar. 12, 2020</td>
<td>House 116-0</td>
<td>Oct. 16, 2019</td>
<td>116-199</td>
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<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2635 North Main Street in Farmville, North Carolina, as the “Walter B. Jones, Jr. Post Office”.</td>
<td>H.R. 5037</td>
<td>Nov. 12, 2019</td>
<td>O&amp;R</td>
<td>Mar. 12, 2020</td>
<td>House 116-0</td>
<td>Feb. 5, 2020</td>
<td>116-203</td>
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<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Crabby Street in Mansfield, Louisiana, as the “Dr. C.O. Simpkins, Sr., Post Office”.</td>
<td>H.R. 5384</td>
<td>Dec. 10, 2019</td>
<td>O&amp;R</td>
<td>Mar. 12, 2020</td>
<td>House 116-0</td>
<td>Sept. 14, 2020</td>
<td>116-204</td>
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<td>To impose criminal sanctions on certain persons involved in international doping fraud conspiracies, to provide restitution for victims of such conspiracies, and to require sharing of information with the United States Anti-Doping Agency to assist its fight against doping, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 835</td>
<td>Jan. 29, 2019</td>
<td>Jud</td>
<td>Oct. 22, 2019</td>
<td>House 116-0</td>
<td>Aug. 6, 2020</td>
<td>116-206</td>
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<tr>
<td>To award a Congressional Gold Medal to Greg LeMond, in recognition of his service to the Nation as an athlete, activist, role model, and community leader.</td>
<td>H.R. 3589</td>
<td>June 27, 2019</td>
<td>FS</td>
<td>Sept. 19, 2019</td>
<td>House 116-0</td>
<td>Nov. 16, 2019</td>
<td>116-208</td>
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<td>To require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to establish a constituent-driven program to provide a digital information platform capable of efficiently integrating coastal data with decision-support tools, training, and best practices and to support collection of priority coastal geospatial data to inform and improve local, State, regional, and Federal capacities to manage the coastal region, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 1069</td>
<td>Apr. 9, 2019</td>
<td>CST</td>
<td>June 18, 2020</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>Nov. 16, 2020</td>
<td>Dec. 18, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>To improve efforts to combat marine debris, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 1982</td>
<td>June 26, 2019</td>
<td>TI</td>
<td>Oct. 1, 2020</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>Jan. 9, 2020</td>
<td>Dec. 18, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 123 East Sharpsfish Street in Rosebud, South Dakota, as the &quot;Ben Reifel Post Office Building&quot;.</td>
<td>H.R. 2454</td>
<td>May 1, 2019</td>
<td>O&amp;R HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Sept. 30, 2020</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>Dec. 3, 2020</td>
<td>Dec. 21, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3308 Midland Road in Poway, California, as the &quot;Ray Chavez Post Office Building&quot;.</td>
<td>H.R. 3005</td>
<td>May 23, 2019</td>
<td>O&amp;R HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Sept. 30, 2020</td>
<td>230</td>
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<tr>
<td>To authorize the Daughters of the Republic of Texas to establish the Republic of Texas Legation Memorial as a commemorative work in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 3349</td>
<td>June 19, 2019</td>
<td>NR, ENR</td>
<td>May 27, 2020</td>
<td>425</td>
<td>Sept. 21, 2020</td>
<td>248</td>
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<td>To amend title 18, United States Code, with regard to stalking.</td>
<td>S. 134</td>
<td>Jan. 15, 2019</td>
<td>Jud</td>
<td>Dec. 8, 2020</td>
<td>249</td>
<td>Dec. 22, 2020</td>
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<td>To amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the five-month waiting period for disability insurance benefits under such title for individuals with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.</td>
<td>S. 578</td>
<td>Feb. 27, 2019</td>
<td>Fin</td>
<td>Dec. 8, 2020</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>Dec. 22, 2020</td>
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<td>To explicitly make unauthorized access to Department of Education information technology systems and the misuse of identification devices issued by the Department of Education a criminal act.</td>
<td>S. 1153</td>
<td>Apr. 11, 2019</td>
<td>HEL&amp;P</td>
<td>Dec. 7, 2020</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>Dec. 22, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>To authorize the Fallen Journalists Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 3465</td>
<td>June 25, 2019</td>
<td>NR, ENR</td>
<td>Aug. 4, 2020</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>Dec. 23, 2020</td>
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<td>To ensure U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers, agents, and other personnel have adequate synthetic opioid detection equipment, that the Department of Homeland Security has a process to update synthetic opioid detection capability, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 4761</td>
<td>Oct. 18, 2019</td>
<td>HS, WM</td>
<td>July 29, 2020</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>Dec. 23, 2020</td>
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<td>To establish the Route 66 Centennial Commission, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 1014</td>
<td>Apr. 3, 2019</td>
<td>EPW</td>
<td>June 19, 2019</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>Dec. 23, 2020</td>
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<td>To provide emergency protections for antitrust whistleblowers.</td>
<td>S. 2258</td>
<td>July 24, 2019</td>
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<td>257</td>
<td>Dec. 23, 2020</td>
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<td>To direct the Director of the National Science Foundation to support research on the outputs that may be generated by generative adversarial networks, otherwise known as deepfakes, and other comparable techniques that may be developed in the future, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 2904</td>
<td>Nov. 20, 2019</td>
<td>CST</td>
<td>Nov. 9, 2020</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>Dec. 23, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>To reauthorize and amend the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Act of 2002, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 2981</td>
<td>Dec. 4, 2019</td>
<td>CST</td>
<td>Sept. 30, 2020</td>
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<td>S. 900</td>
<td>Mar. 27, 2019</td>
<td>VA VA</td>
<td>Nov. 16, 2020 Nov. 21, 2019 Dec. 30, 2020 262</td>
<td>To designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Bozeman, Montana, as the Travis W. Atkins Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic.</td>
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<td>S. 3461</td>
<td>Mar. 12, 2020</td>
<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Dec. 10, 2020 Nov. 18, 2020 Dec. 30, 2020 265</td>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2600 Wesley Street in Greenville, Texas, as the “Audie Murphy Post Office Building.”</td>
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<td>S. 3462</td>
<td>Mar. 12, 2020</td>
<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Dec. 10, 2020 Nov. 18, 2020 Dec. 30, 2020 266</td>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 909 West Holiday Drive in Fate, Texas, as the “Ralph Hall Post Office”.</td>
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<td>S. 4126</td>
<td>July 1, 2020</td>
<td>HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Dec. 10, 2020 Nov. 18, 2020 Dec. 30, 2020 267</td>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 104 East Main Street in Port Washington, Wisconsin, as the “Joseph G. Demler Post Office”.</td>
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<td>To require the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere to update periodically the environmental sensitivity index products of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for each coastal area of the Great Lakes, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 1342</td>
<td>May 7, 2019</td>
<td>CST</td>
<td>Dec. 10, 2019</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>Dec. 3, 2020</td>
<td>274</td>
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<tr>
<td>To require the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to add recommendations and inform other relevant agencies of information relating to the principle of due regard and the limitation of harmful interference with Apollo landing site artifacts, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 1694</td>
<td>May 23, 2019</td>
<td>SST FA</td>
<td>July 16, 2019</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>July 18, 2019</td>
<td>275</td>
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<td>To require the disclosure of ownership of high-security space leased to accommodate a Federal agency, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 1869</td>
<td>June 13, 2019</td>
<td>TI HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Sept. 10, 2019</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>Nov. 15, 2020</td>
<td>276</td>
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<tr>
<td>To the extent provided in advance in appropriations Act, the Attorney General is authorized to use funds appropriated for the operationalization, maintenance, and expansion of the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs) for the purpose of carrying out this Act.</td>
<td>S. 2174</td>
<td>July 18, 2019</td>
<td>Jud</td>
<td>Dec. 16, 2020</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Nov. 16, 2020</td>
<td>277</td>
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<tr>
<td>To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to formally recognize caregivers of veterans, notify veterans and caregivers of clinical determinations relating to eligibility for the family caregiver program, and temporarily extend benefits for veterans who are determined ineligible for the family caregiver program, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 2216</td>
<td>July 23, 2019</td>
<td>VA</td>
<td>Sept. 15, 2020</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Nov. 17, 2020</td>
<td>278</td>
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<td>To establish a task force to assist States in implementing hiring requirements for child care staff members to improve child safety.</td>
<td>S. 2683</td>
<td>Oct. 23, 2019</td>
<td>E&amp;L HEL&amp;P</td>
<td>Dec. 17, 2019</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Nov. 16, 2020</td>
<td>279</td>
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<tr>
<td>To establish a crisis stabilization and community reentry grant program, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 3312</td>
<td>Feb. 13, 2020</td>
<td>Jud</td>
<td>Dec. 16, 2020</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Nov. 16, 2020</td>
<td>281</td>
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<tr>
<td>To amend the United States Semiquincentennial Commission Act of 2016 to modify certain membership and other requirements of the United States Semiquincentennial Commission, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>S. 3989</td>
<td>June 17, 2020</td>
<td>Jud</td>
<td>Dec. 17, 2020</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Nov. 16, 2020</td>
<td>282</td>
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<tr>
<td>To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2021 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 6395</td>
<td>Mar. 26, 2020</td>
<td>AS</td>
<td>July 21, 2020</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>Jan. 1, 2021</td>
<td>283</td>
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</table>
To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to allow the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide capitalization grants to States to establish revolving funds to provide hazard mitigation assistance to reduce risks from disasters and natural hazards, and other related environmental harm.

S. 3418 Mar. 9, 2020, HS&GA 249 Dec. 18, 2020, Jan. 1, 2021, 284

To amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to allow certain individuals to terminate contracts for telephone, multichannel video programming, or internet access service, and for other purposes.


To require the Secretary of the Treasury to honor the 100th anniversary of completion of coinage of the "Morgan Dollar" and the 100th anniversary of commencement of coinage of the "Peace Dollar", and for other purposes.


To direct the Federal Trade Commission to develop and disseminate information to the public about scams related to COVID-19, and for other purposes.


To establish the Servicemembers and Veterans Initiative within the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice, and for other purposes.


To preserve United States fishing heritage through a national program dedicated to training and assisting the next generation of commercial fishermen.


To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act regarding the list under section 505(j)(7) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, and for other purposes.


To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to complete a study on barriers to participation in federally funded cancer clinical trials by populations that have been traditionally underserved in such trials.


To amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the preference given, in awarding certain allergies and asthma-related grants, to States that require certain public schools to have allergies and asthma management programs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2468 May 2, 2019, EC HEL&P 292 Jan. 5, 2021

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 12711 East Jefferson Avenue in Detroit, Michigan, as the "Aretha Franklin Post Office Building".

H.R. 3976 July 25, 2019, O&R HS&GA 293 Jan. 5, 2021

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 Walnut Street in Bordentown, New Jersey, as the "Clara Barton Post Office Building".

H.R. 4988 Nov. 5, 2019, O&R HS&GA 294 Jan. 5, 2021

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 Walnut Street in Bordentown, New Jersey, as the "Clara Barton Post Office Building".

H.R. 4988 Nov. 5, 2019, O&R HS&GA 295 Jan. 5, 2021
<table>
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<th>Bill No.</th>
<th>Date introduced</th>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Date reported</th>
<th>Report No.</th>
<th>Date of passage</th>
<th>Public Law</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>To name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Youngstown, Ohio, as the “Carl Nunziato VA Clinic”.</td>
<td>H.R. 5023</td>
<td>Nov. 8, 2019</td>
<td>VA</td>
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<tr>
<td>To require the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop a plan to increase to 100 percent the rates of scanning of commercial and passenger vehicles entering the United States at land ports of entry along the border using large-scale non-intrusive inspection systems to enhance border security, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 5273</td>
<td>Nov. 26, 2019</td>
<td>HS HS&amp;GA</td>
<td>Feb. 6, 2020</td>
<td>Sept. 9, 2020</td>
<td>Dec. 7, 2021</td>
<td>299</td>
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<tr>
<td>To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14955 West Bell Road in Surprise, Arizona, as the “Marc Lee Memorial Post Office Building”.</td>
<td>H.R. 6100</td>
<td>Mar. 5, 2020</td>
<td>Jud</td>
<td>Sept. 16, 2020</td>
<td>Sept. 21, 2020</td>
<td>Jan. 5, 2021</td>
<td>309</td>
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<td>To declare that the Weir Farm National Historic Site in the State of Connecticut is a national historic site, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>H.R. 6382</td>
<td>Feb. 11, 2020</td>
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<td>Dec. 14, 2020</td>
<td>Dec. 17, 2020</td>
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<td>H.R. 4044</td>
<td>July 25, 2019</td>
<td>TI</td>
<td>To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize the National Estuary Program, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>Nov. 13, 2019</td>
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<td>288</td>
<td>Feb. 5, 2020</td>
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<td>H.R. 4704</td>
<td>Oct. 16, 2019</td>
<td>SST</td>
<td>To direct the Director of the National Science Foundation to support multidisciplinary research on the science of suicide, and to advance the knowledge and understanding of issues that may be associated with several aspects of suicide including intrinsic and extrinsic factors related to areas such as wellbeing, resilience, and vulnerability.</td>
<td>Dec. 12, 2019</td>
<td>SST</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>Jan. 27, 2020</td>
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<td>H.R. 5126</td>
<td>Nov. 15, 2019</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>To require individuals fishing for Gulf reef fish to use certain descending devices, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>Sept. 24, 2020</td>
<td>NR</td>
<td>531</td>
<td>Oct. 1, 2020</td>
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<td>S. 371</td>
<td>Feb. 7, 2019</td>
<td>BHUA</td>
<td>To provide regulatory relief to charitable organizations that provide housing assistance, and for other purposes.</td>
<td>Dec. 17, 2020</td>
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Next Meeting of the SENATE
10:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 21

Senate Chamber
Program for Wednesday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Vanita Gupta, of Virginia, to be Associate Attorney General, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at approximately 11:30 a.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
12 p.m., Wednesday, April 21

House Chamber

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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Dunn, Neal P., Fla., E426
Johnson, Dusty, S. Dak., E428

Johnson, Eddie Bernice, Tex., E426
Kim, Andy, N.J., E425
Lofgren, Zoe, Calif., E426
Norcross, Donald, N.J., E425

Rogers, Mike, Ala., E427
Sablan, Gregorio Kilili Camacho, Northern Mariana Islands, E427
Titus, Dina, Nev., E428