United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 167 WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 2021 No. 70

House of Representatives

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

PRAYER

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

The Earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and all who live therein. Holy God, You founded it on the seas and established it on the waters.

Creator of the Earth and skies, to whom all truth and power belong, we ascend our prayers to You. We are humbled to stand in Your presence.

Redeem us that we would be given clean hands and pure hearts, trusting not in idols of our own making, nor swearing to gods who seek to deceive.

Give us Your blessings, O Lord.

Make things right, O God, our Savior.

May ours be the generation that seeks You. Then may we find You in our work, in our living, and in our world.

In Your sovereign name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. DAVIDSON led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

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

RECOGNIZING THE ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF VANESSA GUILLEN

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 1-year anniversary of Vanessa Guillen's death.

Vanessa was one of my constituents before she was transferred to the Fort Hood military base for her Army training. She was a rising star before her life was tragically cut short.

As Members of Congress, and as a nation, we have the moral obligation to honor Vanessa's memory and enact change that will end violence in our military installations. Her story has captivated Americans of all backgrounds. It brought much-needed attention to sexual assault in the military. It has led to changes being implemented at Fort Hood and at military bases throughout the world.

Madam Speaker, I will not rest until there is justice for Vanessa Guillen and her family. My thoughts and prayers are with them today.

CELEBRATING EARTH DAY WITH FERNDALE AREA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Earth Day and recognize Mrs. Sweeney's sixth grade class at Ferndale Area Elementary School in Cambria County, Pennsylvania.

In March, Mrs. Sweeney's class wrote an article called ''Stewards of the Environment.'' Her students were inspired to start the ''Every Bottle Back'' schoolwide recycling program. The class set a goal of recycling 1,000 bottles, and, as of today, they have collected 1,486 bottles.

Mrs. Sweeney's class decorated receptacles and spread the word throughout the school. The students kept track of their progress with a tally sheet, and every 2 or 3 days educators took the plastics to the Roxbury or Geistown recycling center.

The actions of these sixth graders continue to inspire others in the community. In fact, these sixth graders have inspired the local high school to start a similar program. They have set a great example proving that the littlest of actions can make a big difference.

Thank you, Ferndale Area Elementary School, for your hard work and dedication to recycling.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate Earth Day, let us use Ferndale Area Elementary School as an inspiration to reduce, reuse, and recycle.

INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

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

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, before coming to Congress, I served as a Pennsylvania State Representative. The legislation I was most proud to be a part of was the bipartisan Act 89 infrastructure bill that helped fix some of Pennsylvania's crumbling roads and bridges.

Signed into law by Governor Corbett in 2013, Act 89 was a serious investment in our infrastructure, but it is not enough. Nationwide, we know that an out-of-date infrastructure system is costly, energy inefficient, and dangerous.

Today, in a moment of low interest rates and historic need and a rapidly warming planet, we have an opportunity and an obligation to invest in a stronger, greener, and better connected future.

The American Jobs Plan is that chance, a chance to build back better and make a generational investment for our grandchildren's future. This includes: roads, bridges, public transportation, drinking water, broadband, and good, clean energy union jobs.

I worked with a Republican legislature and a Republican Governor to help pass Pennsylvania's infrastructure bill. I hope we can get together and work across the aisle for infrastructure investment for the next generation.

BENEFITS OF THE VACCINE AND RETURNING TO NORMAL LIFE

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

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, since March, I have traveled my district, administering COVID–19 vaccines. As a doctor and former Director of Public Health, I combat vaccine hesitancy by discussing the safety and effectiveness of the vaccine, and the benefits of returning to normal lives, removing our masks, gathering together, and reopening businesses and schools by attaining herd immunity.

But the deepening mental health crisis has become an epidemic within the pandemic. Yesterday, I read of yet another youth suicide. Eighteen-year-old star quarterback Dylan Buckner, with plans to attend MIT, committed suicide on January 7. His father said that the Illinois extended stay-at-home orders and school closures greatly contributed to his suicide.

As leaders, it is our responsibility to encourage and incentivize vaccinations. One incentive is by removing our masks and returning to normal. Despite having reached the traditional level of herd immunity by our Members, our Chamber does not reflect a return to normal.

I implore leadership and the Attending Physician to follow science and the CDC guidelines, and permit Members who have been vaccinated or who have naturalized immunity to forgo wearing a mask while in the Chamber, and incentivize and show the public that a world beyond the pandemic exists.

Not another minute should go by where children as young as 9 years old commit suicide because they see no hope of a future beyond the pandemic. We cannot waste another second or another young life.

Let us remove our masks and show America that there can be a light at the end of the pandemic tunnel.

REAFFIRM OUR COMMITMENT TO THE EARTH

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

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, in Northwest Oregon, raging wildfires have made the air unhealthy to breathe. Ocean acidification, harmful algal bloom, and hypoxia threaten our fisheries. Droughts and extreme weather patterns jeopardize the livelihoods of our farmers.

But there is hope. By recognizing the scale and urgency of the climate crisis, we can take meaningful action to address it.

Today, the Biden-Harris administration is convening a group of world leaders to commit to ambitious action. We stand ready to work with them to enact policies that reduce emissions, create jobs, and support frontline communities.

Last year, I joined my colleagues on the Select Committee on the Climate Crisis in releasing our bold, comprehensive, science-based Climate Action Plan to reach net-zero emissions no later than mid-century, and net-negative thereafter. It includes bills like my bipartisan Blue Carbon for Our Planet Act, which I am reintroducing today, to help capture the power of the ocean and coastal ecosystems in mitigating the climate crisis.

The Climate Action Plan is our road map. Now, on this 51st anniversary of Earth Day, we must all reaffirm our commitment to the Earth and to taking bold action to solve the climate crisis.

KEEPING OBSCENE AND INDECENT CONTENT OFF OUR AIRWAVES

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, John Adams said our Constitution is fit for a moral and religious people, and is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.

The average American watches about 30 hours a week on broadcast TV. And, of course, what starts on broadcast TV winds up on other screens as well. The Federal Communications Commission is tasked with keeping obscene and indecent content off the airwaves.

While there are some especially responsible parents who raise their children with no TV in the house at all, as a practical matter, broadcast TV affects the moral norms of the Nation.

I have received complaints in my office, and rightfully so, about Cardi B and the GRAMMYs. They wonder why we are paying the FCC if they feel this should be in living rooms across the Nation.

I realize that KAMALA HARRIS has used her fame to promote this performer, but I assure the FCC that millions of Americans would view her performance as inconsistent with basic decency.

Wake up, FCC, and begin to do your job. The moral decline of America is partly due to your utter complacency.

FULL ACCESS TO BENEFITS FOR VETERANS

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

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, as a registered nurse and a member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, I have spent my time in Congress fighting to ensure that northern Illinois veterans and veterans across the Nation have full access to the benefits and support that they have earned.

A critical part of that work has been focusing on ending the veteran suicide crisis by providing veterans with the resources they need and equipping VA employees and community partners with the training necessary to support veterans in crisis.

That is why, this week, I reintroduced the bicameral Lethal Means Safety Training Act with Senator BLUMENTHAL and Representatives BROWNLEY, MRVAN, LEVIN, and PAPPAS.

This legislation is an evidence-based approach to prevent suicide, and it creates valuable time and space between a veteran in crisis and a potentially lethal means.

I am honored that my bill has been endorsed by a broad coalition of veterans service organizations and suicide prevention experts, including: The Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs, the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, the Minority Veterans of America, the American Association of Suicidology, and many more.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Lethal Means Safety Training Act and join me in the urgent mission of ending our veteran suicide crisis.

HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF DAVID KERN

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

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and memory of David Kern.

David recently passed away at the age of 79, following a long fight with cancer. I am particularly extending my condolences to his beloved wife, Katy; his 4 children and 11 grandchildren.

David was a veteran of the United States Army, a volunteer firefighter, a small business owner. He served as Liberty Township Trustee for 32 years, and he was chairman of the Butler County Republican Party. He was an avid hunter, fisherman, and conservationist.

More than all that, however, he was a friend and someone who gave me sound advice and used his influence as a mentor.

David Kern was a very good man, and his presence will be sorely missed by his family, our community, and all who knew and loved him.

RECOGNIZING JORGE CHAVES MEZA

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

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress, it is such an honor to have the ability to help my constituents back home by solving problems and making our government work more effectively for them.

Earlier this year, a man named Jorge Chaves Meza from Farmington, Minnesota, reached out to my office for help enlisting in the U.S. Marine Corps. You see, Jorge came to our community from Costa Rica in hopes of serving our country in the U.S. military, but his Permanent Resident Card was lost in the mail.

This could have prevented Jorge from serving our Nation, but, fortunately, my office was able to work with the USCIS to expedite getting Jorge a replacement card. I am so glad to announce that he received it and just took his oath of enlistment.

Stories like Jorge's are the most rewarding part of public service, and I am so proud of his commitment to serving our Nation.

Thank you, Jorge, for your service.

□ 0915

D.C. STATEHOOD

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, yet another blatant political power grab is underway on the heels of H.R. 1, nationalizing all that is wrong with our elections, the packing of the Supreme Court, and now we have H.R. 51, an unconstitutional bill to create a State of Washington, D.C.

The Founders were very clear and specific to leave our District out of the coercion and the tentacles of a State trying to influence it.

No. This is yet another naked power grab to ensure two new Democratic Senators in a 90 percent Democrat district. That is the result they are trying to get. This new State would be 1/17th the size of Rhode Island and about the same population as Fresno, California.

In 1847, the Virginia Retrocession Act took some of the excess land that they weren't using and put it back into Virginia. We can do the same thing with a bill I am coauthoring, taking the unneeded part and putting it back into Maryland, instead of trying to create a State against the Constitution.

This is a power grab that must be stopped. It is unconstitutional, and it goes against the grain of what our Founders had in mind to have separation.

WASHINGTON, D.C. ADMISSION ACT

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 330, I call up the bill (H.R. 51) to provide for the admission of the State of Washington, D.C. into the Union, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR). Pursuant to House Resolution 330, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Oversight and Reform, printed in the bill, is adopted and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 51

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 ''Washington, D.C. Admission Act''.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—STATE OF WASHINGTON, D.C.

Subtitle A—Procedures for Admission

Sec. 101. Admission into the Union.
Sec. 102. Election of Senators and Representative.
Sec. 103. Issuance of presidential proclamation.

Subtitle B—Seat of Government of the United States

Sec. 111. Territory and boundaries.
Sec. 112. Description of Capital.
Sec. 113. Retention of title to property.
Sec. 114. Effect of admission on current laws of seat of Government of United States.
Sec. 115. Capital National Guard.
Sec. 116. Termination of legal status of seat of Government of United States as municipal corporation.

Subtitle C—General Provisions Relating to Laws of State

Sec. 121. Effect of admission on current laws.
Sec. 122. Pending actions and proceedings.
Sec. 123. Limitation on authority to tax Federal property.
Sec. 124. United States nationality.

TITLE II—INTERESTS OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Subtitle A—Federal Property

Sec. 201. Treatment of military lands.
Sec. 202. Waiver of claims to Federal property.

Subtitle B—Federal Courts

Sec. 211. Residency requirements for certain Federal officials.
Sec. 212. Renaming of Federal courts.
Sec. 213. Conforming amendments relating to Department of Justice.
Sec. 214. Treatment of pretrial services in United States District Court.

Subtitle C—Federal Elections

Sec. 221. Permitting individuals residing in Capital to vote in Federal elections in State of most recent domicile.
Sec. 222. Repeal of Office of District of Columbia Delegate.
Sec. 223. Repeal of law providing for participation of seat of government in election of President and Vice-President.
Sec. 224. Expedited procedures for consideration of constitutional amendment repealing 23rd Amendment.

TITLE III—CONTINUATION OF CERTAIN AUTHORITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Subtitle A—Employee Benefits

Sec. 301. Federal benefit payments under certain retirement programs.
Sec. 302. Continuation of Federal civil service benefits for employees first employed prior to establishment of District of Columbia merit personnel system.
Sec. 303. Obligations of Federal Government under judges' retirement program.

Subtitle B—Agencies

Sec. 311. Public Defender Service.
Sec. 312. Prosecutions.
Sec. 313. Service of United States Marshals.
Sec. 314. Designation of felons to facilities of Bureau of Prisons.
Sec. 315. Parole and supervision.
Sec. 316. Courts.

Subtitle C—Other Programs and Authorities

Sec. 321. Application of the College Access Act.
Sec. 322. Application of the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act.
Sec. 323. Medicaid Federal medical assistance percentage.
Sec. 324. Federal planning commissions.
Sec. 325. Role of Army Corps of Engineers in supplying water.
Sec. 326. Requirements to be located in District of Columbia.

TITLE IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 401. General definitions.
Sec. 402. Statehood Transition Commission.
Sec. 403. Certification of enactment by President.
Sec. 404. Severability.

TITLE I—STATE OF WASHINGTON, D.C.

Subtitle A—Procedures for Admission

SEC. 101. ADMISSION INTO THE UNION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the provisions of this Act, upon the issuance of the proclamation required by section 103(a), the State of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth is declared to be a State of the United States of America, and is declared admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the other States in all respects whatever.

(b) CONSTITUTION OF STATE.—The State Constitution shall always be republican in form and shall not be repugnant to the Constitution of the United States or the principles of the Declaration of Independence.

(c) NONSEVERABILITY.—If any provision of this section, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held to be invalid, the remaining provisions of this Act and any amendments made by this Act shall be treated as invalid.

SEC. 102. ELECTION OF SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVE.

(a) ISSUANCE OF PROCLAMATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not more than 30 days after receiving certification of the enactment of this Act from the President pursuant to section 403, the Mayor shall issue a proclamation for the first elections for 2 Senators and one Representative in Congress from the State, subject to the provisions of this section.

(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR ELECTIONS OF SENATORS.—In the elections of Senators from the State pursuant to paragraph (1), the 2 Senate offices shall be separately identified and designated, and no person may be a candidate for both offices. No such identification or designation of either of the offices shall refer to or be taken to refer to the terms of such offices, or in any way impair the privilege of the Senate to determine the class to which each of the Senators shall be assigned.

(b) RULES FOR CONDUCTING ELECTIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The proclamation of the Mayor issued under subsection (a) shall provide for the holding of a primary election and a general election, and at such elections the officers required to be elected as provided in subsection (a) shall be chosen by the qualified voters of the District of Columbia in the manner required by the laws of the District of Columbia.

(2) CERTIFICATION OF RESULTS.—Election results shall be certified in the manner required by

the laws of the District of Columbia, except that the Mayor shall also provide written certification of the results of such elections to the President.

(c) ASSUMPTION OF DUTIES.—Upon the admission of the State into the Union, the Senators and Representative elected at the elections described in subsection (a) shall be entitled to be admitted to seats in Congress and to all the rights and privileges of Senators and Representatives of the other States in Congress.

(d) EFFECT OF ADMISSION ON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) PERMANENT INCREASE IN NUMBER OF MEMBERS.—Effective with respect to the Congress during which the State is admitted into the Union and each succeeding Congress, the House of Representatives shall be composed of 436 Members, including any Members representing the State.

(2) INITIAL NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR STATE.—Until the taking effect of the first apportionment of Members occurring after the admission of the State into the Union, the State shall be entitled to one Representative in the House of Representatives upon its admission into the Union.

(3) APPORTIONMENT OF MEMBERS RESULTING FROM ADMISSION OF STATE.—

(A) APPORTIONMENT.—Section 22(a) of the Act entitled ''An Act to provide for the fifteenth and subsequent decennial censuses and to provide for apportionment of Representatives in Congress'', approved June 18, 1929 (2 U.S.C. 2a(a)), is amended by striking ''the then existing number of Representatives'' and inserting ''436 Representatives''.

(B) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subparagraph (A) shall apply with respect to the first regular decennial census conducted after the admission of the State into the Union and each subsequent regular decennial census.

SEC. 103. ISSUANCE OF PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President, upon the certification of the results of the elections of the officers required to be elected as provided in section 102(a), shall, not later than 90 days after receiving such certification pursuant to section 102(b)(2), issue a proclamation announcing the results of such elections as so ascertained.

(b) ADMISSION OF STATE UPON ISSUANCE OF PROCLAMATION.—Upon the issuance of the proclamation by the President under subsection (a), the State shall be declared admitted into the Union as provided in section 101(a).

Subtitle B—Seat of Government of the United States

SEC. 111. TERRITORY AND BOUNDARIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), the State shall consist of all of the territory of the District of Columbia as of the date of the enactment of this Act, subject to the results of the metes and bounds survey conducted under subsection (c).

(b) EXCLUSION OF PORTION REMAINING AS SEAT OF GOVERNMENT OF UNITED STATES.—The territory of the State shall not include the area described in section 112, which shall be known as the ''Capital'' and shall serve as the seat of the Government of the United States, as provided in clause 17 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution of the United States.

(c) METES AND BOUNDS SURVEY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President (in consultation with the Chair of the National Capital Planning Commission) shall conduct a metes and bounds survey of the Capital, as described in section 112(b).

SEC. 112. DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (c), upon the admission of the State into the Union, the Capital shall consist of the property described in subsection (b) and shall include the principal Federal monuments, the White House, the Capitol Building, the United States Supreme Court Building, and the Federal executive, legislative, and judicial office buildings located adjacent to the Mall and the Capitol Building (as such terms are used in section 8501(a) of title 40, United States Code).

(b) GENERAL DESCRIPTION.—Upon the admission of the State into the Union, the boundaries of the Capital shall be as follows: Beginning at the intersection of the southern right-of-way of F Street NE and the eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street NE;

(1) thence south along said eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street NE to its intersection with the northeastern right-of-way of Maryland Avenue NE;

(2) thence southwest along said northeastern right-of-way of Maryland Avenue NE to its intersection with the northern right-of-way of Constitution Avenue NE;

(3) thence west along said northern right-of-way of Constitution Avenue NE to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 1st Street NE;

(4) thence south along said eastern right-of-way of 1st Street NE to its intersection with the southeastern right-of-way of Maryland Avenue NE;

(5) thence northeast along said southeastern right-of-way of Maryland Avenue NE to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street SE;

(6) thence south along said eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street SE to the eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street SE;

(7) thence south along said eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street SE to its intersection with the northern property boundary of the property designated as Square 760 Lot 803;

(8) thence east along said northern property boundary of Square 760 Lot 803 to its intersection with the western right-of-way of 3rd Street SE;

(9) thence south along said western right-of-way of 3rd Street SE to its intersection with the northern right-of-way of Independence Avenue SE;

(10) thence west along said northern right-of-way of Independence Avenue SE to its intersection with the northwestern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue SE;

(11) thence northwest along said northwestern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue SE to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street SE;

(12) thence south along said eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street SE to its intersection with the southern right-of-way of C Street SE;

(13) thence west along said southern right-of-way of C Street SE to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 1st Street SE;

(14) thence south along said eastern right-of-way of 1st Street SE to its intersection with the southern right-of-way of D Street SE;

(15) thence west along said southern right-of-way of D Street SE to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of South Capitol Street;

(16) thence south along said eastern right-of-way of South Capitol Street to its intersection with the northwestern right-of-way of Canal Street SE;

(17) thence southeast along said northwestern right-of-way of Canal Street SE to its intersection with the southern right-of-way of E Street SE;

(18) thence east along said southern right-of-way of said E Street SE to its intersection with the western right-of-way of 1st Street SE;

(19) thence south along said western right-of-way of 1st Street SE to its intersection with the southernmost corner of the property designated as Square 736S Lot 801;

(20) thence west along a line extended due west from said corner of said property designated as Square 736S Lot 801 to its intersection with the southwestern right-of-way of New Jersey Avenue SE;

(21) thence southeast along said southwestern right-of-way of New Jersey Avenue SE to its intersection with the northwestern right-of-way of Virginia Avenue SE;

(22) thence northwest along said northwestern right-of-way of Virginia Avenue SE to its intersection with the western right-of-way of South Capitol Street;

(23) thence north along said western right-of-way of South Capitol Street to its intersection with the southern right-of-way of E Street SW;

(24) thence west along said southern right-of-way of E Street SW to its end;

(25) thence west along a line extending said southern right-of-way of E Street SW westward to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street SW;

(26) thence north along said eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street SW to its intersection with the southwestern right-of-way of Virginia Avenue SW;

(27) thence northwest along said southwestern right-of-way of Virginia Avenue SW to its intersection with the western right-of-way of 3rd Street SW;

(28) thence north along said western right-of-way of 3rd Street SW to its intersection with the northern right-of-way of D Street SW;

(29) thence west along said northern right-of-way of D Street SW to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 4th Street SW;

(30) thence north along said eastern right-of-way of 4th Street SW to its intersection with the northern right-of-way of C Street SW;

(31) thence west along said northern right-of-way of C Street SW to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 6th Street SW;

(32) thence north along said eastern right-of-way of 6th Street SW to its intersection with the northern right-of-way of Independence Avenue SW;

(33) thence west along said northern right-of-way of Independence Avenue SW to its intersection with the western right-of-way of 12th Street SW;

(34) thence south along said western right-of-way of 12th Street SW to its intersection with the northern right-of-way of D Street SW;

(35) thence west along said northern right-of-way of D Street SW to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 14th Street SW;

(36) thence south along said eastern right-of-way of 14th Street SW to its intersection with the northeastern boundary of the Consolidated Rail Corporation railroad easement;

(37) thence southwest along said northeastern boundary of the Consolidated Rail Corporation railroad easement to its intersection with the eastern shore of the Potomac River;

(38) thence generally northwest along said eastern shore of the Potomac River to its intersection with a line extending westward the northern boundary of the property designated as Square 12 Lot 806;

(39) thence east along said line extending westward the northern boundary of the property designated as Square 12 Lot 806 to the northern property boundary of the property designated as Square 12 Lot 806, and continuing east along said northern boundary of said property designated as Square 12 Lot 806 to its northeast corner;

(40) thence east along a line extending east from said northeast corner of the property designated as Square 12 Lot 806 to its intersection with the western boundary of the property designated as Square 33 Lot 87;

(41) thence south along said western boundary of the property designated as Square 33 Lot 87 to its intersection with the northwest corner of the property designated as Square 33 Lot 88;

(42) thence counter-clockwise around the boundary of said property designated as Square 33 Lot 88 to its southeast corner, which is along the northern right-of-way of E Street NW;

(43) thence east along said northern right-of-way of E Street NW to its intersection with the western right-of-way of 18th Street NW;

(44) thence south along said western right-of-way of 18th Street NW to its intersection with the southwestern right-of-way of Virginia Avenue NW;

(45) thence southeast along said southwestern right-of-way of Virginia Avenue NW to its intersection with the northern right-of-way of Constitution Avenue NW;

(46) thence east along said northern right-of-way of Constitution Avenue NW to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 17th Street NW;

(47) thence north along said eastern right-of-way of 17th Street NW to its intersection with the southern right-of-way of H Street NW;

(48) thence east along said southern right-of-way of H Street NW to its intersection with the northwest corner of the property designated as Square 221 Lot 35;

(49) thence counter-clockwise around the boundary of said property designated as Square 221 Lot 35 to its southeast corner, which is along the boundary of the property designated as Square 221 Lot 37;

(50) thence counter-clockwise around the boundary of said property designated as Square 221 Lot 37 to its southwest corner, which it shares with the property designated as Square 221 Lot 818;

(51) thence south along the boundary of said property designated as Square 221 Lot 818 to its southwest corner, which it shares with the property designated as Square 221 Lot 40;

(52) thence south along the boundary of said property designated as Square 221 Lot 40 to its southwest corner;

(53) thence east along the southern border of said property designated as Square 221 Lot 40 to its intersection with the northwest corner of the property designated as Square 221 Lot 820;

(54) thence south along the western boundary of said property designated as Square 221 Lot 820 to its southwest corner, which it shares with the property designated as Square 221 Lot 39;

(55) thence south along the western boundary of said property designated as Square 221 Lot 39 to its southwest corner, which is along the northern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW;

(56) thence east along said northern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW to its intersection with the western right-of-way of 15th Street NW;

(57) thence south along said western right-of-way of 15th Street NW to its intersection with a line extending northwest from the southern right-of-way of the portion of Pennsylvania Avenue NW north of Pershing Square;

(58) thence southeast along said line extending the southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW to the southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW, and continuing southeast along said southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW to its intersection with the western right-of-way of 14th Street NW;

(59) thence south along said western right-of-way of 14th Street NW to its intersection with a line extending west from the southern right-of-way of D Street NW;

(60) thence east along said line extending west from the southern right-of-way of D Street NW to the southern right-of-way of D Street NW, and continuing east along said southern right-of-way of D Street NW to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 13½ Street NW;

(61) thence north along said eastern right-of-way of 13½ Street NW to its intersection with the southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW;

(62) thence east and southeast along said southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW to its intersection with the western right-of-way of 12th Street NW;

(63) thence south along said western right-of-way of 12th Street NW to its intersection with a line extending to the west the southern boundary of the property designated as Square 324 Lot 809;

(64) thence east along said line to the southwest corner of said property designated as Square 324 Lot 809, and continuing northeast along the southern boundary of said property designated as Square 324 Lot 809 to its eastern corner, which it shares with the property designated as Square 323 Lot 802;

(65) thence east along the southern boundary of said property designated as Square 323 Lot 802 to its southeast corner, which it shares with the property designated as Square 324 Lot 808;

(66) thence counter-clockwise around the boundary of said property designated as Square 324 Lot 808 to its northeastern corner, which is along the southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW;

(67) thence southeast along said southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 4th Street NW;

(68) thence north along a line extending north from said eastern right-of-way of 4th Street NW to its intersection with the southern right-of-way of C Street NW;

(69) thence east along said southern right-of-way of C Street NW to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 3rd Street NW;

(70) thence north along said eastern right-of-way of 3rd Street NW to its intersection with the southern right-of-way of D Street NW;

(71) thence east along said southern right-of-way of D Street NW to its intersection with the western right-of-way of 1st Street NW;

(72) thence south along said western right-of-way of 1st Street NW to its intersection with the northern right-of-way of C Street NW;

(73) thence west along said northern right-of-way of C Street NW to its intersection with the western right-of-way of 2nd Street NW;

(74) thence south along said western right-of-way of 2nd Street NW to its intersection with the northern right-of-way of Constitution Avenue NW;

(75) thence east along said northern right-of-way of Constitution Avenue NW to its intersection with the northeastern right-of-way of Louisiana Avenue NW;

(76) thence northeast along said northeastern right-of-way of Louisiana Avenue NW to its intersection with the southwestern right-of-way of New Jersey Avenue NW;

(77) thence northwest along said southwestern right-of-way of New Jersey Avenue NW to its intersection with the northern right-of-way of D Street NW;

(78) thence east along said northern right-of-way of D Street NW to its intersection with the northeastern right-of-way of Louisiana Avenue NW;

(79) thence northeast along said northwestern right-of-way of Louisiana Avenue NW to its intersection with the western right-of-way of North Capitol Street;

(80) thence north along said western right-of-way of North Capitol Street to its intersection with the southwestern right-of-way of Massachusetts Avenue NW;

(81) thence southeast along said southwestern right-of-way of Massachusetts Avenue NW to the southwestern right-of-way of Massachusetts Avenue NE;

(82) thence southeast along said southwestern right-of-way of Massachusetts Avenue NE to the southern right-of-way of Columbus Circle NE;

(83) thence counter-clockwise along said southern right-of-way of Columbus Circle NE to its intersection with the southern right-of-way of F Street NE; and

(84) thence east along said southern right-of-way of F Street NE to the point of beginning.

(c) EXCLUSION OF BUILDING SERVING AS STATE CAPITOL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, after the admission of the State into the Union, the Capital shall not be considered to include the building known as the ''John A. Wilson Building'', as described and designated under section 601(a) of the Omnibus Spending Reduction Act of 1993 (sec. 10–1301(a), D.C. Official Code).

(d) CLARIFICATION OF TREATMENT OF FRANCES PERKINS BUILDING.—The entirety of the Frances Perkins Building, including any portion of the Building which is north of D Street Northwest, shall be included in the Capital.

SEC. 113. RETENTION OF TITLE TO PROPERTY.

(a) RETENTION OF FEDERAL TITLE.—The United States shall have and retain title to, or jurisdiction over, for purposes of administration and maintenance, all real and personal property with respect to which the United States holds title or jurisdiction for such purposes on the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union.

(b) RETENTION OF STATE TITLE.—The State shall have and retain title to, or jurisdiction over, for purposes of administration and maintenance, all real and personal property with respect to which the District of Columbia holds title or jurisdiction for such purposes on the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union.

SEC. 114. EFFECT OF ADMISSION ON CURRENT LAWS OF SEAT OF GOVERNMENT OF UNITED STATES.

Except as otherwise provided in this Act, the laws of the District of Columbia which are in effect on the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union (without regard to whether such laws were enacted by Congress or by the District of Columbia) shall apply in the Capital in the same manner and to the same extent beginning on the date of the admission of the State into the Union, and shall be deemed laws of the United States which are applicable only in or to the Capital.

SEC. 115. CAPITAL NATIONAL GUARD.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Title 32, United States Code, is amended as follows:

(1) DEFINITIONS.—In paragraphs (4), (6), and (19) of section 101, by striking ''District of Columbia'' each place it appears and inserting ''Capital''.

(2) BRANCHES AND ORGANIZATIONS.—In section 103, by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(3) UNITS: LOCATION; ORGANIZATION; COMMAND.—In subsections (c) and (d) of section 104, by striking ''District of Columbia'' both places it appears and inserting ''Capital''.

(4) AVAILABILITY OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In section 107(b), by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(5) MAINTENANCE OF OTHER TROOPS.—In subsections (a), (b), and (c) of section 109, by striking ''District of Columbia'' each place it appears and inserting ''Capital''.

(6) DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES.—In section 112(h)—

(A) by striking ''District of Columbia,'' both places it appears and inserting ''Capital,''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''National Guard of the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital National Guard''.

(7) ENLISTMENT OATH.—In section 304, by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(8) ADJUTANTS GENERAL.—In section 314, by striking ''District of Columbia'' each place it appears and inserting ''Capital''.

(9) DETAIL OF REGULAR MEMBERS OF ARMY AND AIR FORCE TO DUTY WITH NATIONAL GUARD.—In section 315, by striking ''District of Columbia'' each place it appears and inserting ''Capital''.

(10) DISCHARGE OF OFFICERS; TERMINATION OF APPOINTMENT.—In section 324(b), by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(11) RELIEF FROM NATIONAL GUARD DUTY WHEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY.—In subsections (a) and (b) of section 325, by striking ''District of Columbia'' each place it appears and inserting ''Capital''.

(12) COURTS-MARTIAL OF NATIONAL GUARD NOT IN FEDERAL SERVICE: COMPOSITION, JURISDICTION, AND PROCEDURES; CONVENING AUTHORITY.—In sections 326 and 327, by striking ''District of Columbia'' each place it appears and inserting ''Capital''.

(13) ACTIVE GUARD AND RESERVE DUTY: GOVERNOR'S AUTHORITY.—In section 328(a), by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(14) TRAINING GENERALLY.—In section 501(b), by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(15) PARTICIPATION IN FIELD EXERCISES.—In section 503(b), by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(16) NATIONAL GUARD SCHOOLS AND SMALL ARMS COMPETITIONS.—In section 504(b), by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(17) ARMY AND AIR FORCE SCHOOLS AND FIELD EXERCISES.—In section 505, by striking ''National Guard of the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital National Guard''.

(18) NATIONAL GUARD YOUTH CHALLENGE PROGRAM.—In subsections (c)(1), (g)(2), (j), (k), and (l)(1) of section 509, by striking ''District of Columbia'' each place it appears and inserting ''Capital''.

(19) ISSUE OF SUPPLIES.—In section 702—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking ''National Guard of the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital National Guard''; and

(B) in subsections (b), (c), and (d), by striking ''District of Columbia'' each place it appears and inserting ''Capital''.

(20) PURCHASES OF SUPPLIES FROM ARMY OR AIR FORCE.—In subsections (a) and (b) of section 703, by striking ''District of Columbia'' both places it appears and inserting ''Capital''.

(21) ACCOUNTABILITY: RELIEF FROM UPON ORDER TO ACTIVE DUTY.—In section 704, by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(22) PROPERTY AND FISCAL OFFICERS.—In section 708—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking ''National Guard of the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital National Guard''; and

(B) in subsection (d), by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(23) ACCOUNTABILITY FOR PROPERTY ISSUED TO THE NATIONAL GUARD.—In subsections (c), (d), (e), and (f) of section 710, by striking ''District of Columbia'' each place it appears and inserting ''Capital''.

(24) DISPOSITION OF OBSOLETE OR CONDEMNED PROPERTY.—In section 711, by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(25) DISPOSITION OF PROCEEDS OF CONDEMNED STORES ISSUED TO NATIONAL GUARD.—In paragraph (1) of section 712, by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(26) PROPERTY LOSS; PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH.—In section 715(c), by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) CAPITAL DEFINED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 101 of title 32, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(20) 'Capital' means the area serving as the seat of the Government of the United States, as described in section 112 of the Washington, D.C. Admission Act.''.

(B) WITH REGARDS TO HOMELAND DEFENSE ACTIVITIES.—Section 901 of title 32, United States Code, is amended—

(i) in paragraph (2), by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) The term 'Governor' means, with respect to the Capital, the commanding general of the Capital National Guard.''.

(2) TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE.—Title 10, United States Code, is amended as follows:

(A) DEFINITIONS.—In section 101—

(i) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(19) The term 'Capital' means the area serving as the seat of the Government of the United States, as described in section 112 of the Washington, D.C. Admission Act.'';

(ii) in paragraphs (2) and (4) of subsection (c), by striking ''District of Columbia'' both places it appears and inserting ''Capital''; and

(iii) in subsection (d)(5), by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(B) DISPOSITION ON DISCHARGE.—In section 771a(c), by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(C) TRICARE COVERAGE FOR CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD AND DEPENDENTS DURING CERTAIN DISASTER RESPONSE DUTY.—In section 1076f—

(i) in subsections (a) and (c)(1), by striking ''with respect to the District of Columbia, the mayor of the District of Columbia'' both places it appears and inserting ''with respect to the Capital, the commanding general of the Capital National Guard''; and

(ii) in subsection (c)(2), by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(D) PAYMENT OF CLAIMS: AVAILABILITY OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In paragraph (2)(B) of section 2732, by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(E) MEMBERS OF ARMY NATIONAL GUARD: DETAIL AS STUDENTS, OBSERVERS, AND INVESTIGATORS AT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS, AND HOSPITALS.—In section 7401(c), by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(F) MEMBERS OF AIR NATIONAL GUARD: DETAIL AS STUDENTS, OBSERVERS, AND INVESTIGATORS AT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS, AND HOSPITALS.—In section 9401(c), by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(G) READY RESERVE: FAILURE TO SATISFACTORILY PERFORM PRESCRIBED TRAINING.—In section 10148(b)—

(i) by striking ''District of Columbia,'' and inserting ''Capital,''; and

(ii) by striking ''District of Columbia National Guard'' and inserting ''Capital National Guard''.

(H) CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU.—In section 10502(a)(1)—

(i) by striking ''District of Columbia,'' and inserting ''Capital,''; and

(ii) by striking ''District of Columbia National Guard'' and inserting ''Capital National Guard''.

(I) VICE CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU.—In section 10505(a)(1)(A)—

(i) by striking ''District of Columbia,'' and inserting ''Capital,''; and

(ii) by striking ''District of Columbia National Guard'' and inserting ''Capital National Guard''.

(J) OTHER SENIOR NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU OFFICERS.—In subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 10506(a)(1)—

(i) by striking ''District of Columbia,'' both places it appears and inserting ''Capital,''; and

(ii) by striking ''District of Columbia National Guard'' both places it appears and inserting ''Capital National Guard''.

(K) NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU: GENERAL PROVISIONS.—In section 10508(b)(1), by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(L) COMMISSIONED OFFICERS: ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT; LIMITATION.—In section 12204(b), by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(M) RESERVE COMPONENTS GENERALLY.—In section 12301(b), by striking ''District of Columbia National Guard'' both places it appears and inserting ''Capital National Guard''.

(N) NATIONAL GUARD IN FEDERAL SERVICE: CALL.—In section 12406—

(i) by striking ''District of Columbia,'' and inserting ''Capital,''; and

(ii) by striking ''National Guard of the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital National Guard''.

(O) RESULT OF FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS.—In section 12642(c), by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(P) LIMITATION ON RELOCATION OF NATIONAL GUARD UNITS.—In section 18238—

(i) by striking ''District of Columbia,'' and inserting ''Capital,''; and

(ii) by striking ''National Guard of the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital National Guard''.

SEC. 116. TERMINATION OF LEGAL STATUS OF SEAT OF GOVERNMENT OF UNITED STATES AS MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

Notwithstanding section 2 of the Revised Statutes relating to the District of Columbia (sec. 1–102, D.C. Official Code) or any other provision of law codified in subchapter I of chapter 1 of the District of Columbia Official Code, effective upon the date of the admission of the State into the Union, the Capital (or any portion thereof) shall not serve as a government and shall not be a body corporate for municipal purposes.

Subtitle C—General Provisions Relating to Laws of State

SEC. 121. EFFECT OF ADMISSION ON CURRENT LAWS.

(a) LEGISLATIVE POWER.—The legislative power of the State shall extend to all rightful subjects of legislation in the State, consistent with the Constitution of the United States (including the restrictions and limitations imposed upon the States by article I, section 10) and subject to the provisions of this Act.

(b) CONTINUATION OF AUTHORITY AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE, LEGISLATIVE, AND JUDICIAL OFFICES.—Upon the admission of the State into the Union, members of executive, legislative, and judicial offices of the District of Columbia shall be deemed members of the respective executive, legislative, and judicial offices of the State, as provided by the State Constitution and the laws of the State.

(c) TREATMENT OF FEDERAL LAWS.—To the extent that any law of the United States applies to the States generally, the law shall have the same force and effect in the State as elsewhere in the United States, except as such law may otherwise provide.

(d) NO EFFECT ON EXISTING CONTRACTS.—Nothing in the admission of the State into the Union shall affect any obligation under any contract or agreement under which the District of Columbia or the United States is a party, as in effect on the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union.

(e) SUCCESSION IN INTERSTATE COMPACTS.—The State shall be deemed to be the successor to the District of Columbia for purposes of any interstate compact which is in effect on the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union.

(f) CONTINUATION OF SERVICE OF FEDERAL MEMBERS ON BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.—Nothing in the admission of the State into the Union shall affect the authority of a representative of the Federal Government who, as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union, is a member of a board or commission of the District of Columbia to serve as a member of such board or commission or as a member of a successor to such board or commission after the admission of the State into the Union, as may be provided by the State Constitution and the laws of the State.

(g) SPECIAL RULE REGARDING ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY OF UNITED STATES CAPITOL POLICE, UNITED STATES PARK POLICE, AND UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE UNIFORMED DIVISION.—The United States Capitol Police, the United States Park Police, and the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division may not enforce any law of the State in the State, except to the extent authorized by the State. Nothing in this subsection may be construed to affect the authority of the United States Capitol Police, the United States Park Police, and the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division to enforce any law in the Capital.

SEC. 122. PENDING ACTIONS AND PROCEEDINGS.

(a) STATE AS LEGAL SUCCESSOR TO DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.—The State shall be the legal successor to the District of Columbia in all matters.

(b) NO EFFECT ON PENDING PROCEEDINGS.—All existing writs, actions, suits, judicial and administrative proceedings, civil or criminal liabilities, prosecutions, judgments, sentences, orders, decrees, appeals, causes of action, claims, demands, titles, and rights shall continue unaffected by the admission of the State into the Union with respect to the State or the United States, except as may be provided under this Act, as may be modified in accordance with the provisions of the State Constitution, and as may be modified by the laws of the State or the United States, as the case may be.

SEC. 123. LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY TO TAX FEDERAL PROPERTY.

The State may not impose any tax on any real or personal property owned or acquired by the United States, except to the extent that Congress may permit.

SEC. 124. UNITED STATES NATIONALITY.

No provision of this Act shall operate to confer United States nationality, to terminate nationality lawfully acquired, or to restore nationality terminated or lost under any law of the United States or under any treaty to which the United States is or was a party.

TITLE II—INTERESTS OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Subtitle A—Federal Property

SEC. 201. TREATMENT OF MILITARY LANDS.

(a) RESERVATION OF FEDERAL AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2) and subsection (b) and notwithstanding the admission of the State into the Union, authority is reserved in the United States for the exercise by Congress of the power of exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever over such tracts or parcels of land located in the State that, on the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union, are controlled or owned by the United States and held for defense or Coast Guard purposes.

(2) LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY.—The power of exclusive legislation described in paragraph (1) shall vest and remain in the United States only so long as the particular tract or parcel of land involved is controlled or owned by the United States and held for defense or Coast Guard purposes.

(b) AUTHORITY OF STATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The reservation of authority in the United States under subsection (a) shall not operate to prevent such tracts or parcels of land from being a part of the State, or to prevent the State from exercising over or upon such lands, concurrently with the United States, any jurisdiction which it would have in the absence of such reservation of authority and which is consistent with the laws hereafter enacted by Congress pursuant to such reservation of authority.

(2) SERVICE OF PROCESS.—The State shall have the right to serve civil or criminal process in such tracts or parcels of land in which the authority of the United States is reserved under subsection (a) in suits or prosecutions for or on account of rights acquired, obligations incurred, or crimes committed in the State but outside of such lands.

SEC. 202. WAIVER OF CLAIMS TO FEDERAL PROPERTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As a compact with the United States, the State and its people disclaim all right and title to any real or personal property not granted or confirmed to the State by or under the authority of this Act, the right or title to which is held by the United States or subject to disposition by the United States.

(b) EFFECT ON CLAIMS AGAINST UNITED STATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this Act shall recognize, deny, enlarge, impair, or otherwise affect any claim against the United States, and any such claim shall be governed by applicable laws of the United States.

(2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act is intended or shall be construed as a finding, interpretation, or construction by Congress that any applicable law authorizes, establishes, recognizes, or confirms the validity or invalidity of any claim referred to in paragraph (1), and the determination of the applicability to or the effect of any law on any such claim shall be unaffected by anything in this Act.

Subtitle B—Federal Courts

SEC. 211. RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN FEDERAL OFFICIALS.

(a) CIRCUIT JUDGES.—Section 44(c) of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''Except in the District of Columbia, each'' and inserting ''Each''; and

(2) by striking ''within fifty miles of the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''within fifty miles of the Capital''.

(b) DISTRICT JUDGES.—Section 134(b) of such title is amended in the first sentence by striking ''the District of Columbia, the Southern District of New York, and'' and inserting ''the Southern District of New York and''.

(c) UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS.—Section 545(a) of such title is amended by striking the first sentence and inserting ''Each United States attorney shall reside in the district for which he or she is appointed, except that those officers of the Southern District of New York and the Eastern District of New York may reside within 20 miles thereof.''.

(d) UNITED STATES MARSHALS.—Section 561(e)(1) of such title is amended to read as follows:

''(1) the marshal for the Southern District of New York may reside within 20 miles of the district; and''.

(e) CLERKS OF DISTRICT COURTS.—Section 751(c) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia and''.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply only to individuals appointed after the date of the admission of the State into the Union.

SEC. 212. RENAMING OF FEDERAL COURTS.

(a) RENAMING.—

(1) CIRCUIT COURT.—Section 41 of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in the first column, by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''; and

(B) in the second column, by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital; Washington, Douglass Commonwealth''.

(2) DISTRICT COURT.—Section 88 of such title is amended—

*(A) in the heading, by striking ''**District of Columbia**'' and inserting ''**Washington, Douglass Commonwealth and the Capital**'';*

(B) by amending the first paragraph to read as follows:

''The State of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth and the Capital comprise one judicial district.''; and

(C) in the second paragraph, by striking ''Washington'' and inserting ''the Capital''.

(3) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The item relating to section 88 in the table of sections for chapter 5 of such title is amended to read as follows:

''88. Washington, Douglass Commonwealth and the Capital.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO COURT OF APPEALS.—Title 28, United States Code, is amended as follows:

(1) APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES.—Section 44(a) of such title is amended in the first column by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(2) TERMS OF COURT.—Section 48(a) of such title is amended—

(A) in the first column, by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital'';

(B) in the second column, by striking ''Washington'' and inserting ''Capital'' ; and

(C) in the second column, by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Capital''.

(3) APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT COUNSELS BY CHIEF JUDGE OF CIRCUIT.—Section 49 of such title is amended by striking ''District of Columbia'' each place it appears and inserting ''Capital''.

(4) CIRCUIT COURT JURISDICTION OVER CERTIFICATION OF DEATH PENALTY COUNSELS.—Section 2265(c)(2) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia Circuit'' and inserting ''the Capital Circuit''.

(5) CIRCUIT COURT JURISDICTION OVER REVIEW OF FEDERAL AGENCY ORDERS.—Section 2343 of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia Circuit'' and inserting ''the Capital Circuit''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO DISTRICT COURT.—Title 28, United States Code, is amended as follows:

(1) APPOINTMENT AND NUMBER OF DISTRICT COURT JUDGES.—Section 133(a) of such title is amended in the first column by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Washington, Douglass Commonwealth and the Capital''.

(2) DISTRICT COURT JURISDICTION OF TAX CASES BROUGHT AGAINST UNITED STATES.—Section 1346(e) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Washington, Douglass Commonwealth and the Capital''.

(3) DISTRICT COURT JURISDICTION OVER PROCEEDINGS FOR FORFEITURE OF FOREIGN PROPERTY.—Section 1355(b)(2) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Washington, Douglass Commonwealth and the Capital''.

(4) DISTRICT COURT JURISDICTION OVER CIVIL ACTIONS BROUGHT AGAINST A FOREIGN STATE.—Section 1391(f)(4) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Washington, Douglass Commonwealth and the Capital''.

(5) DISTRICT COURT JURISDICTION OVER ACTIONS BROUGHT BY CORPORATIONS AGAINST UNITED STATES.—Section 1402(a)(2) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Washington, Douglass Commonwealth and the Capital''.

(6) VENUE IN DISTRICT COURT OF CERTAIN ACTIONS BROUGHT BY EMPLOYEES OF EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT.—Section 1413 of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Washington, Douglass Commonwealth and the Capital''.

(7) VENUE IN DISTRICT COURT OF ACTION ENFORCING FOREIGN JUDGMENT.—Section 2467(c)(2)(B) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Washington, Douglass Commonwealth and the Capital''.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO OTHER COURTS.—Title 28, United States Code, is amended as follows:

(1) APPOINTMENT OF BANKRUPTCY JUDGES.—Section 152(a)(2) of such title is amended in the first column by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Washington, Douglass Commonwealth and the Capital''.

(2) LOCATION OF COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS.—Section 173 of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Capital''.

(3) DUTY STATION OF JUDGES OF COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS.—Section 175 of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' each place it appears and inserting ''the Capital''.

(4) DUTY STATION OF JUDGES FOR PURPOSES OF TRAVELING EXPENSES.—Section 456(b) of such title is amended to read as follows:

''(b) The official duty station of the Chief Justice of the United States, the Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, and the judges of the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit shall be the Capital.''.

(5) COURT ACCOMMODATIONS FOR FEDERAL CIRCUIT AND COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS.—Section 462(d) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Capital''.

(6) PLACES OF HOLDING COURT OF COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS.—Section 798(a) of such title is amended—

(A) by striking ''Washington, District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Capital''; and

(B) by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Capital''.

(e) OTHER CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) SERVICE OF PROCESS ON FOREIGN PARTIES AT STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICE.—Section 1608(a)(4) of such title is amended by striking ''Washington, District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Capital''.

(2) SERVICE OF PROCESS IN PROPERTY CASES AT ATTORNEY GENERAL OFFICE.—Section 2410(b) of such title is amended by striking ''Washington, District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Capital''.

(f) DEFINITION.—Section 451 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new undesignated paragraph:

''The term 'Capital' means the area serving as the seat of the Government of the United States, as described in section 112 of the Washington, D.C. Admission Act.''.

(g) REFERENCES IN OTHER LAWS.—Any reference in any Federal law (other than a law amended by this section), rule, or regulation—

(1) to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia shall be deemed to refer to the United States Court of Appeals for the Capital;

(2) to the District of Columbia Circuit shall be deemed to refer to the Capital Circuit; and

(3) to the United States District Court for the District of Columbia shall be deemed to refer to the United States District Court for Washington, Douglass Commonwealth and the Capital.

(h) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section and the amendments made by this section shall take effect upon the admission of the State into the Union.

SEC. 213. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

(a) APPOINTMENT OF UNITED STATES TRUSTEES.—Section 581(a)(4) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Capital and Washington, Douglass Commonwealth''.

(b) INDEPENDENT COUNSELS.—

(1) APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL.—Section 594(c) of such title is amended—

(A) by striking ''the District of Columbia'' the first place it appears and inserting ''Washington, Douglass Commonwealth and the Capital''; and

(B) by striking ''the District of Columbia'' the second place it appears and inserting ''Washington, Douglass Commonwealth''.

(2) JUDICIAL REVIEW OF REMOVAL.—Section 596(a)(3) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Washington, Douglass Commonwealth and the Capital''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect upon the admission of the State into the Union.

SEC. 214. TREATMENT OF PRETRIAL SERVICES IN UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT.

Section 3152 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''(other than the District of Columbia)'' and inserting ''(subject to subsection (d), other than the District of Columbia)''; and

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

''(d) In the case of the judicial district of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth and the Capital—

''(1) upon the admission of the State of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth into the Union, the Washington, Douglass Commonwealth Pretrial Services Agency shall continue to provide pretrial services in the judicial district in the same manner and to the same extent as the District of Columbia Pretrial Services Agency provided such services in the judicial district of the District of Columbia as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union; and

''(2) upon the receipt by the President of the certification from the State of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth under section 315(b)(4) of the Washington, D.C. Admission Act that the State has in effect laws providing for the State to provide pre-trial services, paragraph (1) shall no longer apply, and the Director shall provide for the establishment of pretrial services in the judicial district under this section.''.

Subtitle C—Federal Elections

SEC. 221. PERMITTING INDIVIDUALS RESIDING IN CAPITAL TO VOTE IN FEDERAL ELECTIONS IN STATE OF MOST RECENT DOMICILE.

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR STATES TO PERMIT INDIVIDUALS TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall—

(A) permit absent Capital voters to use absentee registration procedures and to vote by absentee ballot in general, special, primary, and runoff elections for Federal office; and

(B) accept and process, with respect to any general, special, primary, or runoff election for Federal office, any otherwise valid voter registration application from an absent Capital voter, if the application is received by the appropriate State election official not less than 30 days before the election.

(2) ABSENT CAPITAL VOTER DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''absent Capital voter'' means, with respect to a State, a person who resides in the Capital and is qualified to vote in the State (or who would be qualified to vote in the State but for residing in the Capital), but only if the State is the last place in which the person was domiciled before residing in the Capital.

(3) STATE DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''State'' means each of the several States, including the State.

(b) RECOMMENDATIONS TO STATES TO MAXIMIZE ACCESS TO POLLS BY ABSENT CAPITAL VOTERS.—To afford maximum access to the polls by absent Capital voters, it is the sense of Congress that the States should—

(1) waive registration requirements for absent Capital voters who, by reason of residence in the Capital, do not have an opportunity to register;

(2) expedite processing of balloting materials with respect to such individuals; and

(3) assure that absentee ballots are mailed to such individuals at the earliest opportunity.

(c) ENFORCEMENT.—The Attorney General may bring a civil action in the appropriate district court of the United States for such declaratory or injunctive relief as may be necessary to carry out this section.

(d) EFFECT ON CERTAIN OTHER LAWS.—The exercise of any right under this section shall not affect, for purposes of a Federal tax, a State tax, or a local tax, the residence or domicile of a person exercising such right.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect upon the date of the admission of the State into the Union, and shall apply with respect to elections for Federal office taking place on or after such date.

SEC. 222. REPEAL OF OFFICE OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA DELEGATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Sections 202 and 204 of the District of Columbia Delegate Act (Public Law 91–405; sections 1–401 and 1–402, D.C. Official Code) are repealed, and the provisions of law amended or repealed by such sections are restored or revived as if such sections had not been enacted.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ELECTIONS CODE OF 1955.—The District of Columbia Elections Code of 1955 is amended—

(1) in section 1 (sec. 1–1001.01, D.C. Official Code), by striking ''the Delegate to the House of Representatives,'';

(2) in section 2 (sec. 1–1001.02, D.C. Official Code)—

(A) by striking paragraph (6),

(B) in paragraph (12), by striking ''(except the Delegate to Congress for the District of Columbia)'', and

(C) in paragraph (13), by striking ''the Delegate to Congress for the District of Columbia,'';

(3) in section 8 (sec. 1–1001.08, D.C. Official Code)—

(A) by striking ''Delegate,'' in the heading, and

(B) by striking ''Delegate,'' each place it appears in subsections (d), (h)(1)(A), (h)(2), (i)(1), (j)(1), (j)(3), and (k)(3);

(4) in section 10 (sec. 1–1001.10, D.C. Official Code)—

(A) by striking subparagraph (A) of subsection (a)(3), and

(B) in subsection (d)—

(i) by striking ''Delegate,'' each place it appears in paragraph (1), and

(ii) by striking paragraph (2) and redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (2);

(5) in section 11(a)(2) (sec. 1–1001.11(a)(2), D.C. Official Code), by striking ''Delegate to the House of Representatives,'';

(6) in section 15(b) (sec. 1–1001.15(b), D.C. Official Code), by striking ''Delegate,''; and

(7) in section 17(a) (sec. 1–1001.17(a), D.C. Official Code), by striking ''except the Delegate to the Congress from the District of Columbia''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect upon the admission of the State into the Union.

SEC. 223. REPEAL OF LAW PROVIDING FOR PARTICIPATION OF SEAT OF GOVERNMENT IN ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of title 3, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking section 21; and

(2) in the table of sections, by striking the item relating to section 21.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect upon the date of the admission of the State into the Union, and shall apply to any election of the President and Vice-President taking place on or after such date.

SEC. 224. EXPEDITED PROCEDURES FOR CONSIDERATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT REPEALING 23RD AMENDMENT.

(a) JOINT RESOLUTION DESCRIBED.—In this section, the term ''joint resolution'' means a joint resolution—

(1) entitled ''A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to repeal the 23rd article of amendment''; and

(2) the matter after the resolving clause of which consists solely of text to amend the Constitution of the United States to repeal the 23rd article of amendment to the Constitution.

(b) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

(1) PLACEMENT ON CALENDAR.—Upon introduction in the House of Representatives, the joint resolution shall be placed immediately on the appropriate calendar.

(2) PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—It shall be in order, not later than 30 legislative days after the date the joint resolution is introduced in the House of Representatives, to move to proceed to consider the joint resolution in the House of Representatives.

(B) PROCEDURE.—For a motion to proceed to consider the joint resolution—

(i) all points of order against the motion are waived;

(ii) such a motion shall not be in order after the House of Representatives has disposed of a motion to proceed on the joint resolution;

(iii) the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion;

(iv) the motion shall not be debatable; and

(v) a motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is disposed of shall not be in order.

(3) CONSIDERATION.—When the House of Representatives proceeds to consideration of the joint resolution—

(A) the joint resolution shall be considered as read;

(B) all points of order against the joint resolution and against its consideration are waived;

(C) the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to its passage without intervening motion except 10 hours of debate equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent;

(D) an amendment to the joint resolution shall not be in order; and

(E) a motion to reconsider the vote on passage of the joint resolution shall not be in order.

(c) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION IN SENATE.—

(1) PLACEMENT ON CALENDAR.—Upon introduction in the Senate, the joint resolution shall be placed immediately on the calendar.

(2) PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, it is in order, not later than 30 legislative days after the date the joint resolution is introduced in the Senate (even though a previous motion to the same effect has been disagreed to) to move to proceed to the consideration of the joint resolution.

(B) PROCEDURE.—For a motion to proceed to the consideration of the joint resolution—

(i) all points of order against the motion are waived;

(ii) the motion is not debatable;

(iii) the motion is not subject to a motion to postpone;

(iv) a motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is agreed to or disagreed to shall not be in order; and

(v) if the motion is agreed to, the joint resolution shall remain the unfinished business until disposed of.

(3) FLOOR CONSIDERATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If the Senate proceeds to consideration of the joint resolution—

(i) all points of order against the joint resolution (and against consideration of the joint resolution) are waived;

(ii) consideration of the joint resolution, and all debatable motions and appeals in connection therewith, shall be limited to not more than 30 hours, which shall be divided equally between the majority and minority leaders or their designees;

(iii) a motion further to limit debate is in order and not debatable;

(iv) an amendment to, a motion to postpone, or a motion to commit the joint resolution is not in order; and

(v) a motion to proceed to the consideration of other business is not in order.

(B) VOTE ON PASSAGE.—In the Senate the vote on passage shall occur immediately following the conclusion of the consideration of the joint resolution, and a single quorum call at the conclusion of the debate if requested in accordance with the rules of the Senate.

(C) RULINGS OF THE CHAIR ON PROCEDURE.—Appeals from the decisions of the Chair relating to the application of this subsection or the rules of the Senate, as the case may be, to the procedure relating to the joint resolution shall be decided without debate.

(d) RULES RELATING TO SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

(1) COORDINATION WITH ACTION BY OTHER HOUSE.—If, before the passage by one House of the joint resolution of that House, that House receives from the other House the joint resolution—

(A) the joint resolution of the other House shall not be referred to a committee; and

(B) with respect to the joint resolution of the House receiving the resolution—

(i) the procedure in that House shall be the same as if no joint resolution had been received from the other House; and

(ii) the vote on passage shall be on the joint resolution of the other House.

(2) TREATMENT OF JOINT RESOLUTION OF OTHER HOUSE.—If one House fails to introduce or consider the joint resolution under this section, the joint resolution of the other House shall be entitled to expedited floor procedures under this section.

(3) TREATMENT OF COMPANION MEASURES.—If, following passage of the joint resolution in the Senate, the Senate receives the companion measure from the House of Representatives, the companion measure shall not be debatable.

(e) RULES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE.—This section is enacted by Congress—

(1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate and House of Representatives, respectively, and as such is deemed a part of the rules of each House, respectively, but applicable only with respect to the procedure to be followed in that House in the case of the joint resolution, and supersede other rules only to the extent that it is inconsistent with such rules; and

(2) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change the rules (so far as relating to the procedure of that House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of that House.

TITLE III—CONTINUATION OF CERTAIN AUTHORITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Subtitle A—Employee Benefits

SEC. 301. FEDERAL BENEFIT PAYMENTS UNDER CERTAIN RETIREMENT PROGRAMS.

(a) CONTINUATION OF ENTITLEMENT TO PAYMENTS.—Any individual who, as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union, is entitled to a Federal benefit payment under the District of Columbia Retirement Protection Act of 1997 (subtitle A of title XI of the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997; sec. 1–801.01 et seq., D.C. Official Code) shall continue to be entitled to such a payment after the admission of the State into the Union, in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same terms and conditions applicable under such Act.

(b) OBLIGATIONS OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Any obligation of the Federal Government under the District of Columbia Retirement Protection Act of 1997 which exists with respect to any individual or with respect to the District of Columbia as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union shall remain in effect with respect to such an individual and with respect to the State after the admission of the State into the Union, in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same terms and conditions applicable under such Act.

(2) D.C. FEDERAL PENSION FUND.—Any obligation of the Federal Government under chapter 9 of the District of Columbia Retirement Protection Act of 1997 (sec. 1–817.01 et seq., D.C. Official Code) with respect to the D.C. Federal Pension Fund which exists as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union shall remain in effect with respect to such Fund after the admission of the State into the Union, in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same terms and conditions applicable under such chapter.

(c) OBLIGATIONS OF STATE.—Any obligation of the District of Columbia under the District of Columbia Retirement Protection Act of 1997 which exists with respect to any individual or with respect to the Federal Government as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union shall become an obligation of the State with respect to such an individual and with respect to the Federal Government after the admission of the State into the Union, in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same terms and conditions applicable under such Act.

SEC. 302. CONTINUATION OF FEDERAL CIVIL SERVICE BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEES FIRST EMPLOYED PRIOR TO ESTABLISHMENT OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MERIT PERSONNEL SYSTEM.

(a) OBLIGATIONS OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.—Any obligation of the Federal Government under title 5, United States Code, which exists with respect to an individual described in subsection (c) or with respect to the District of Columbia as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union shall remain in effect with respect to such individual and with respect to the State after the admission of the State into the Union, in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same terms and conditions applicable under such title.

(b) OBLIGATIONS OF STATE.—Any obligation of the District of Columbia under title 5, United States Code, which exists with respect to an individual described in subsection (c) or with respect to the Federal Government as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union shall become an obligation of the State with respect to such individual and with respect to the Federal Government after the admission of the State into the Union, in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same terms and conditions applicable under such title.

(c) INDIVIDUALS DESCRIBED.—An individual described in this subsection is an individual who was first employed by the government of the District of Columbia before October 1, 1987.

SEC. 303. OBLIGATIONS OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT UNDER JUDGES' RETIREMENT PROGRAM.

(a) CONTINUATION OF OBLIGATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Any obligation of the Federal Government under subchapter III of chapter 15 of title 11, District of Columbia Official Code—

(A) which exists with respect to any individual and the District of Columbia as the result of service accrued prior to the date of the admission of the State into the Union shall remain in effect with respect to such an individual and with respect to the State after the admission of the State into the Union, in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same terms and conditions applicable under such subchapter; and

(B) subject to paragraph (2), shall exist with respect to any individual and the State as the result of service accrued after the date of the admission of the State into the Union in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same terms and conditions applicable under such subchapter as such obligation existed with respect to individuals and the District of Columbia as of the date of the admission of the State into the Union.

(2) TREATMENT OF SERVICE ACCRUED AFTER TAKING EFFECT OF STATE RETIREMENT PROGRAM.—Subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) does not apply to service accrued on or after the termination date described in subsection (b).

(b) TERMINATION DATE.—The termination date described in this subsection is the date on which the State provides written certification to the President that the State has in effect laws requiring the State to appropriate and make available funds for the retirement of judges of the State.

Subtitle B—Agencies

SEC. 311. PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE.

(a) CONTINUATION OF OPERATIONS AND FUNDING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2) and subsection (b), title III of the District of Columbia Court Reform and Criminal Procedure Act of 1970 (sec. 2–1601 et seq., D.C. Official Code) shall apply with respect to the State and to the public defender service of the State after the date of the admission of the State into the Union in the same manner and to the same extent as such title applied with respect to

the District of Columbia and the District of Columbia Public Defender Service as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union.

(2) RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION.—For purposes of paragraph (2) of section 305(c) of such Act (sec. 2–1605(c)(2), D.C. Official Code), the Federal Government shall be treated as the employing agency with respect to the benefits provided under such section to an individual who is an employee of the public defender service of the State and who, pursuant to section 305(c) of such Act (sec. 2–1605(c), D.C. Official Code), is treated as an employee of the Federal Government for purposes of receiving benefits under any chapter of subpart G of part III of title 5, United States Code.

(b) RENAMING OF SERVICE.—Effective upon the date of the admission of the State into the Union, the State may rename the public defender service of the State.

(c) CONTINUATION OF FEDERAL BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Any individual who is an employee of the public defender service of the State as of the day before the date described in subsection (d) and who, pursuant to section 305(c) of the District of Columbia Court Reform and Criminal Procedure Act of 1970 (sec. 2–1605(c), D.C. Official Code), is treated as an employee of the Federal Government for purposes of receiving benefits under any chapter of subpart G of part III of title 5, United States Code, shall continue to be treated as an employee of the Federal Government for such purposes, notwithstanding the termination of the provisions of subsection (a) under subsection (d).

(2) RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION.—Beginning on the date described in subsection (d), the State shall be treated as the employing agency with respect to the benefits described in paragraph (1) which are provided to an individual who, for purposes of receiving such benefits, is continued to be treated as an employee of the Federal Government under such paragraph.

(d) TERMINATION.—Subsection (a) shall terminate upon the date on which the State provides written certification to the President that the State has in effect laws requiring the State to appropriate and make available funds for the operation of the office of the State which provides the services described in title III of the District of Columbia Court Reform and Criminal Procedure Act of 1970 (sec. 2–1601 et seq., D.C. Official Code).

SEC. 312. PROSECUTIONS.

(a) ASSIGNMENT OF ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with subchapter VI of chapter 33 of title 5, United States Code, the Attorney General, with the concurrence of the District of Columbia or the State (as the case may be), shall provide for the assignment of assistant United States attorneys to the State to carry out the functions described in subsection (b).

(2) ASSIGNMENTS MADE ON DETAIL WITHOUT REIMBURSEMENT BY STATE.—In accordance with section 3373 of title 5, United States Code—

(A) an assistant United States attorney who is assigned to the State under this section shall be deemed under subsection (a) of such section to be on detail to a regular work assignment in the Department of Justice; and

(B) the assignment of an assistant United States attorney to the State under this section shall be made without reimbursement by the State of the pay of the attorney or any related expenses.

(b) FUNCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The functions described in this subsection are criminal prosecutions conducted in the name of the State which would have been conducted in the name of the United States by the United States attorney for the District of Columbia or his or her assistants, as provided under section 23–101(c), District of Columbia Official Code, but for the admission of the State into the Union.

(c) MINIMUM NUMBER ASSIGNED.—The number of assistant United States attorneys who are assigned under this section may not be less than the number of assistant United States attorneys whose principal duties as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union were to conduct criminal prosecutions in the name of the United States under section 23–101(c), District of Columbia Official Code.

(d) TERMINATION.—The obligation of the Attorney General to provide for the assignment of assistant United States attorneys under this section shall terminate upon written certification by the State to the President that the State has appointed attorneys of the State to carry out the functions described in subsection (b).

(e) CLARIFICATION REGARDING CLEMENCY AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Effective upon the admission of the State into the Union, the authority to grant clemency for offenses against the District of Columbia or the State shall be exercised by such person or persons, and under such terms and conditions, as provided by the State Constitution and the laws of the State, without regard to whether the prosecution for the offense was conducted by the District of Columbia, the State, or the United States.

(2) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term ''clemency'' means a pardon, reprieve, or commutation of sentence, or a remission of a fine or other financial penalty.

SEC. 313. SERVICE OF UNITED STATES MARSHALS.

(a) PROVISION OF SERVICES FOR COURTS OF STATE.—The United States Marshals Service shall provide services with respect to the courts and court system of the State in the same manner and to the same extent as the Service provided services with respect to the courts and court system of the District of Columbia as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union, except that the President shall not appoint a United States Marshal under section 561 of title 28, United States Code, for any court of the State.

(b) TERMINATION.—The obligation of the United States Marshals Service to provide services under this section shall terminate upon written certification by the State to the President that the State has appointed personnel of the State to provide such services.

SEC. 314. DESIGNATION OF FELONS TO FACILITIES OF BUREAU OF PRISONS.

(a) CONTINUATION OF DESIGNATION.—Chapter 1 of subtitle C of title XI of the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997 (sec. 24–101 et seq., D.C. Official Code) and the amendments made by such chapter—

(1) shall continue to apply with respect to individuals convicted of offenses under the laws of the District of Columbia prior to the date of the admission of the State into the Union; and

(2) shall apply with respect to individuals convicted of offenses under the laws of the State after the date of the admission of the State into the Union in the same manner and to the same extent as such chapter and amendments applied with respect to individuals convicted of offenses under the laws of the District of Columbia prior to the date of the admission of the State into the Union.

(b) TERMINATION.—The provisions of this section shall terminate upon written certification by the State to the President that the State has in effect laws for the housing of individuals described in subsection (a) in correctional facilities.

SEC. 315. PAROLE AND SUPERVISION.

(a) UNITED STATES PAROLE COMMISSION.—

(1) PAROLE.—The United States Parole Commission—

(A) shall continue to exercise the authority to grant, deny, and revoke parole, and to impose conditions upon an order of parole, in the case of any individual who is an imprisoned felon who is eligible for parole or reparole under the laws of the District of Columbia as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union, as provided under section 11231 of the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997 (sec. 24–131, D.C. Official Code); and

(B) shall exercise the authority to grant, deny, and revoke parole, and to impose conditions upon an order of parole, in the case of any individual who is an imprisoned felon who is eligible for parole or reparole under the laws of the State in the same manner and to the same extent as the Commission exercised in the case of any individual described in subparagraph (A).

(2) SUPERVISION OF RELEASED OFFENDERS.—The United States Parole Commission—

(A) shall continue to exercise the authority over individuals who are released offenders of the District of Columbia as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union, as provided under section 11233(c)(2) of the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997 (sec. 24–133(c)(2), D.C. Official Code); and

(B) shall exercise authority over individuals who are released offenders of the State in the same manner and to the same extent as the Commission exercised authority over individuals described in subparagraph (A).

(3) CONTINUATION OF FEDERAL BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEES.—

(A) CONTINUATION.—Any individual who is an employee of the United States Parole Commission as of the later of the day before the date described in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (4) or the day before the date described in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (4) and who, on or after such date, is an employee of the office of the State which exercises the authority described in either such subparagraph, shall continue to be treated as an employee of the Federal Government for purposes of receiving benefits under any chapter of subpart G of part III of title 5, United States Code, notwithstanding the termination of the provisions of this subsection under paragraph (4).

(B) RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION.—Beginning on the later of the date described in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (4) or the date described in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (4), the State shall be treated as the employing agency with respect to the benefits described in subparagraph (A) which are provided to an individual who, for purposes of receiving such benefits, is continued to be treated as an employee of the Federal Government under such subparagraph.

(4) TERMINATION.—The provisions of this subsection shall terminate—

(A) in the case of paragraph (1), on the date on which the State provides written certification to the President that the State has in effect laws providing for the State to exercise the authority to grant, deny, and revoke parole, and to impose conditions upon an order of parole, in the case of any individual who is an imprisoned felon who is eligible for parole or reparole under the laws of the State; and

(B) in the case of paragraph (2), on the date on which the State provides written certification to the President that the State has in effect laws providing for the State to exercise authority over individuals who are released offenders of the State.

(b) COURT SERVICES AND OFFENDER SUPERVISION AGENCY.—

(1) RENAMING.—Effective upon the date of the admission of the State into the Union—

(A) the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia shall be known and designated as the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for Washington, Douglass Commonwealth, and any reference in any law, rule, or regulation to the

Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia shall be deemed to refer to the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for Washington, Douglass Commonwealth; and

(B) the District of Columbia Pretrial Services Agency shall be known and designated as the Washington, Douglass Commonwealth Pretrial Services Agency, and any reference in any law, rule or regulation to the District of Columbia Pretrial Services Agency shall be deemed to refer to the Washington, Douglass Commonwealth Pretrial Services Agency.

(2) IN GENERAL.—The Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for Washington, Douglass Commonwealth, including the Washington, Douglass Commonwealth Pretrial Services Agency (as renamed under paragraph (1))—

(A) shall continue to provide pretrial services with respect to individuals who are charged with an offense in the District of Columbia, provide supervision for individuals who are offenders on probation, parole, and supervised release pursuant to the laws of the District of Columbia, and carry out sex offender registration functions with respect to individuals who are sex offenders in the District of Columbia, as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union, as provided under section 11233 of the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997 (sec. 24–133, D.C. Official Code); and

(B) shall provide pretrial services with respect to individuals who are charged with an offense in the State, provide supervision for offenders on probation, parole, and supervised release pursuant to the laws of the State, and carry out sex offender registration functions in the State, in the same manner and to the same extent as the Agency provided such services and supervision and carried out such functions for individuals described in subparagraph (A).

(3) CONTINUATION OF FEDERAL BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEES.—

(A) CONTINUATION.—Any individual who is an employee of the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for Washington, Douglass Commonwealth as of the day before the date described in paragraph (4), and who, on or after such date, is an employee of the office of the State which provides the services and carries out the functions described in paragraph (4), shall continue to be treated as an employee of the Federal Government for purposes of receiving benefits under any chapter of subpart G of part III of title 5, United States Code, notwithstanding the termination of the provisions of paragraph (2) under paragraph (4).

(B) RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION.—Beginning on the date described in paragraph (4), the State shall be treated as the employing agency with respect to the benefits described in subparagraph (A) which are provided to an individual who, for purposes of receiving such benefits, is continued to be treated as an employee of the Federal Government under such subparagraph.

(4) TERMINATION.—Paragraph (2) shall terminate on the date on which the State provides written certification to the President that the State has in effect laws providing for the State to provide pretrial services, supervise offenders on probation, parole, and supervised release, and carry out sex offender registration functions in the State.

SEC. 316. COURTS.

(a) CONTINUATION OF OPERATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) and subsection (b), title 11, District of Columbia Official Code, as in effect on the date before the date of the admission of the State into the Union, shall apply with respect to the State and the courts and court system of the State after the date of the admission of the State into the Union in the same manner and to the same extent as such title applied with respect to the District of Columbia and the courts and court system of the District of Columbia as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union.

(2) RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION.—For purposes of paragraph (2) of section 11–1726(b) and paragraph (2) of section 11–1726(c), District of Columbia Official Code, the Federal Government shall be treated as the employing agency with respect to the benefits provided under such section to an individual who is an employee of the courts and court system of the State and who, pursuant to either such paragraph, is treated as an employee of the Federal Government for purposes of receiving benefits under any chapter of subpart G of part III of title 5, United States Code.

(3) OTHER EXCEPTIONS.—

(A) SELECTION OF JUDGES.—Effective upon the date of the admission of the State into the Union, the State shall select judges for any vacancy on the courts of the State.

(B) RENAMING OF COURTS AND OTHER OFFICES.—Effective upon the date of the admission of the State into the Union, the State may rename any of its courts and any of the other offices of its court system.

(C) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed—

(i) to affect the service of any judge serving on a court of the District of Columbia on the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union, or to require the State to select such a judge for a vacancy on a court of the State; or

(ii) to waive any of the requirements of chapter 15 of title 11, District of Columbia Official Code (other than section 11–1501(a) of such Code), including subchapter II of such chapter (relating to the District of Columbia Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure), with respect to the appointment and service of judges of the courts of the State.

(b) CONTINUATION OF FEDERAL BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Any individual who is an employee of the courts or court system of the State as of the day before the date described in subsection (e) and who, pursuant to section 11–1726(b) or section 11–1726(c), District of Columbia Official Code, is treated as an employee of the Federal Government for purposes of receiving benefits under any chapter of subpart G of part III of title 5, United States Code, shall continue to be treated as an employee of the Federal Government for such purposes, notwithstanding the termination of the provisions of this section under subsection (e).

(2) RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION.—Beginning on the date described in subsection (e), the State shall be treated as the employing agency with respect to the benefits described in paragraph (1) which are provided to an individual who, for purposes of receiving such benefits, is continued to be treated as an employee of the Federal Government under such paragraph.

(c) CONTINUATION OF FUNDING.—Section 11241 of the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997 (section 11–1743 note, District of Columbia Official Code) shall apply with respect to the State and the courts and court system of the State after the date of the admission of the State into the Union in the same manner and to the same extent as such section applied with respect to the Joint Committee on Judicial Administration in the District of Columbia and the courts and court system of the District of Columbia as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union.

(d) TREATMENT OF COURT RECEIPTS.—

(1) DEPOSIT OF RECEIPTS INTO TREASURY.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), all money received by the courts and court system of the State shall be deposited in the Treasury of the United States.

(2) CRIME VICTIMS COMPENSATION FUND.—Section 16 of the Victims of Violent Crime Compensation Act of 1996 (sec. 4–515, D.C. Official Code), relating to the Crime Victims Compensation Fund, shall apply with respect to the courts and court system of the State in the same manner and to the same extent as such section applied to the courts and court system of the District of Columbia as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union.

(e) TERMINATION.—The provisions of this section, other than paragraph (3) of subsection (a) and except as provided under subsection (b), shall terminate on the date on which the State provides written certification to the President that the State has in effect laws requiring the State to appropriate and make available funds for the operation of the courts and court system of the State.

Subtitle C—Other Programs and Authorities

SEC. 321. APPLICATION OF THE COLLEGE ACCESS ACT.

(a) CONTINUATION.—The District of Columbia College Access Act of 1999 (Public Law 106–98; sec. 38–2701 et seq., D.C. Official Code) shall apply with respect to the State, and to the public institution of higher education designated by the State as the successor to the University of the District of Columbia, after the date of the admission of the State into the Union in the same manner and to the same extent as such Act applied with respect to the District of Columbia and the University of the District of Columbia as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union.

(b) TERMINATION.—The provisions of this section, other than with respect to the public institution of higher education designated by the State as the successor to the University of the District of Columbia, shall terminate upon written certification by the State to the President that the State has in effect laws requiring the State to provide tuition assistance substantially similar to the assistance provided under the District of Columbia College Access Act of 1999.

SEC. 322. APPLICATION OF THE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OPPORTUNITY AND RESULTS ACT.

(a) CONTINUATION.—The Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act (division C of Public Law 112–10; sec. 38–1853.01 et seq., D.C. Official Code) shall apply with respect to the State after the date of the admission of the State into the Union in the same manner and to the same extent as such Act applied with respect to the District of Columbia as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union.

(b) TERMINATION.—The provisions of this section shall terminate upon written certification by the State to the President that the State has in effect laws requiring the State—

(1) to provide tuition assistance substantially similar to the assistance provided under the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act; and

(2) to provide supplemental funds to the public schools and public charter schools of the State in the amounts provided in the most recent fiscal year for public schools and public charter schools of the State or the District of Columbia (as the case may be) under such Act.

SEC. 323. MEDICAID FEDERAL MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PERCENTAGE.

(a) CONTINUATION.—Notwithstanding section 1905(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d(b)), during the period beginning on the date of the admission of the State into the Union and ending on September 30 of the fiscal year during which the State submits the certification described in subsection (b), the Federal medical assistance percentage for the State under title XIX of such Act shall be the Federal medical assistance percentage for the District of Columbia under such title as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union.

(b) TERMINATION.—The certification described in this subsection is a written certification by the State to the President that, during each of

the first 5 fiscal years beginning after the date of the certification, the estimated revenues of the State will be sufficient to cover any reduction in revenues which may result from the termination of the provisions of this section.

SEC. 324. FEDERAL PLANNING COMMISSIONS.

(a) NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION.—

(1) CONTINUING APPLICATION.—Subject to the amendments made by paragraphs (2) and (3), upon the admission of the State into the Union, chapter 87 of title 40, United States Code, shall apply as follows:

(A) Such chapter shall apply with respect to the Capital in the same manner and to the same extent as such chapter applied with respect to the District of Columbia as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union.

(B) Such chapter shall apply with respect to the State in the same manner and to the same extent as such chapter applied with respect to the State of Maryland and the Commonwealth of Virginia as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union.

(2) COMPOSITION OF NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION.—Section 8711(b) of title 40, United States Code, is amended—

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

''(B) four citizens with experience in city or regional planning, who shall be appointed by the President.''; and

(B) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

''(2) RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT.—Of the four citizen members, one shall be a resident of Virginia, one shall be a resident of Maryland, and one shall be a resident of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth.''.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO DEFINITIONS OF TERMS.—

(A) ENVIRONS.—Paragraph (1) of section 8702 of such title is amended by striking ''the territory surrounding the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the territory surrounding the National Capital''.

(B) NATIONAL CAPITAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 8702 of such title is amended to read as follows:

''(2) NATIONAL CAPITAL.—The term 'National Capital' means the area serving as the seat of the Government of the United States, as described in section 112 of the Washington, D.C. Admission Act, and the territory the Federal Government owns in the environs.''.

(C) NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION.—Subparagraph (A) of paragraph (3) of section 8702 of such title is amended to read as follows:

''(A) the National Capital and the State of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth;''.

(b) COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS.—

(1) LIMITING APPLICATION TO THE CAPITAL.—Section 9102(a)(1) of title 40, United States Code, is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Capital''.

(2) DEFINITION.—Section 9102 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(d) DEFINITION.—In this chapter, the term 'Capital' means the area serving as the seat of the Government of the United States, as described in section 112 of the Washington, D.C. Admission Act.''.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 9101(d) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Capital''.

(c) COMMEMORATIVE WORKS ACT.—

(1) LIMITING APPLICATION TO CAPITAL.—Section 8902 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(c) LIMITING APPLICATION TO CAPITAL.—This chapter applies only with respect to commemorative works in the Capital and its environs.''.

(2) DEFINITION.—Paragraph (2) of section 8902(a) of such title is amended to read as follows:

''(2) CAPITAL AND ITS ENVIRONS.—The term 'Capital and its environs' means—

''(A) the area serving as the seat of the Government of the United States, as described in section 112 of the Washington, D.C. Admission Act; and

''(B) those lands and properties administered by the National Park Service and the General Services Administration located in the Reserve, Area I, and Area II as depicted on the map entitled 'Commemorative Areas Washington, DC and Environs', numbered 869/86501 B, and dated June 24, 2003, that are located outside of the State of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth.''.

(3) TEMPORARY SITE DESIGNATION.—Section 8907(a) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Capital and its environs''.

(4) GENERAL CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Chapter 89 of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia and its environs'' each place it appears in the following sections and inserting ''the Capital and its environs'':

(A) Section 8901(2) and 8901(4).

(B) Section 8902(a)(4).

(C) Section 8903(d).

(D) Section 8904(c).

(E) Section 8905(a).

(F) Section 8906(a).

(G) Section 8909(a) and 8909(b).

(5) ADDITIONAL CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 8901(2) of such title is amended by striking ''the urban fabric of the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the urban fabric of the area serving as the seat of the Government of the United States, as described in section 112 of the Washington, D.C. Admission Act''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section and the amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the admission of the State into the Union.

SEC. 325. ROLE OF ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS IN SUPPLYING WATER.

(a) CONTINUATION OF ROLE.—Chapter 95 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''§ 9508. Applicability to Capital and State of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Effective upon the admission of the State of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth into the Union, any reference in this chapter to the District of Columbia shall be deemed to refer to the Capital or the State of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth, as the case may be.

''(b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term 'Capital' means the area serving as the seat of the Government of the United States, as described in section 112 of the Washington, D.C. Admission Act.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections of chapter 95 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following:

''9508. Applicability to Capital and State of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth.''.

SEC. 326. REQUIREMENTS TO BE LOCATED IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The location of any person in the Capital or Washington, Douglass Commonwealth on the day after the date of the admission of the State into the Union shall be deemed to satisfy any requirement under any law in effect as of the day before the date of the admission of the State into the Union that the person be located in the District of Columbia, including the requirements of section 72 of title 4, United States Code (relating to offices of the seat of the Government of the United States), and title 36, United States Code (relating to patriotic and national organizations).

TITLE IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 401. GENERAL DEFINITIONS.

In this Act, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) The term ''Capital'' means the area serving as the seat of the Government of the United States, as described in section 112.

(2) The term ''Council'' means the Council of the District of Columbia.

(3) The term ''Mayor'' means the Mayor of the District of Columbia.

(4) Except as otherwise provided, the term ''State'' means the State of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth.

(5) The term ''State Constitution'' means the proposed Constitution of the State of Washington, D.C., as approved by the Council on October 18, 2016, pursuant to the Constitution and Boundaries for the State of Washington, D.C. Approval Resolution of 2016 (D.C. Resolution R21–621), ratified by District of Columbia voters in Advisory Referendum B approved on November 8, 2016, and certified by the District of Columbia Board of Elections on November 18, 2016.

SEC. 402. STATEHOOD TRANSITION COMMISSION.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Statehood Transition Commission (hereafter in this section referred to as the ''Commission'').

(b) COMPOSITION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall be composed of 18 members as follows:

(A) 3 members appointed by the President.

(B) 2 members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(C) 2 members appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

(D) 2 members appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate.

(E) 2 members appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate.

(F) 3 members appointed by the Mayor.

(G) 3 members appointed by the Council.

(H) The Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia.

(2) APPOINTMENT DATE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The appointments of the members of the Commission shall be made not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(B) EFFECT OF LACK OF APPOINTMENT BY APPOINTMENT DATE.—If one or more appointments under any of the subparagraphs of paragraph (1) is not made by the appointment date specified in subparagraph (A), the authority to make such appointment or appointments shall expire, and the number of members of the Commission shall be reduced by the number equal to the number of appointments so not made.

(3) TERM OF SERVICE.—Each member shall be appointed for the life of the Commission.

(4) VACANCY.—A vacancy in the Commission shall be filled in the manner in which the original appointment was made.

(5) NO COMPENSATION.—Members shall serve without pay, but shall receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with applicable provisions under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code.

(6) CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR.—The Chair and Vice Chair of the Commission shall be elected by the members of the Commission—

(A) with respect to the Chair, from among the members described in subparagraphs (A) through (E) of paragraph (1); and

(B) with respect to the Vice Chair, from among the members described in subparagraphs (F) and (G) of paragraph (1).

(c) STAFF.—

(1) DIRECTOR.—The Commission shall have a Director, who shall be appointed by the Chair.

(2) OTHER STAFF.—The Director may appoint and fix the pay of such additional personnel as the Director considers appropriate.

(3) NON-APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN CIVIL SERVICE LAWS.—The Director and staff of the Commission may be appointed without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, and may be paid without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of that title relating to classification and

General Schedule pay rates, except that an individual so appointed may not receive pay in excess of the rate payable for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of such title.

(4) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—The Commission may procure temporary and intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, at rates for individuals not to exceed the daily equivalent of the rate payable for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of such title.

(d) DUTIES.—The Commission shall advise the President, Congress, the Mayor (or, upon the admission of the State into the Union, the chief executive officer of the State), and the Council (or, upon the admission of the State into the Union, the legislature of the State) concerning an orderly transition to statehood for the District of Columbia or the State (as the case may be) and to a reduced geographical size of the seat of the Government of the United States, including with respect to property, funding, programs, projects, and activities.

(e) POWERS.—

(1) HEARINGS AND SESSIONS.—The Commission may, for the purpose of carrying out this Act, hold hearings, sit and act at times and places, take testimony, and receive evidence as the Commission considers appropriate.

(2) OBTAINING OFFICIAL DATA.—The Commission may secure directly from any department or agency of the United States information necessary to enable it to carry out this Act. Upon request of the Chair of the Commission, the head of that department or agency shall furnish that information to the Commission.

(3) MAILS.—The Commission may use the United States mails in the same manner and under the same conditions as other departments and agencies of the United States.

(4) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.—Upon the request of the Commission, the Administrator of General Services shall provide to the Commission the administrative support services necessary for the Commission to carry out its responsibilities under this Act.

(f) MEETINGS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall meet at the call of the Chair.

(2) INITIAL MEETING.—The Commission shall hold its first meeting not later than the earlier of—

(A) 30 days after the date on which all members of the Commission have been appointed; or

(B) if the number of members of the Commission is reduced under subsection (b)(2)(B), 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(3) QUORUM.—A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser number of members may hold hearings.

(g) REPORTS.—The Commission shall submit such reports as the Commission considers appropriate or as may be requested by the President, Congress, or the District of Columbia (or, upon the admission of the State into the Union, the State).

(h) TERMINATION.—The Commission shall cease to exist 2 years after the date of the admission of the State into the Union.

SEC. 403. CERTIFICATION OF ENACTMENT BY PRESIDENT.

Not more than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall provide written certification of such enactment to the Mayor.

SEC. 404. SEVERABILITY.

Except as provided in section 101(c), if any provision of this Act or amendment made by this Act, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held to be invalid, the remaining provisions of this Act and any amendments made by this Act shall not be affected by the holding.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill, as amended, shall be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Reform or their respective designees.

The gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on H.R. 51, the Washington, D.C. Admission Act.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia and my dear friend, Congresswoman NORTON, for her years of dedicated leadership on this bill. She is not only the author of the bill, but of this moment in history.

Today, for the second time in 2 years, the House will vote to overturn the wrongs of over 200 years of political repression in the District of Columbia. We will vote to honor the most fundamental principle of this Nation—that all people have a right to full and equal representation in their government.

Our Nation has not always lived up to its promise of full and equal representation, but that has not stopped those dedicated to equality from fighting to ensure that all people are fully represented in their government.

This fundamental right is denied to the more than 712,000 Americans living in the District of Columbia. For more than 200 years the District has been fighting for equal rights. Despite 86 percent of its residents voting for statehood in 2016, Congress has still not acted to ensure that the District shares in the blessings of liberty promised by the Founders in the U.S. Constitution.

The United States is a republic, but the people of its Capital lack representation. The United States is the only democratic country that denies both voting rights in the national legislature and local self-government to the people of its Capital. That is wrong and violates everything we stand for as Americans.

The District pays more in Federal taxes than 21 States and more per capita than any State. Think about that. It pays more than nearly half the States in this country, yet D.C. residents have no vote in Congress. That is wrong.

Unfortunately, so far Republicans have opposed our efforts to ensure equality for District residents. But let me be clear what Republican opposition is really about: partisanship. They would rather deny voting rights for hundreds of thousands of American citizens than even consider the possibility that Representatives from the new State could possibly be Democrats. Think about that argument. They are willing to violate the core principles of our democracy merely because the new State might elect Representatives from a different political party.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge every Member in this House to vote ''yes'' on H.R. 51, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, America's Federal Government should be of the people, by the people, and for the people. But with H.R. 51, America's government will become of the Democrats, by the Democrats, and for the Democrats.

Let's be clear what H.R. 51 is all about. It is about Democrats adding two new progressive U.S. Senators to push a radical agenda championed by the squad to reshape America into the socialist utopia they always talk about.

If you doubt me, just listen to what our colleague, Congressman JAMIE RASKIN, recently told The Washington Post. He said:

> There is a national political logic for D.C. statehood too, because the Senate has become the principal obstacle to social progress across a whole range of issues.

So there we have it. H.R. 51 is not really about voting representation. It is about Democrats consolidating their power in Washington.

There are numerous problems with H.R. 51. Mainly, it is flatly unconstitutional. Every Justice Department from President Kennedy's to President Obama's has been consistent that a constitutional amendment is needed to grant the District statehood.

Robert F. Kennedy said that granting D.C. statehood without a constitutional amendment was inconceivable. He also said granting D.C. statehood, as attempted by H.R. 51, would produce an absurdity. This absurdity is the 23rd Amendment which acknowledges the existence of a Federal District warranting three electoral college votes.

While H.R. 51 includes an expedited process for the 23rd Amendment's repeal in Congress, the problem is this would not happen until after D.C. becomes a State. This would create mass confusion as H.R. 51 is reviewed by the courts for years.

The Constitution is the foundational document upon which all laws of our country rest, and Congress cannot simply dismiss it with sham legislation. But that is what H.R. 51 attempts to do. Democrats want to rewrite the Constitution without going through the proper process of doing so.

During our committee's markup of H.R. 51, I offered an amendment that would assure the 23rd Amendment's repeal prior to statehood being granted, but Democrats opposed this amendment.

Why are Democrats pushing such a problematic bill through the House?

Why are they working so hard to advance D.C. statehood instead of pursuing a constitutional amendment that

would engage the entire country through a process intended by our Founding Fathers?

Because they know Americans have firmly rejected D.C. statehood.

I urge my colleagues to vote with the vast majority of Americans and reject this unconstitutional and impractical bill.

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

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON), who is the author of this bill and moment in history.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, the gentlewoman, for her leadership on this D.C. statehood bill.

Congress has both the moral obligation and the constitutional authority to pass H.R. 51. This country was founded on the principles of no taxation without representation and consent of the governed, but D.C. residents are taxed without representation and cannot consent to the laws under which they, as American citizens, must live.

The State of Washington, D.C., would consist of 66 of the 68 miles of the present-day Federal District. The Federal District would be 2 square miles, and Congress would retain plenary authority over it.

H.R. 51 complies with the Constitution, including the Admissions Clause, the District Clause, and the 23rd Amendment.

The Admissions Clause gives Congress the authority to admit new States. All 37 new States were admitted by Congress. No State was admitted by constitutional amendment, and no State would have to consent to the admission of the State of Washington, D.C.

The District Clause gives Congress plenary authority over the Federal District and establishes a maximum size of the Federal District—100 square miles. It does not establish a minimum size or a location of the Federal District. Congress reduced the size of the Federal District by 30 percent in 1846.

The 23rd Amendment allows the Federal District to participate in the electoral college. H.R. 51 repeals the enabling act for the 23rd Amendment, and the 23rd Amendment itself would be quickly repealed. In any event, the 23rd Amendment does not establish a minimum size or location of the Federal District.

The Constitution does not establish any prerequisites for new States, but Congress generally has considered three: population and resources, support for statehood, and commitment to democracy.

The State of Washington, D.C. would meet each. D.C.'s population of 712,000 is larger than that of two States. D.C. pays more Federal taxes per capita than any State and pays more Federal taxes than 21 States of the Union. The District of Columbia's gross domestic product is larger than 17 States. In 2016, 86 percent of D.C. residents voted for statehood. D.C. residents have been petitioning for voting representation in Congress and local autonomy for 220 years.

Congress has a choice. It can continue to exclude D.C. residents from the democratic process, forcing them to watch from the sidelines as Congress votes on Federal and D.C. laws, and to treat them, in the words of Frederick Douglass, as ''aliens, not citizens, but subjects.''

Or it can live up to our Nation's founding principles and join the 54 percent of Americans—that is 54 percent, Mr. Speaker, and growing—who support D.C. statehood and pass H.R. 51.

□ 0930

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. HICE), the Republican leader of the Government Operations Subcommittee.

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding.

I don't even know where to begin to respond to what we just heard. To imply that Washington, D.C., has no representation is absolutely false. It does have local representation. It also has a Delegate right here in the House of Representatives and has electoral votes for Presidential elections, things that no other city in this country has.

This H.R. 51 flies in the face of what our Founders intended. They never wanted the seat of our government to be a State, and they specifically framed the Constitution to say so. Yet, what the Democrats really are trying to do, that they will not admit, is gain even more representation by creating a city-state whereby they get two more Senators.

Again, this is absolutely against what our Constitution and our Founders intended, and this ought to be soundly rejected, permanently rejected.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, in this historic moment, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), the first female Speaker of the House in history.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank Madam Chairwoman MALONEY for yielding, and I salute her for her leadership in bringing this historic legislation to the floor.

All of us join in saluting Congresswoman ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, who has been the patron saint of D.C. statehood since she came to Congress. She has been tireless, persistent, and dissatisfied as she has built historical support for this bill, which passed in the previous Congress with 235 votes.

I rise as Speaker of the House to join my colleagues on this momentous day for American democracy as we right a historic injustice by passing legislation to finally grant Washington, D.C., statehood.

Statehood for the District of Columbia is about showing respect for our democracy, for the American people, and for our Constitution. That Constitution begins with our preamble, ''We the people,'' setting out our Founders' vision of a government of, by, and for the people.

Yet, for more than two centuries, the people of Washington, D.C., have been denied their right to fully participate in their democracy.

D.C., as Congresswoman NORTON mentioned, pays more Federal taxes per capita than any other State. Its budget is larger than 12 States. Its population is larger than two States. Its people have fought in every American war since the Revolution.

D.C. residents have been fighting for voting rights and autonomy for 220 years, with a full 86 percent recently voting for statehood.

It is well past the time to grant them the rights that they have been fighting for and that they deserve.

As I said, Mr. Speaker, I rise as Speaker of the House on this momentous occasion. It is an official honor to do so, but it is also a personal privilege to join Congresswoman ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON; the distinguished chair of the committee of jurisdiction, Congresswoman MALONEY; many of my colleagues; and the distinguished majority leader, Mr. HOYER, who has made this part of his life's work in the Congress to join in this fight for statehood.

It is a personal privilege because when I was born, my father was a Member of Congress from Baltimore, Maryland, Thomas D'Alesandro, Jr. He served as chairman of the District of Columbia Appropriations Subcommittee. That position made him the unofficial mayor of Washington because of the authority that the committee had over the District of Columbia and their every decision.

However, my father did not agree with that. He was a proponent for what was then called ''home rule.'' They often say that statehood for the District of Columbia is in my DNA. It went from home rule, then to finally having a mayor, and now we want statehood. We have always wanted statehood, but now we finally are able to pass it in the Congress.

There is nothing theoretical or abstract about statehood. For example, last summer, the country watched in horror as Federal agents and out-of-State National Guard troops were deployed against peaceful protesters in the District without residents' approval. Then, on January 6, as our Capitol was being defiled, our Capitol Police assaulted and killed, and our Members and staff terrorized, D.C. leaders did not have the authority to call the National Guard to protect its people.

Granting D.C. statehood means ensuring that its leaders have the tools they need to keep people safe. The Governor of any one of our States has the authority to call in the National Guard. That is not an authority that is

afforded to the Mayor of Washington, D.C. If that were the case, we would have had protection much sooner.

Statehood is also a matter of civil rights. The residents of the District have a right to self-governance and control over their lives and futures.

It is particularly meaningful that we pass this legislation just days after the anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln signing the District of Columbia Compensated Emancipation Act, freeing enslaved people in the District.

Today, by passing H.R. 51 to admit the State of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth into the Union, the House will finally address this unjust, unequal, and undemocratic situation.

We look forward to a swift vote in the Senate on this essential legislation so that we can send this important legislation to the President's desk.

At the same time, House Democrats will continue our work to protect every American's right to be heard at the ballot box. I urge a strong vote for D.C. statehood, H.R. 51—the 51st State, easy to remember—and for its citizens' civil liberties, security, and right to have a say in our democracy.

I want to once again commend Representative ELEANOR Holmes Norton for her long dedication to justice for every person in our country, starting with the people she represents in the District of Columbia, hopefully soon to be the 51st State of the Union. I urge an ''aye'' vote.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS).

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, let me tell you what Democrat support is really about on H.R. 51: Democratic partisanship, Democrat power, Democrat policy, Democrat progressive issues.

No State has been admitted by the Constitution. No State was created from a territory, which was crafted in the Constitution. That is what you want to obviate.

Even our Founders understood this very clearly, as they iterated, in Federalist No. 43, ''The indispensable necessity of complete authority at the seat of government carries its own evidence with it. It is a power exercised by every legislature of the Union, I might say of the world, by virtue of its general supremacy. Without it, not only the public authority might be insulted and its proceedings interrupted with impunity; but a dependence of the members of the general government on the State comprehending the seat of the government, for protection in the exercise of their duty, might bring on the national councils an imputation of awe or influence. . . . ''

That is what is at stake here. H.R. 51 is bad, according to the Founders, but it also violates the 23rd Amendment. That is clear as well.

It is time that the Democrats realize it and quit trying this power grab and vote this thing down.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY), chairman of the Government Operations Subcommittee.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, the distinguished chairwoman of our full committee, for yielding, and I thank my good friend, ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, the Congresswoman from the District of Columbia, who soon I hope will have the right to vote on the floor of the House.

Today, Mr. Speaker, we come together to right a wrong. 750,000 fellow Americans are denied the right to representation in their Congress in the very place in which Congress is located, ironically. It is the only capital in the democratic world that denies its own citizens the right to vote and be represented.

We heard a lot of subterfuge here today, and we will hear more about the Constitution, the Constitution that clearly gives Congress the right of admission of a State.

Mr. COMER comes from Kentucky. Kentucky was composed of territory claimed by my State, Virginia, and there were a bunch of Whigs. We didn't object. Congress, not a constitutional amendment, admitted Kentucky into the Union, and they elected Whigs, if you can think about that, Mr. Speaker.

We didn't make how you might vote a condition, but we do in this case.

I have to say that there is a lot of smokescreen to cloak what is really at stake here. When some say this is not about race or partisanship, you can be sure it is about race and partisanship.

A city with a minority-majority population that apparently might vote in a different way from some? So what. How somebody votes cannot be a test of whether they have the right to vote in a democracy.

Will we right this wrong today? Will we rise above our petty partisan perspectives and fears and empower and enfranchise people who are fellow citizens? Simply because of their race, their party identification, or their geographic location, that is not the America I know and love. It has gone on too long.

When the Constitution was written, this place didn't exist, nor did the Founders and the writers of the Constitution know that it would. The first Capital was New York. The second Capital was Philadelphia. And there was a lot of back and forth about where it would finally be. It ended up here.

Let's right this wrong after 200 years and give our fellow Americans voting representation here in the United States Congress by granting statehood.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, if this bill is about race, I wonder why your majority leader, STENY HOYER, voted against this very bill in 1993.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JORDAN).

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, Democrats started last week with one of their Members saying we should get rid of the police altogether. They ended last week with another one of their Members being admonished by the trial judge in Minneapolis for saying ridiculous things.

What did they do in between? They passed out of committee this bill, which gives two more Democrat Senators to the District of Columbia. And less than 24 hours after that bill passed in committee, they introduced legislation to pack the Supreme Court.

In 3 months of Democrats being in control of the Federal Government, they have increased the debt by $2 trillion; they created a crisis on the southern border; and they continued their push to defund the police.

Now, so they can continue their radical policies, think about what else they have passed out of this body: a bill to federalize our voting laws, federalize our election laws; a bill to pack the Court, as I said. They introduced that legislation. The chairman of the Judiciary Committee, of all people, introduced that bill. And here we are today, with a pure power grab to give two Democrat Senators to the District of Columbia.

There is a crisis on our southern border. The American people want us to focus on the crisis. Even the President called it a crisis.

Let's stop the power grab. Let's deal with the issues the American people want us to deal with. That is what we should be focused on.

I hope we vote this bill down. I urge a ''no'' vote.

□ 0945

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to clarify that this should be a bipartisan issue. Republicans used to support voting representation in Congress for D.C. residents.

Then-President Eisenhower called for equal political rights for D.C. residents in three State of the Union Addresses.

Then-President Nixon said: ''It should offend the democratic senses of this Nation that D.C. residents do not have voting representation in Congress.''

In 2007, then-Representative Mike Pence said on the floor: ''The fact that more than a half a million Americans living in the District of Columbia are denied a single voting representative in Congress is clearly a historic wrong.''

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN), the chairman of the Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Subcommittee.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, the consent of the governed; no taxation without representation; no conscription without representation; a republican form of government for American citizens.

All of our most essential democratic principles underwrite the trajectory of American political development, which

has been the admission of 37 new States since the original 13 launched the Union. All of these States were admitted by one mechanism, and one mechanism only, an act of Congress exercising congressional power under Article IV, Section 3 to admit new States.

There has never been a new State admitted by constitutional amendment. There has never been a State admission struck down by the United States Supreme Court, because the admission of new States is a political question in the juridical sense, which means it is vested exclusively in Congress to decide whether or not to admit new States. It is an exercise of the plenary power and judgment of the Congress, the people's branch. It is up to Congress to act.

The opponents of democracy for 712,000 tax-paying, draftable American citizens right here in Washington, D.C., have now focused on the 23rd Amendment as the basis of their opposition. But the 23rd Amendment is no obstacle in any way. The purpose of the 23rd Amendment was to make sure that the local population got to participate in Presidential elections. The admission of the new State vindicates that constitutional purpose.

H.R. 51 itself would immediately repeal the Federal statute that organizes the electoral college for the District of Columbia, taking care of the problem that our friends are concerned about.

So why don't they support H.R. 51?

Well, the floor leader gave the game away when he said, for him, this is all about two new progressive, liberal Democrat Senators. It is all about two new liberal Democrat Senators. They don't see taxation without representation. They don't see military service without representation, when tens of thousands of people from the Nation's Capital have served America in every war that we have ever had, going back to the Revolutionary War. They don't see governance without representation, without the consent of the governed. All that they see is two new liberal Democrat Senators.

But that cuts against everything that we believe in about American democracy. We do not deny people the right to vote based on our expectation of how they will vote. We don't disenfranchise people because we disagree with who they might elect.

I would defend with my life the right of the people of Kentucky and Arizona to send my friends here to represent them, even though I disagree with most of what they stand for, including their rejection of the rights of people from Washington, D.C. I would never disenfranchise just because of that.

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

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, the people of Washington came to our aid on January 6. When we were being attacked by violent Fascist insurrectionists in this body, in this Chamber, in this Congress, they came to our aid. They sent hundreds of Capitol Police officers and National Guardsmen to defend us.

The people of Washington defend our democratic rights.

Will we defend theirs?

That is the question of H.R. 51. Let's pass statehood for the people of Washington.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY).

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, my friend from Maryland makes an excellent closing case in court, because he knows that this is going to be in court, because he knows that this is constitutionally infirm. He is trying to make the case that is going to have to be made in court on the losing side of the argument, because it is very clearly unconstitutional to add D.C. as a State by statute.

And what we have here today is a simple question: Does anybody in this room believe that if Lubbock, Texas, had been set up as the Capital seat of the United States of America, that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle would be arguing to give it the position of statehood?

No, of course not.

This city was set up by the Founders to be the Capital seat of the United States of America. It was not set up to be a State. And when my friend said that every other State has been added by statute, none of those have been specifically set up as the Capital seat of the United States of America.

This should be rejected. It is unconstitutional. D.C. has never been a State. It shouldn't be a State, and it is not going to be a State.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS).

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding to me. I also want to commend her for her outstanding leadership of her committee. I also want to take a moment to commend my colleague who has been championing D.C. statehood before I even came to Congress.

You know, I have listened intently to all of the arguments, and it always gets back to one: How are the people in D.C. more likely to vote? Are they are going to vote more likely Democratic? Are they going to vote for Democrats?

Well, let me tell you, I have got people in my district who vote Republican. Can you imagine that? They vote Republican. But we don't deny them the right to vote, and we don't deny them the right to representation.

All that we are seeking and all that we are asking for is simply the principle of no taxation without representation. I think we learned that in grammar school when we took U.S. history, when we first learned how great this country is and how great it can be.

I look forward to the people of Washington, D.C., having all rights of citizenship as a member of a State, voting in the greatest State in the country when it becomes one, Washington, D.C.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER).

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, in 1964, then-Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy summed it up best as to why the Framers put the Capital outside the borders or control of any State: ''It was indispensably necessary to the independence and the very existence of the new Federal Government to have a seat of government which was not subject to the jurisdiction or control of any State.''

As true as that was when this was said, as true as that was when the Capital was moved here, it is that true today.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle, I am glad they remember history. When the seat of the Federal Government was in New York City and in Philadelphia, the birthplace of America, they didn't want it in the control of a State. Therefore, the District of Columbia was created, under the control of the United States Congress, because that is who should be determining what happens for the 50 States.

Our colleagues on the other side want to change an amendment to the Constitution with law.

What about other amendments to the Constitution and how they read those? Will they try to change those with law?

This is not about taxation without representation. This is about a Democrat power grab, and let's call it what it is.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, in the Judiciary Committee right now, we are holding hearings to fight against the scourge of voter suppression and the unfortunate abolishment of section 5 by the Shelby case. I heard shouts of hallelujah when that case was abolished. The reason is because we are here today denying citizens of the United States the right to be represented fairly in the United States Congress.

The 23rd Amendment?

Well, I can cite for you the 14th Amendment and the 15th Amendment, not depriving people of their liberty and their justice.

What about those soldiers who shed blood from the District of Columbia? What about those who are paying taxes from the District of Columbia? What about the very citizens who work to move the engine of government living in the District of Columbia?

My friends know that the Capitol will be separated. My friends understand that there is a basic constitutional unfairness when you deny people the right to vote.

I wonder whether or not the problem is that, when I first arrived here many years ago, it was called chocolate city.

Let us not make this a racial issue. Let us make this a justice issue, a constitutional issue. It is important, Mr. Speaker. Vote for this legislation, for the 51st State.

Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the Committee on the Judiciary, as an original cosponsor of the legislation, I rise in strong and enthusiastic support of H.R. 51, the Washington, D.C. Admission Act,'' which declares the State of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth, to be a State of the United States of America, and declares its admission into the Union on an equal footing with the other States in all respects whatsoever.

In passing this legislation, we remove a stain that has blighted our nation for more than 200 years.

Today, we vote to end two centuries of shame and correct an injustice to the citizens of the District of Columbia.

Mr. Speaker, let us not lose sight of one indisputable and shameful fact: nearly 500,000 people living in the District of Columbia lack direct voting representation in the House of Representatives and Senate.

Specifically, the citizens of the District of Columbia pay more in federal taxes than 22 states and pay more in federal taxes per capita than any state.

The District of Columbia's population (705,000) is larger than the populations of Wyoming and Vermont, and seven states had populations under one million in the last census.

The District of Columbia's annual budget ($15.5 billion) is larger than the budgets of 14 states.

The District of Columbia has a higher per capita personal income and gross domestic product than any state.

District of Columbia residents have fought and died in every American war, including the Revolution itself, and almost 200,000 District residents have served in the military since World War I alone.

Approximately 30,000 veterans live in the District of Columbia, and it should be noted that during the Vietnam War, 243 District residents were casualties of war, a casualty figure greater than that observed by 10 different states.

So, Mr. Speaker, it is undisputable that residents of the District of Columbia serve in the military, pay billions of dollars in federal taxes each year, and assume other responsibilities of U.S. citizenship.

But for over 200 years, the District of Columbia has been denied voting representation in Congress—the entity that has ultimate authority over all aspects of the city's legislative, executive, and judicial functions.

Mr. Speaker, if a person can be called upon to pay federal taxes and serve in the armed forces of the United States, then he or she should at least have the opportunity to vote for a representative who could at least cast a symbolic vote in this chamber on critical matters facing our nation.

Issues like war and peace, equality, and justice.

And tear-gassing peaceful protestors in Lafayette Square exercising their First Amendment rights.

Mr. Speaker, taxation without representation is tyranny.

H.R. 51 would create a state from essentially the eight hometown wards of the District of Columbia and provides that the new state would be equal to the other 50 states in all respects, and that the residents of the State of Washington, D.C. would have all the rights of statehood, including voting representation in Congress and full local self-government

Under the legislation this new state would have no jurisdiction over the reduced federal district, which would consist of the area that Members of Congress and visitors associate with the capital of our country: the U.S. Capitol, the U.S. Supreme Court, the White House, the principal federal monuments, and the federal buildings and grounds adjacent to the National Mall and the U.S. Capitol.

It is unconscionable that more than a half million American citizens are being unconscionably denied a vote and a voice in the most important legislative body in the world.

As a supporter of freedom, democracy, and equality, I believe that it is long overdue for the citizens of the District of Columbia to have representation in the House and the Senate to advocate for their interests on vital matters coming before the Congress of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, it is wrong that we must be reminded daily by license plates in the District of Columbia that ''Taxation without representation is tyranny.''

The people in Boston felt so strongly about this in 1775 that they rebelled in Boston Harbor, launching the ''Boston Tea Party.''

The principle that political authority derives from the consent of the government is no less applicable when it comes to the District of Columbia.

Let us be clear, there is no dispute that hundreds of thousands of American citizens reside in the District of Columbia.

We all agree that universal suffrage is the hallmark of a democratic regime, of which the United States is the world's leading exemplar.

None of us believes it is fair that citizens of the District of Columbia pay federal taxes, risk life and limb fighting wars abroad to protect American democracy and extend the blessings of liberty to people living in foreign lands.

In short, there is no moral reason to deny the citizens of the District of Columbia admission as a state in the United States and the right to full representation in Congress.

The only question is whether Congress has the will and the constitutional authority to do so.

Congress has always had the constitutional authority but for much of the last 200 years, it has not had the will.

Let us change that, beginning today with our vote to pass H.R. 51, the Washington, D.C. Admission Act.

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, D.C. statehood is a ridiculous idea, which would have shocked our forefathers. It is a government city. It has no—or minimum manufacturing, agriculture or natural resources. With all its government jobs and universities, it is a recession-proof city and should be one of the easiest cities in the Nation to govern.

Let's see how the current elected officials are doing.

This is the second highest spending area in the country per pupil.

How do they do?

Tied for worst in fourth grade reading scores, worst in the country in eighth grade reading scores, worst in the country in fourth grade writing scores, worst in the country in eighth grade writing scores, and second worst in the country in eighth grade math.

They have more homeless here than 29 States. Of the cities with at least 600,000 people, it has the sixth highest murder rate. And if it were to become a State, it would immediately become the State with the highest murder rate in the country.

Right now, by comparison, only 49 percent of the parents of newborn children in the District of Columbia are married. By comparison, again, the great foreign capital, Taipei, 96 percent of the parents are married.

This is a government city, and it would do a horrible job as a State.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, under the Admissions Clause of the Constitution, Congress has the authority to admit new States. That is why all 37 new States have been admitted by simple legislation. No State has ever been admitted by a constitutional amendment.

The Republicans want D.C. to use an admissions process that has never been used in the history of this country.

The District Clause of the Constitution gives Congress authority over the Federal District and establishes a maximum size of the Federal District, 100 square miles. It does not establish a minimum size.

H.R. 51 would maintain a 2-square mile Federal District.

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from South Carolina (Ms. MACE).

Ms. MACE. Mr. Speaker, I have seen more damage done in the first 100 days of this administration than I thought possible in 4 years. Rather than unity, it has been division. Rather than working together, it has been partisanship.

We are hearing even today in the comments that we are trying to stoke racial division in this country. This is nothing but a naked power play today. That is all this is about.

People who can't get their radical agenda passed under the system our Framers set up now want to blow it up. This is nothing but ideological terrorism by those willing to completely ignore our Constitution and system of government.

Whether it is attacks on the First, Second or Fourth Amendment, or turning our Federal seat of government over to two more far-left Senators, they simply do not care. They want what they want.

This is not about a balance of power. This is about more power. This is about government-run healthcare; a $93 trillion Green New Deal; packing the Supreme Court; higher taxes; and a bigger, less efficient form of government.

□ 1000

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY), the senior chief deputy whip.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of ending the disenfranchisement of over 700,000 people, including most of the staff that works for us every single day.

Our Nation is the only democratic country in the world that denies full democratic rights to the citizens living in its Nation's Capital. That is more than 700,000 American citizens who pay Federal taxes, who fight and die in wars, who serve on our juries, and yet have no vote in the Senate or the House of Representatives. That is the definition of taxation without representation.

It is 219 years overdue for the citizens of the District of Columbia to have their right to vote.

Let me thank and commend my colleague, ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, for all of her decades of work. It is time to vote ''yes'' on statehood for the District of Columbia.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FALLON).

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, making D.C. a city-state is unconstitutional, it is impractical, and it flies in the face of the Founders' intent. James Madison said it himself in the Federalist Papers. Unfortunately, our colleagues across the aisle are trying to make this about race. I thought that was inevitable. It is sad and unfortunate.

But let's look at data. In 1800, this city was a White majority, 10,600 and 4,000 African-American residents. Then 150 years later, in 1950, 517,000 White residents to 280,000 African-American residents. For 150 years, this was a White-majority city, and there was no serious effort to make it a State.

But there is a way we can solve this issue because one core argument is a pretty good one, no taxation without representation. It is flawed because there is local government, and they have a Delegate here. But with retrocession, putting Washington back into Maryland, that would give them that added seat and would address that very issue. The GOP is acting in good faith because we know that that seat will be a Democratic seat, but it is the right thing to do.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), a champion for equality and the 51st State and House majority leader.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in very strong support of this legislation.

I want to just briefly respond to the remarks of the gentleman who preceded me about retrocession. Retrocession is an interesting idea that my Republican colleagues have. It has to do with the issue of two United States Senators. One could say that has to do with both sides of the aisle, two United States Senators.

The history of adding States has been a history where focus is on those two United States Senators that would be added, and the party that wanted them and the party that didn't want them. But retrocession, frankly, is an interesting idea, except for the fact the gentleman talked about the Founding Fathers and James Madison and the Federalist Papers.

One of the articles of debate was, if you had a State, i.e. Maryland, whose land, of course, the Federal city is located on—Virginia gave some, but they took it back—you would have a State surrounding the Federal enclave. No difference, except for it would be Maryland and not Washington, Douglass Commonwealth. So that argument limps. It fails because you are suggesting the same thing that some have said is of concern to them. So the only difference is two Senators.

So this is about politics. Throughout history people have guessed as to what the new States are going to be. Now some knew absolutely. We have North and South Dakota. I don't know whether any of you know why we have North and South Dakota; two Senators versus four Senators. And the Republicans who were in charge wanted to have four Senators to assure their majority in the Senate as opposed to the Democrats in the South. Ironic how things change.

So if you are voting on politics, I get it. But on principle, Nevada was added and taken from Utah, by the way, because the Republicans who were then in charge back in the day wanted to have two additional Senators. And they got them, with less than 10,000 people living in the area that was taken from Utah, Wyoming, and Colorado, and formed Nevada.

So let's not get mired in these principled votes, because this is about two Senators. We get it. It is not about principle because there are over 700,000 people—712,000, to be exact, maybe more when we get the Census report—who are unequal citizens in America.

I want to thank the incomparable ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON for her hard work and tireless advocacy for so many years as the leader of this cause on behalf of equal rights for the citizens she represents without a vote. Why, are they lesser citizens? Is she a lesser Representative? Surely not.

If a President of the United States, Republican or Democrat, asked somebody to come to the District of Columbia and work for the U.S. Government, bring your talents, your energy, and your focus to work for your country in Washington, D.C., but, oh, by the way, you have to give up your vote in the Congress of the United States through your Representative. In no other democracy are residents of the National Capital excluded from representation. None.

Frankly, I think the Founders had no concept of how big this city would become, how vibrant it would become. None. Yet, nearly 700,000 Americans are denied full representation.

The Founders of our Union of States set forth a simple process for the admission of new States to that Union. They believed, the 13 of them, that adding new States would be positive for the country and that they would want people represented in the territories in the Congress when they became States and qualified to be such. They saw that process of expansion as both healthy and workable, and they believed that it would strengthen our democracy.

Through the years, however, the admission of new States has been a very contentious process on both sides of the aisle. And there was a time in our history in the latter half of the 19th century when Republicans affected the admission of a number of new States in order to increase the numbers in the Senate. They accomplished that objective in some respects.

In one noteworthy example, which I have just mentioned, Nevada in 1864, less than 10,000 people. The criteria at that point in time, theoretically, was 60,000, but it was ignored. It was ignored. Two Senators. That is what this issue is about. Two Senators.

It is not about whether, on a principled basis, we ought to give to 712,000 of our citizens the right to be equally represented in the Congress of the United States. No, if they live here, we ask them to give up that right.

That same process, as I mentioned, was repeated in the admission of North and South Dakota. They had hardly any people living there. They could hardly qualify if you put all of the Dakota territory together. But what the Republicans did was—they were in charge at that point in time—they divided it, North and South Dakota. What happened? Two extra Senators. It wasn't about principle, about how many people, what the economic status was. It was about how many Senators.

My friends across the aisle complain that this bill would lead to the election of two additional Democratic Senators. So what?

Is that the criteria, the political judgment of the citizens of some entity seeking to become a State? There is nothing in the Constitution about that. Zero. It is the politics of it. I get it. But it is not the principle.

I hope people vote on principle, that they believe that their fellow citizens who happen to live within this, what used to be a square, but a square minus that to the south of the Potomac.

This legislation is very different than the acts that admitted those States in the 19th century. It is different because it is based on the demonstrable need to provide representation to hundreds of thousands of Americans who deserve to have their voices heard in our democracy. And they have determined they want to be a part.

Our Founders were offended, indeed outraged that they were forced to pay taxes, but were afforded no representation in the body that set those taxes.

Wouldn't all of us have been there at the Tea Party saying, ''You cannot tax us, England, without us having representation in the Parliament''?

I am sure you have heard the argument from many people on this floor—I won't repeat them—about the level of taxation that is paid by the citizens of the District of Columbia. But they have no say in the level of those taxes which so outraged our Founders.

Moreover, this legislation would end the unjust practice of treating D.C. residents differently than their fellow citizens in the 50 States when it comes to allocating resources or providing COVID–19 relief under the CARES Act last year.

Mr. Speaker, when President Eisenhower—a Republican President, but not a very partisan President, unlike today, where we have seen a very partisan President, no longer there—addressed the question of admitting Hawaii as a State in the 1950s, he said the following—and by the way, I think all of you probably know that when Alaska and Hawaii were admitted not too far apart in time, Alaska was perceived to be a Democratic State and Hawaii was perceived to be a Republican State.

So the assumption that somehow the District of Columbia will automatically elect two Democrats—which may be accurate, but it may not always be the case—the principle is what Eisenhower articulated, and he said this:

> You have an economy that is self-supporting. There is a large population, and I would like to see the case handled clearly and specifically on its merits.

By that metric, Washington, D.C., earned its right to statehood a long time ago. And today, we can take a major step toward that goal when we pass this bill, which we passed last Congress as well.

As to retrocession, again, I wonder if Nevada would like to be back to Utah or to Wyoming or to Colorado or whether Wyoming, that has 200,000 less citizens approximately than the District of Columbia, would like to be subsumed by one of the surrounding States because of the few numbers? Vermont as well, which was taken from another State, as was West Virginia, which was part of Virginia.

□ 1015

I hope the Senate will then take up this bill when we pass it and consider the question of D.C. statehood on its merits, not on politics. Maybe that is too much to ask.

This is not a partisan math problem or electoral prediction, which, as we have seen, may or may not come to pass. But on the merits alone, on the conviction that taxation without representation is not fair now as it was not fair in 1776, the people of this city, our Nation's Capital, deserve full and equal representation in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that this bill will pass with bipartisan support. It is going to pass, but I hope we have some bipartisan support based upon the principle that every citizen in our country ought to enjoy the same representation in the Congress of the United States as every other citizen.

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

I must admit, I am a little disappointed in the remarks of the majority leader. When I saw him approach the podium, I thought he was going to give us a detailed explanation as to why he voted against this very bill in 1993. Instead, he lectures us on having the exact same position today that he had in 1993. Hypocrisy runs deep.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. HIGGINS).

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, how is this unconstitutional? H.R. 51 violates our Founders' intent, the actual writ of the Constitution, the land itself, which should rightfully be returned to Maryland if its original purpose as land for our Nation's Capital is discarded by Congress and, finally, the required repeal of the 23rd Amendment.

I have explained these constitutional barriers for 2 years in committee, but there is more.

D.C. does not perform many of the roles of a true State. A prime example, unlike every other State in the Union, D.C. is not responsible for its prison system.

About 8,000 D.C. residents are inmates in Federal prisons, and the Federal Government absorbs the huge expense. These are inmates who would normally be in a State prison, but D.C. only has the capacity to house inmates awaiting trial.

Three times in committee, I have offered an amendment that would transfer this normal State responsibility to D.C. My amendment was rejected by Democrats three times.

So, let's look at how D.C. has handled their inmates awaiting trial. According to The Washington Post, D.C. is essentially torturing these inmates with what experts say is mass solitary confinement, 23 hours a day of solitary for every D.C. inmate ongoing for over 400 days.

That is certainly a violation of the Eighth Amendment. These are human beings awaiting final adjudication. Many will ultimately be found not guilty, yet they have been held in solitary confinement for 23 hours every day for over a year.

Is this what we can expect from a D.C. State?

D.C. is our Nation's Capital, was intended to be our Nation's Capital, and must remain our Nation's Capital.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, how much time remains on each side?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from New York has 8½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Kentucky has 16 minutes remaining.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS).

(Mr. SESSIONS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 51, the Washington, D.C. Admissions Act.

In many respects, America seems to be at the same point we were in the 1930s and 1940s—calling for a single party rule from Washington, D.C.

Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis observed at that time: ''The greatest dangers to liberty lurk in insidious encroachments by men of zeal, well-meaning but without understanding.''

These words of wisdom might also offer some inspiration to us here today: ''Whenever a people or an institution forgets its hard beginnings, it is beginning to decay'' by Carl Sandberg.

Mr. Speaker, both of these sayings are on the halls of our Capitol.

Addressing people's ability to vote is important. Addressing a party's desire for singular political control of a Nation is another matter.

Our Constitution outlines the process for admitting new States to the Union and rules regarding the formation of the District of Columbia.

In 1961, 36 States voted to ratify the 23rd Amendment to the Constitution, ensuring that the District of Columbia had representation and taxation. That was done out of fairness. These 36 States did this out of fairness.

We have already heard what the Attorney General Robert Kennedy said, but, Mr. Speaker, today we are doing the inconceivable and will produce the absurdity.

Legislation does not overrule a constitutional amendment. Legislation is subject to the Constitution and all of its amendments.

If you want to make D.C. a State, have a process that overturns the 23rd Amendment and then ratify a 29th Amendment, which then repeals the 23rd Amendment.

There is precedent. The 18th Amendment was repealed by the 21st Amendment to end Prohibition. On February 20, 1933, Congress passed the repealing Amendment. On December 5, 1933, the proper number of States ratified the Amendment, and the 18th Amendment ceased to exist.

This was done by this country during prohibition. This is the standard by which we take care of the Constitution and the amendments thereon.

Our system of government is predictable on the rule of law and following procedure, but today's bill abandons that procedure of amendments to the Constitution in favor of politics.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN), the chair of the Financial Services Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigation.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise. And today, I rise with love of country at heart.

I rise to announce that I will not allow this issue to become so complicated that the American people might be confused because the truth is we will be voting for one thing: whether we are for taxation without representation or whether we are against taxation without representation. It is really that simple.

As for me, I will be voting with the patriots. I will be voting with those patriots from 1773 who confronted the government, those patriots who were there at the Boston Harbor, those patriots who were there for the Boston Tea Party.

I will be voting against taxation without representation. I believe that this is what the American Constitution and the American way are all about. Since 1773, it has been said, and today, I will respect it with my vote.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER).

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this unconstitutional measure.

Our Founders debated the merits of statehood and a Federal District and rightly concluded that no State should have supremacy over others and enjoy considerable benefits and influence of also being our national headquarters.

Our Founders got it right. This measure gets it wrong.

If D.C. surrenders the special status of our Federal District and instead becomes one of 51 equals, why should it enjoy all the benefits of also being the Federal District? Perhaps Federal agencies like the Department of Energy or USDA should move to places like west Texas, where we actually produce food and fuel for the Nation and beyond.

Ambitions on the political left to expand the Supreme Court and U.S. Senate seats, eliminate the filibuster, and keep three electoral votes for occupants of the White House, all while controlling our election law are about one thing: more power for them.

Oppose this unconstitutional measure.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The gentleman describes this, as many on the other side, as a political issue, a power grab. He cites all these other political actions, but the real power grab is denying 712,000 taxpaying American citizens the right to vote. That is the power grab.

This isn't about politics. It is a fundamental voting and civil rights issue. And it is outrageous that Republicans would play partisan politics just to block 712,000 Americans from having full equality in our democracy.

Every American deserves a voice in their government, not taxation without representation, fundamental beliefs in our democracy.

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

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

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise in opposition to this latest attempt by the Democrats to increase their power at the expense of longstanding American traditions and the Constitution.

Sadly, this is not at all surprising. Democrats have made it clear that American institutions don't stand in their way of advancing their political agenda at all costs. They want to pack the Supreme Court, eliminate election integrity, defund our police, keep our borders open, and prohibit debate in this very House. And D.C. statehood is just the next step.

This legislation is an unconstitutional power grab designed to give Democrats more votes to pass their radical socialist agenda.

As the majority leader just said, this is about two Senators. It is not about principle.

The District of Columbia has served as the Federal district for over 200 years. The Framers understood the importance of Federal and State governments having separate authority and recognized that States would be ill-suited to house a Federal Government. And this was long before the Democrats started making everything about race.

Now, Democrats want to disregard the Founders' vision, again, in order to grab two more votes in the Senate. Political advantage is no justification for policy that disregards precedent and the Constitution. Therefore, I oppose this bill.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BEYER), the chair of the Joint Economic Committee.

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 51 and D.C. statehood.

My mother and father met at D.C.'s Western High School in the 1940s before my father went off to West Point and Korea. I was raised in the Potomac Palisades of Washington and went to high school a few blocks from the Capitol. My grandchildren are fifth-generation Washingtonians.

Through the generations, we have been confounded and confused that the United States citizens who live in the District of Columbia have been denied self-rule.

The right to self-determination is the defining principle on which this Nation was founded. Yet, this very right is denied to those who reside in our Nation's Capital.

Taxation without representation sparked our own war of independence from Great Britain. Today, the same cry for democracy, impressed on every D.C. license plate, calls out for the peaceful passage of H.R. 51.

The American citizens of the District of Columbia overwhelmingly support statehood, passing a statehood referendum with 85 percent support in 2016.

My Republican statehood opponents argue that statehood should be denied D.C. because it is too small; because it is not rural enough; because it has insufficient logging, manufacturing, agriculture, and mining; because it is not well-rounded; and because its residents are not real Americans. D.C. does, by the way, have a Tesla car dealership.

The real reason my Republican friends oppose statehood is that they disagree with the political views of today's Washingtonians. This is terrible short-term thinking. Texas voted Democratic for generations, while California and New York have elected many Republican Governors and Senators. Political pendulums swing both ways.

This view betrays our democratic principles upon which our Nation was founded.

□ 1030

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON).

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I am opposed to D.C. statehood, but I am not opposed to suffrage.

If your goal is truly suffrage rather than increasing Democratic control of the Senate, boy, do I have a plan for you.

My bill would reunite the residential areas of the District with Maryland, as was done with Virginia in 1847. This plan would give full voting rights that we have heard so much about this morning without ignoring the Constitution or the practical realities of what constitutes a State.

So I say to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle: If your goal is truly suffrage, then let's do this together. Let's set aside the divisive rhetoric we have heard, and work together to craft an appropriate and bipartisan solution to give representation to the people of D.C.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT).

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, it was good to hear the majority leader say this is about politics. We knew that. But for some of us, it is about principle.

And if it were about taxation without representation, I would have a slew of Democrats cosponsoring the bill I have been filing for many terms to eliminate Federal income tax in the District of Columbia.

But I was told years ago: We are not going to join in with your bill because it will weaken our chance to get a representative full voting for D.C.

That is what this has been about.

Mr. Speaker, for some of us, principle is a big deal. When the Bush Justice Department was violating constitutional rights, some Republicans got furious. When the Obama administration did that, they circled the wagons and

protected. This is about principle for some of us.

Mr. Speaker, we got a tiny taste when the Mayor of D.C., of an opposite party of President Trump, wasn't sure she was going to provide the police to protect the White House.

This is about the Constitution and principle. Vote against this.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining on both sides?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from New York has 5 minutes remaining. The gentleman from Kentucky has 10 minutes remaining.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. STEVENS), chairwoman of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology's Subcommittee on Research and Technology.

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 51, in the esteemed tradition, the responsibility that we have as legislators of this body to evaluate adding a 51st State to this Union, to form a more perfect union; yes, in the tradition and in the written words of our Constitution because, as when my native Michigan became the 26th State in 1837 added to this Union, the President recognized that we will admit Michigan on equal footing.

But we know that the Founders and the originators of our beautiful Nation did not know a Michigan when they were writing our Constitution. They did not know a Wyoming. So we ask ourselves here, as the ambassadors of democracy, what message we send to the world when we deny over 700,000 people the right to vote; when we tax them without the proper representation.

This, my friends, is an exciting and profound and welcomed day in this body that deserves debate, and this legislation deserves to pass.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA).

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I am amazed at the smoke and mirrors and fog of obfuscation surrounding the debate on this bill.

What Republicans are doing here today is defending the Constitution and what was put in place by the Founders, that Washington, D.C., the District, would not be part of a State, where it could be coerced or leveraged by a State to get things from it.

I have just heard the last few minutes solutions offered to my colleagues that could probably be passed in 6 weeks or less, to allow what it is they claim they are saying for the citizens of Washington, D.C. Folding those 700,000 residents through a Maryland retrocession, as has happened with Virginia in 1846, would accomplish the goal of the same type of representation they are talking about.

No, the politics is over on that side of the aisle because they have turned down a constitutional solution that this would be, instead, for an unconstitutional one that flies in the face and produces a 66-square-mile State that is 1/18th the size of Rhode Island, with a population just a little bit larger than the city of Fresno, California, because they want to accomplish a political goal while we defend the Constitution.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HARRIS).

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I guess it is appropriate for someone from Maryland to speak on this issue because this is Maryland's land we are talking about. This land was given for the purpose of a Federal enclave by Maryland. How dare Congress take Maryland's land from it. That is not why it was given.

Mr. Speaker, let's talk about the unconstitutionality—well, you have heard about the unconstitutionality. We don't need to talk about it any more.

I urge everyone who is watching us on C–SPAN today: Go get your copy of the Constitution. It is written in black and white. This is very plain. This is clearly unconstitutional.

Mr. Speaker, I hope America was paying attention to the majority leader's speech, that one line where he said ''this is all about politics.'' In fact, he even gave the history. He said, well, in the past, the Republicans wanted Senators, and so and so wanted Senators.

We don't live in the past. We live in the present.

Mr. Speaker, is this what America wants? Do they want pure politics?

Not my words. That's what the majority leader said: This is all about politics.

Mr. Speaker, let's ask: Why did our Founders do what they did?

Every American who is watching, think about what you saw last summer. You saw a White House under siege. You saw a mob. And we know Members of this House have promoted mobs. They did it last weekend. It will happen again. If we put the boundary next to the Federal buildings, it will be subject to a mob, a mob controlled by a State, not a Federal enclave.

That is the last thing this country needs, and it is the last thing the Federal Government needs.

I see my colleagues on the other side of the aisle shaking their heads.

How else would one describe that group outside the White House?

It was an uncontrolled mob. Thank God that Federal troops, Federal forces, Federal law enforcement were allowed to be there to stop that mob.

That is why we need the District of Columbia to be the Federal enclave.

Mr. Speaker, I oppose the bill.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JONES).

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I have had enough of my colleagues' * * * insinuations that somehow the people of Washington, D.C., are incapable or even unworthy of our democracy. One Senate Republican said that D.C. wouldn't be a ''well-rounded, working-class State.'' I had no idea there were so many syllables in the word ''white.''

One of my House Republican colleagues said that D.C. shouldn't be a State because the District doesn't have a landfill. * * * *

The truth is there is no good-faith argument for disenfranchising over 700,000 people, Mr. Speaker, most of whom are people of color.

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the gentleman's words be taken down.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's demand is not timely.

The gentleman from New York will proceed.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, there is no good-faith argument.

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I oppose the ruling of the Chair.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the gentleman from New York ask unanimous consent to withdraw the offending words?

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, that is fine. You have my consent to withdraw.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the offending words are withdrawn.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York is recognized.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, the truth is, there is no good-faith argument for disenfranchising over 700,000 people, most of whom are people of color.

These desperate objections are about fear—fear that, in D.C., their white supremacist politics will no longer play; fear that, soon enough, white supremacist politics won't work anywhere in America; fear that, if they don't rig our democracy, they will not win.

Today, Democrats are standing up for a multiracial democracy, to democratize all 51 States in this country.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH).

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, D.C. statehood is unconstitutional. Both Republican and Democrat administrations of the past have long interpreted the Constitution in that fashion.

One of the problems with D.C. statehood is that two States, Maryland and my home State of Virginia, gave land for the cede of government, and they did not do so with the intent to create a new State.

When Virginia's land wasn't used for the cede of government, Congress ceded it back to Virginia. It did not create a new State.

As it was then, retrocession is our best course of action today. Shrinking the seat of government, which is permitted by Article I, and returning the rest to Maryland for the purposes of representation, offers D.C. residents a voice in the Federal legislative branch and keeps faith with Maryland's original cession of land for D.C. It also

works within the bounds of the Constitution.

Mr. Speaker, I have introduced a bill, and it is later going to be a motion to recommit. And I have also taken great care, as a part of that, making sure that retrocession and the transfer of administrative functions from D.C. to Maryland runs as smoothly as possible.

If you are worried about the details of D.C. government, this bill, this motion to recommit, takes care of them.

As the old Prego commercials said: It's in there.

Congressional representation, it's in there.

The courts, it's in there.

The National Guard, it's in there.

Commitments to retirees, it's in there.

Tuition assistance, it's in there.

Preventing the remaining Federal District from casting the three electoral votes meant for D.C., it is in there.

My motion to recommit, which I will offer in a bit, is the most practical solution to giving D.C. residents a voice in Congress, to give them a right to vote.

Mr. Speaker, if we adopt a motion to recommit, we will instruct the Committee on Oversight and Reform to consider my amendment to H.R. 51, to provide for the retrocession of land to the State of Maryland, rather than to create a new State.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD the text of the amendment immediately prior to the vote on the motion to recommit.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN), a distinguished constitutional scholar.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that our distinguished colleagues don't flatter themselves to think that they are the first Members of Congress who oppose other Americans' democratic rights to wrap their arguments in constitutional clothing, because this has actually been the standard in American history.

With Texas, it was said that Texas could not be admitted because it would be unconstitutional and because it was its own country, and the Constitution nowhere gives Congress the power to admit a foreign republic as a State.

It was said Hawaii and Alaska could not be admitted because they weren't contiguous.

West Virginia, everyone knew, couldn't be admitted because it used to be part of Virginia, just like Kentucky was part of Virginia.

Oklahoma, it was said, was too poor and, therefore, did not meet constitutional requisites.

Utah was too Mormon.

New Mexico was too Catholic.

And on and on and on.

So this is very much in the mainstream of partisan political opposition to vindicating the rights of American citizens.

My colleague from Virginia invites us to say, well, just give Washington, D.C., back to Maryland, thereby conceding, of course, that Congress has the power to modify the boundaries of the District of Columbia, as was established in 1847, with the retrocession of Virginia.

□ 1045

There is one problem with this argument, the people of Washington, D.C., haven't asked to go back to Maryland, and Maryland has not requested that the land be given back to Maryland.

Instead, what we have is American citizens exercising their rights under the Ninth Amendment to the Constitution, organizing a new State and petitioning for admission to the Union. That is how America has grown.

They have demonstrated their commitment to our democracy by defending us against violent insurrectionists on January 6. Let's show our commitment to their democratic rights.

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

Mr. Speaker, listening to the debate, I wonder if our friends on the other side of the aisle would be so passionate if Washington, D.C., were 90 percent Republican as 90 percent Democrat.

H.R. 51 goes against the Founding Fathers' intent. It is unconstitutional, impractical, and a blatant power grab.

The Founding Fathers created the Federal city—this Federal city—to be separate and apart from the States which it would serve as the seat of government. They designed it this way so there would be no super State that could unduly influence Federal affairs and international relations.

Now, I understand the people of the District's desire for representation in Congress. I think that is a legitimate concern, and it is not a new one.

If Democrats truly wanted to grant the wishes of D.C. residents, then they would address the constitutional issues with H.R. 51 since it does not stand a chance in court. We all know that. This does not stand one chance in court.

Additionally, Democrats could explore other options other than statehood, but they are not interested in any of them since they don't add two new progressive Senators to the U.S. Senate.

Serious policy proposals like retrocession, allowing D.C. residents to vote in Maryland Federal elections, and most obviously, the passage of the constitutional amendment have been called for by many of my Republican colleagues.

No State has required a constitutional amendment to be admitted to the Union; not one. But D.C. is unique. The 23rd Amendment guarantees the District three electoral college votes. There is no precedent for granting statehood to a territory with electoral college votes or such a special place in our Constitution. H.R. 51 is an unconstitutional bill.

D.C. is also massively unprepared to assume the costs of the programs and benefits it receives by being the Federal seat of government. The new State will very likely levy a commuter tax to make up the funding gaps currently backed by the Federal taxpayers. H.R. 51 provides no guarantee to the American people that they will not be on the hook funding the new State for years, if not decades.

This bill is nothing more than an attempt to ignore the constitutional process and gain an advantage in the U.S. Senate, all to advance a radical agenda that continues to come out of this House and stalls in the Senate.

Democrats know a constitutional amendment granting D.C. statehood would be rejected, just as it has been in the past. H.R. 51 is intentionally designed to circumvent the Constitution and the will of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to reject this unconstitutional and impractical legislation. I urge a ''no'' vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, statehood for D.C. is about fairness, justice, and ensuring that all Americans have an equal stake in our Republic. It is not unconstitutional. It is constitutional. And this is not about politics. It is a fundamental voting and civil rights issue.

The real wrong is denying 712,000 taxpaying American citizens the right to vote. Our Nation is founded upon the principle that all people should have a voice in their government. No taxation without representation. But without voting representation in Congress, the people of D.C. are denied that most basic fundamental right.

Today's debate forces us to confront the fundamental question of who we are as a nation.

Do we believe in the right to full and equal representation? Or are these just empty words?

D.C. residents are Americans, and they deserve the equal rights our national ideals promise them.

Mr. Speaker, again, I thank the outstanding Congresswoman for her tireless and selfless advocacy to ensure that D.C. residents finally gain full representation that they deserve. I join many in thanking the leadership of the Democratic Caucus, Speaker NANCY PELOSI, Majority Leader STENY HOYER, and Whip JAMES CLYBURN.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a ''yes'' vote in favor of this critical civil rights bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 51, the Washington, D.C. Admission Act. I thank Delegate ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON for her tireless campaign for full democratic representation for the residents of our nation's capital. Without her leadership and grassroots advocacy, it is hard to believe

that we would be on the floor today considering D.C. statehood again. I also want to thank Chairwoman MALONEY and the Speaker for working to get this bill to the floor.

The late Hilda Mason, former D.C. councilmember, a giant in D.C. politics, and impassioned champion for the disadvantaged brought me into the fight for D.C. statehood. Her courage and steadfast determination to ensure D.C. residents have full democratic representation should be an inspiration to us all.

The revolution that led to the creation of our democracy began with calls of ''No taxation without representation'' and yet we have over 700,000 people—taxpayers—nearly half of whom are African American—routinely disenfranchised.

Historically, the District of Colombia has been home to one of the largest African American populations in the nation. After Emancipation, thousands of African Americans migrated from the segregated South to benefit from better employment opportunities, better educational institution, and more access to civic and political life.

It is a disgrace that the District, a symbol of our nation's promise of equality, is denied the right to self-government and full representation in Congress.

To correct this injustice, we must pass H.R. 51.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 330, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

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

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Griffith of Virginia moves to recommit the bill H.R. 51 to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

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

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Compact Federal District Act''.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—RETROCESSION OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TO MARYLAND

Subtitle A—Retrocession

Sec. 101. Retrocession of District of Columbia to Maryland.
Sec. 102. Proclamation regarding acceptance of retrocession by Maryland.

Subtitle B—Federal District as Seat of Government of United States

Sec. 111. Description of Federal District.
Sec. 112. National Guard.
Sec. 113. Effect of retrocession on laws in effect in seat of Government of United States.
Sec. 114. Termination of legal status of seat of Government of United States as municipal corporation.

Subtitle C—General Provisions

Sec. 121. Pending actions and proceedings.
Sec. 122. Effect on judicial proceedings pending in District of Columbia.
Sec. 123. Effect on existing contracts.

TITLE II—INTERESTS OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Subtitle A—Property

Sec. 201. Title to property.
Sec. 202. Treatment of military lands.

Subtitle B—Federal Courts

Sec. 211. Residency requirements for certain Federal officials.
Sec. 212. Renaming of Federal courts.
Sec. 213. Conforming amendments relating to Department of Justice.

Subtitle C—Federal Elections

Sec. 221. Permitting individuals residing in Federal District to vote in Federal elections in State of most recent domicile.
Sec. 222. Repeal of Office of District of Columbia Delegate.
Sec. 223. Repeal of law providing for participation of seat of government in election of President and Vice-President.

TITLE III—TEMPORARY CONTINUATION OF CERTAIN AUTHORITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Subtitle A—Continuation of Benefits for Certain Employees of District of Columbia

Sec. 301. Federal benefit payments under certain retirement programs.
Sec. 302. Continuation of Federal civil service benefits for employees first employed prior to establishment of District of Columbia merit personnel system.
Sec. 303. Obligations of Federal Government under judges' retirement program.
Sec. 304. Employees of Public Defender Service.
Sec. 305. Employees exercising authority over parole and supervision.
Sec. 306. Employees of courts and court system.

Subtitle B—Other Programs and Authorities

Sec. 311. Designation of District of Columbia felons to facilities of Bureau of Prisons.
Sec. 312. Application of the College Access Act.
Sec. 313. Application of the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act.
Sec. 314. Federal planning commissions.
Sec. 315. Role of Army Corps of Engineers in supplying water.
Sec. 316. Requirements to be located in District of Columbia.

TITLE IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 401. Definition.
Sec. 402. Effect on other laws.
Sec. 403. Effective date.

TITLE I—RETROCESSION OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TO MARYLAND

Subtitle A—Retrocession

SEC. 101. RETROCESSION OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TO MARYLAND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Upon the issuance of a proclamation by the President under section 102(b) and except as provided in subsection (b), the territory ceded to Congress by the State of Maryland to serve as the District constituting the permanent seat of the Government of the United States is ceded and relinquished to the State of Maryland.

(b) CONTINUATION OF FEDERAL CONTROL OVER FEDERAL DISTRICT.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), the Federal District described in section 111 shall not be ceded and relinquished to the State of Maryland and shall continue to serve as the permanent seat of the Government of the United States, and Congress shall continue to exercise exclusive legislative authority and control over such District.

SEC. 102. PROCLAMATION REGARDING ACCEPTANCE OF RETROCESSION BY MARYLAND.

(a) ENACTMENT OF LAW ACCEPTING RETROCESSION.—Retrocession under section 101 shall not take place unless the State of Maryland enacts legislation to accept such retrocession.

(b) PROCLAMATION BY PRESIDENT.—Not later than 30 days after the State of Maryland enacts legislation accepting the retrocession under section 101, and subject to subsection (c), the President shall issue a proclamation announcing such acceptance and declaring that the territory ceded to Congress by the State of Maryland to serve as the District constituting the permanent seat of the Government of the United States has been ceded back to the State of Maryland.

(c) REPEAL OF 23RD AMENDMENT REQUIRED.—The President may not issue the proclamation described in subsection (b) unless the Archivist of the United States certifies, in accordance with section 106b of title 1, United States Code, that an amendment to the Constitution of the United States repealing the 23rd article of amendment has been adopted, and that the same has become valid, to all intents and purposes, as a part of the Constitution of the United States.

Subtitle B—Federal District as Seat of Government of United States

SEC. 111. DESCRIPTION OF FEDERAL DISTRICT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsections (c), (d), and (e), upon the retrocession under section 101, the Federal District shall consist of the property described in subsection (b) and shall include the principal Federal monuments, the White House, the Capitol Building, the United States Supreme Court Building, and the Federal executive, legislative, and judicial office buildings located adjacent to the Mall and the Capitol Building (as such terms are used in section 8501(a) of title 40, United States Code).

(b) GENERAL DESCRIPTION.—Upon the retrocession under section 101, the boundaries of the Federal District shall be as follows: Beginning at the intersection of the southern right-of-way of F Street NE and the eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street NE;

(1) thence south along said eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street NE to its intersection with the northeastern right-of-way of Maryland Avenue NE;

(2) thence southwest along said northeastern right-of-way of Maryland Avenue NE to its intersection with the northern right-of-way of Constitution Avenue NE;

(3) thence west along said northern right-of-way of Constitution Avenue NE to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 1st Street NE;

(4) thence south along said eastern right-of-way of 1st Street NE to its intersection with the southeastern right-of-way of Maryland Avenue NE;

(5) thence northeast along said southeastern right-of-way of Maryland Avenue NE to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street SE;

(6) thence south along said eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street SE to the eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street SE;

(7) thence south along said eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street SE to its intersection with the northern property boundary of the property designated as Square 760 Lot 803;

(8) thence east along said northern property boundary of Square 760 Lot 803 to its intersection with the western right-of-way of 3rd Street SE;

(9) thence south along said western right-of-way of 3rd Street SE to its intersection

with the northern right-of-way of Independence Avenue SE;

(10) thence west along said northern right-of-way of Independence Avenue SE to its intersection with the northwestern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue SE;

(11) thence northwest along said northwestern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue SE to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street SE;

(12) thence south along said eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street SE to its intersection with the southern right-of-way of C Street SE;

(13) thence west along said southern right-of-way of C Street SE to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 1st Street SE;

(14) thence south along said eastern right-of-way of 1st Street SE to its intersection with the southern right-of-way of D Street SE;

(15) thence west along said southern right-of-way of D Street SE to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of South Capitol Street;

(16) thence south along said eastern right-of-way of South Capitol Street to its intersection with the northwestern right-of-way of Canal Street SE;

(17) thence southeast along said northwestern right-of-way of Canal Street SE to its intersection with the southern right-of-way of E Street SE;

(18) thence east along said southern right-of-way of said E Street SE to its intersection with the western right-of-way of 1st Street SE;

(19) thence south along said western right-of-way of 1st Street SE to its intersection with the southernmost corner of the property designated as Square 736S Lot 801;

(20) thence west along a line extended due west from said corner of said property designated as Square 736S Lot 801 to its intersection with the southwestern right-of-way of New Jersey Avenue SE;

(21) thence southeast along said southwestern right-of-way of New Jersey Avenue SE to its intersection with the northwestern right-of-way of Virginia Avenue SE;

(22) thence northwest along said northwestern right-of-way of Virginia Avenue SE to its intersection with the western right-of-way of South Capitol Street;

(23) thence north along said western right-of-way of South Capitol Street to its intersection with the southern right-of-way of E Street SW;

(24) thence west along said southern right-of-way of E Street SW to its end;

(25) thence west along a line extending said southern right-of-way of E Street SW westward to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street SW;

(26) thence north along said eastern right-of-way of 2nd Street SW to its intersection with the southwestern right-of-way of Virginia Avenue SW;

(27) thence northwest along said southwestern right-of-way of Virginia Avenue SW to its intersection with the western right-of-way of 3rd Street SW;

(28) thence north along said western right-of-way of 3rd Street SW to its intersection with the northern right-of-way of D Street SW;

(29) thence west along said northern right-of-way of D Street SW to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 4th Street SW;

(30) thence north along said eastern right-of-way of 4th Street SW to its intersection with the northern right-of-way of C Street SW;

(31) thence west along said northern right-of-way of C Street SW to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 6th Street SW;

(32) thence north along said eastern right-of-way of 6th Street SW to its intersection with the northern right-of-way of Independence Avenue SW;

(33) thence west along said northern right-of-way of Independence Avenue SW to its intersection with the western right-of-way of 12th Street SW;

(34) thence south along said western right-of-way of 12th Street SW to its intersection with the northern right-of-way of D Street SW;

(35) thence west along said northern right-of-way of D Street SW to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 14th Street SW;

(36) thence south along said eastern right-of-way of 14th Street SW to its intersection with the northeastern boundary of the Consolidated Rail Corporation railroad easement;

(37) thence southwest along said northeastern boundary of the Consolidated Rail Corporation railroad easement to its intersection with the eastern shore of the Potomac River;

(38) thence generally northwest along said eastern shore of the Potomac River to its intersection with a line extending westward the northern boundary of the property designated as Square 12 Lot 806;

(39) thence east along said line extending westward the northern boundary of the property designated as Square 12 Lot 806 to the northern property boundary of the property designated as Square 12 Lot 806, and continuing east along said northern boundary of said property designated as Square 12 Lot 806 to its northeast corner;

(40) thence east along a line extending east from said northeast corner of the property designated as Square 12 Lot 806 to its intersection with the western boundary of the property designated as Square 33 Lot 87;

(41) thence south along said western boundary of the property designated as Square 33 Lot 87 to its intersection with the northwest corner of the property designated as Square 33 Lot 88;

(42) thence counter-clockwise around the boundary of said property designated as Square 33 Lot 88 to its southeast corner, which is along the northern right-of-way of E Street NW;

(43) thence east along said northern right-of-way of E Street NW to its intersection with the western right-of-way of 18th Street NW;

(44) thence south along said western right-of-way of 18th Street NW to its intersection with the southwestern right-of-way of Virginia Avenue NW;

(45) thence southeast along said southwestern right-of-way of Virginia Avenue NW to its intersection with the northern right-of-way of Constitution Avenue NW;

(46) thence east along said northern right-of-way of Constitution Avenue NW to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 17th Street NW;

(47) thence north along said eastern right-of-way of 17th Street NW to its intersection with the southern right-of-way of H Street NW;

(48) thence east along said southern right-of-way of H Street NW to its intersection with the northwest corner of the property designated as Square 221 Lot 35;

(49) thence counter-clockwise around the boundary of said property designated as Square 221 Lot 35 to its southeast corner, which is along the boundary of the property designated as Square 221 Lot 37;

(50) thence counter-clockwise around the boundary of said property designated as Square 221 Lot 37 to its southwest corner, which it shares with the property designated as Square 221 Lot 818;

(51) thence south along the boundary of said property designated as Square 221 Lot 818 to its southwest corner, which it shares with the property designated as Square 221 Lot 40;

(52) thence south along the boundary of said property designated as Square 221 Lot 40 to its southwest corner;

(53) thence east along the southern border of said property designated as Square 221 Lot 40 to its intersection with the northwest corner of the property designated as Square 221 Lot 820;

(54) thence south along the western boundary of said property designated as Square 221 Lot 820 to its southwest corner, which it shares with the property designated as Square 221 Lot 39;

(55) thence south along the western boundary of said property designated as Square 221 Lot 39 to its southwest corner, which is along the northern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW;

(56) thence east along said northern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW to its intersection with the western right-of-way of 15th Street NW;

(57) thence south along said western right-of-way of 15th Street NW to its intersection with a line extending northwest from the southern right-of-way of the portion of Pennsylvania Avenue NW north of Pershing Square;

(58) thence southeast along said line extending the southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW to the southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW, and continuing southeast along said southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW to its intersection with the western right-of-way of 14th Street NW;

(59) thence south along said western right-of-way of 14th Street NW to its intersection with a line extending west from the southern right-of-way of D Street NW;

(60) thence east along said line extending west from the southern right-of-way of D Street NW to the southern right-of-way of D Street NW, and continuing east along said southern right-of-way of D Street NW to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 13½ Street NW;

(61) thence north along said eastern right-of-way of 13½ Street NW to its intersection with the southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW;

(62) thence east and southeast along said southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW to its intersection with the western right-of-way of 12th Street NW;

(63) thence south along said western right-of-way of 12th Street NW to its intersection with a line extending to the west the southern boundary of the property designated as Square 324 Lot 809;

(64) thence east along said line to the southwest corner of said property designated as Square 324 Lot 809, and continuing northeast along the southern boundary of said property designated as Square 324 Lot 809 to its eastern corner, which it shares with the property designated as Square 323 Lot 802;

(65) thence east along the southern boundary of said property designated as Square 323 Lot 802 to its southeast corner, which it shares with the property designated as Square 324 Lot 808;

(66) thence counter-clockwise around the boundary of said property designated as Square 324 Lot 808 to its northeastern corner, which is along the southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW;

(67) thence southeast along said southern right-of-way of Pennsylvania Avenue NW to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 4th Street NW;

(68) thence north along a line extending north from said eastern right-of-way of 4th Street NW to its intersection with the southern right-of-way of C Street NW;

(69) thence east along said southern right-of-way of C Street NW to its intersection with the eastern right-of-way of 3rd Street NW;

(70) thence north along said eastern right-of-way of 3rd Street NW to its intersection with the southern right-of-way of D Street NW;

(71) thence east along said southern right-of-way of D Street NW to its intersection with the western right-of-way of 1st Street NW;

(72) thence south along said western right-of-way of 1st Street NW to its intersection with the northern right-of-way of C Street NW;

(73) thence west along said northern right-of-way of C Street NW to its intersection with the western right-of-way of 2nd Street NW;

(74) thence south along said western right-of-way of 2nd Street NW to its intersection with the northern right-of-way of Constitution Avenue NW;

(75) thence east along said northern right-of-way of Constitution Avenue NW to its intersection with the northeastern right-of-way of Louisiana Avenue NW;

(76) thence northeast along said northeastern right-of-way of Louisiana Avenue NW to its intersection with the southwestern right-of-way of New Jersey Avenue NW;

(77) thence northwest along said southwestern right-of-way of New Jersey Avenue NW to its intersection with the northern right-of-way of D Street NW;

(78) thence east along said northern right-of-way of D Street NW to its intersection with the northeastern right-of-way of Louisiana Avenue NW;

(79) thence northeast along said northwestern right-of-way of Louisiana Avenue NW to its intersection with the western right-of-way of North Capitol Street;

(80) thence north along said western right-of-way of North Capitol Street to its intersection with the southwestern right-of-way of Massachusetts Avenue NW;

(81) thence southeast along said southwestern right-of-way of Massachusetts Avenue NW to the southwestern right-of-way of Massachusetts Avenue NE;

(82) thence southeast along said southwestern right-of-way of Massachusetts Avenue NE to the southern right-of-way of Columbus Circle NE;

(83) thence counter-clockwise along said southern right-of-way of Columbus Circle NE to its intersection with the southern right-of-way of F Street NE; and

(84) thence east along said southern right-of-way of F Street NE to the point of beginning.

(c) STREETS AND SIDEWALKS.—The Federal District shall include any street (and sidewalk thereof) that bounds the area described in subsection (b).

(d) METES AND BOUNDS SURVEY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President (in consultation with the Chair of the National Capital Planning Commission) shall conduct a metes and bounds survey of the Federal District, as described in subsection (b).

(e) CLARIFICATION OF TREATMENT OF FRANCES PERKINS BUILDING.—The entirety of the Frances Perkins Building, including any portion of the Building which is north of D Street Northwest, shall be included in the Federal District.

SEC. 112. NATIONAL GUARD.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Title 32, United States Code, is amended as follows:

(1) DEFINITIONS.—In section 101—

(A) in paragraphs (4) and (6), by striking ''Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia'' both places it appears and inserting ''and Puerto Rico''; and

(B) in paragraph (19), by striking ''the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''or of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico''.

(2) BRANCHES AND ORGANIZATIONS.—In section 103, by striking ''the District of Columbia,''.

(3) UNITS: LOCATION; ORGANIZATION; COMMAND.—In subsections (c) and (d) of section 104, by striking ''the District of Columbia,'' both places it appears.

(4) AVAILABILITY OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In section 107(b), by striking ''the District of Columbia,''.

(5) MAINTENANCE OF OTHER TROOPS.—In section 109—

(A) in subsections (a), (b), and (c), by striking ''the District of Columbia,'' each place it appears; and

(B) in subsection (c), by striking ''(or commanding general in the case of the District of Columbia)''.

(6) DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES.—In section 112(h)—

(A) in paragraph (3), by striking ''the District of Columbia,''; and

(B) by striking paragraph (2) and redesignating paragraph (3), as amended, as paragraph (2).

(7) ENLISTMENT OATH.—In section 304, by striking ''or the District of Columbia,''.

(8) ADJUTANTS GENERAL.—In section 314—

(A) in subsections (a) and (d), by striking ''the District of Columbia,'' both places it appears; and

(B) by striking subsections (b) and (c) and redesignating subsection (d), as amended, as subsection (b).

(9) DETAIL OF REGULAR MEMBERS OF ARMY AND AIR FORCE TO DUTY WITH NATIONAL GUARD.—In section 315, by striking ''the District of Columbia,'' each place it appears.

(10) DISCHARGE OF OFFICERS; TERMINATION OF APPOINTMENT.—In section 324(b), by striking ''or the District of Columbia,''.

(11) RELIEF FROM NATIONAL GUARD DUTY WHEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY.—In subsections (a) and (b) of section 325—

(A) by striking ''or the District of Columbia'' both places it appears; and

(B) by striking ''or the commanding general of the District of Columbia National Guard,'' both places it appears.

(12) COURTS-MARTIAL OF NATIONAL GUARD NOT IN FEDERAL SERVICE: COMPOSITION, JURISDICTION, AND PROCEDURES; CONVENING AUTHORITY.—In sections 326 and 327, by striking ''the District of Columbia,'' each place it appears.

(13) ACTIVE GUARD AND RESERVE DUTY: GOVERNOR'S AUTHORITY.—In section 328(a), by striking ''or the commanding general of the District of Columbia National Guard,''.

(14) TRAINING GENERALLY.—In section 501(b), by striking ''the District of Columbia,''.

(15) PARTICIPATION IN FIELD EXERCISES.—In section 503(b), by striking ''the District of Columbia,''.

(16) NATIONAL GUARD SCHOOLS AND SMALL ARMS COMPETITIONS.—In section 504(b), by striking ''Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''or Puerto Rico,''.

(17) ARMY AND AIR FORCE SCHOOLS AND FIELD EXERCISES.—In section 505, in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''and the Virgin Islands or of the commanding general of the National Guard of the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''or the Virgin Islands''.

(18) NATIONAL GUARD YOUTH CHALLENGE PROGRAM.—In section 509—

(A) in subsection (c)(1)—

(i) by striking ''or, in the case of the District of Columbia, with the commanding general of the District of Columbia National Guard,''; and

(ii) by striking ''or the commanding general'';

(B) in subsection (g)(2), by striking ''and the commanding general of the District of Columbia National Guard (if the District of Columbia National Guard is participating in the Program)'';

(C) in subsection (j)—

(i) by striking ''or, in the case of the District of Columbia, the commanding general of the District of Columbia National Guard''; and

(ii) by striking ''or the commanding general'' both places it appears;

(D) in subsection (k), by striking ''and, if the Program is carried out in the District of Columbia, with the commanding general of the District of Columbia National Guard''; and

(E) in subsection (l)(1), by striking ''the territories, and the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''and the Territories''.

(19) ISSUE OF SUPPLIES.—In section 702—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking ''or the commanding general of the National Guard of the District of Columbia''; and

(B) in subsections (b), (c), and (d), by striking ''Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia'' each place it appears and inserting ''or Puerto Rico''.

(20) PURCHASES OF SUPPLIES FROM ARMY OR AIR FORCE.—In subsections (a) and (b) of section 703, by striking ''the District of Columbia,'' both places it appears.

(21) ACCOUNTABILITY: RELIEF FROM UPON ORDER TO ACTIVE DUTY.—In section 704, by striking ''the District of Columbia,''.

(22) PROPERTY AND FISCAL OFFICERS.—In section 708—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking ''and the commanding general of the National Guard of the District of Columbia,''; and

(B) in subsection (d), by striking ''the District of Columbia,''.

(23) ACCOUNTABILITY FOR PROPERTY ISSUED TO THE NATIONAL GUARD.—In subsections (c), (d), (e), and (f) of section 710, by striking ''the District of Columbia,'' each place it appears.

(24) DISPOSITION OF OBSOLETE OR CONDEMNED PROPERTY.—In section 711, by striking ''the District of Columbia,''.

(25) DISPOSITION OF PROCEEDS OF CONDEMNED STORES ISSUED TO NATIONAL GUARD.—In paragraph (1) of section 712, by striking ''the District of Columbia,''.

(26) PROPERTY LOSS; PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH.—In section 715(c), by striking ''or the District of Columbia''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) FEDERAL DISTRICT DEFINED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 101 of title 32, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(20) 'Federal District' means the area serving as the seat of the Government of the United States, as described in section 111 of the Compact Federal District Act.''.

(B) WITH REGARDS TO HOMELAND DEFENSE ACTIVITIES.—Section 901 of title 32, United States Code, is amended in paragraph (2) by striking ''the District of Columbia,''.

(2) TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE.—Title 10, United States Code, is amended as follows:

(A) DEFINITIONS.—In section 101—

(i) in subsection (a)—

(I) in paragraph (1), by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Federal District''; and

(II) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(19) The term 'Federal District' means the area serving as the seat of the Government

of the United States, as described in section 111 of the Compact Federal District Act.'';

(ii) in paragraphs (2) and (4) of subsection (c), by striking ''Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia'' both places it appears and inserting ''and Puerto Rico''; and

(iii) in subsection (d)(5), by striking ''the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico''.

(B) DISPOSITION ON DISCHARGE.—In section 771a(c), by striking ''Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''or Puerto Rico''.

(C) TRICARE COVERAGE FOR CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD AND DEPENDENTS DURING CERTAIN DISASTER RESPONSE DUTY.—In section 1076f—

(i) in subsections (a) and (c)(1), by striking ''(or, with respect to the District of Columbia, the mayor of the District of Columbia)'' both places it appears; and

(ii) in subsection (c)(2), by striking ''the District of Columbia,''.

(D) PAYMENT OF CLAIMS: AVAILABILITY OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In paragraph (2)(B) of section 2732, by striking ''or the District of Columbia''.

(E) MEMBERS OF ARMY NATIONAL GUARD: DETAIL AS STUDENTS, OBSERVERS, AND INVESTIGATORS AT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS, AND HOSPITALS.—In section 7401(c), by striking ''the District of Columbia,''.

(F) MEMBERS OF AIR NATIONAL GUARD: DETAIL AS STUDENTS, OBSERVERS, AND INVESTIGATORS AT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS, AND HOSPITALS.—In section 9401(c), by striking ''the District of Columbia,''.

(G) READY RESERVE: FAILURE TO SATISFACTORILY PERFORM PRESCRIBED TRAINING.—In section 10148(b), by striking ''(or, in the case of the District of Columbia, the commanding general of the District of Columbia National Guard)''.

(H) CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU.—In section 10502(a)(1), by striking ''or, in the case of the District of Columbia, the commanding general of the District of Columbia National Guard''.

(I) VICE CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU.—In section 10505(a)(1)(A), by striking ''or, in the case of the District of Columbia, the commanding general of the District of Columbia National Guard''.

(J) OTHER SENIOR NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU OFFICERS.—In subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 10506(a)(1), by striking ''or, in the case of the District of Columbia, the commanding general of the District of Columbia National Guard'' both places it appears.

(K) NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU: GENERAL PROVISIONS.—In section 10508(b)(1), by striking ''(or, in the case of the District of Columbia National Guard, the commanding general of the District of Columbia National Guard)''.

(L) COMMISSIONED OFFICERS: ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT; LIMITATION.—In section 12204(b), by striking ''Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''and Puerto Rico''.

(M) RESERVE COMPONENTS GENERALLY.—In section 12301(b), by striking ''(or, in the case of the District of Columbia National Guard, the commanding general of the District of Columbia National Guard)''.

(N) NATIONAL GUARD IN FEDERAL SERVICE: CALL.—In section 12406, by striking ''or, in the case of the District of Columbia, through the commanding general of the National Guard of the District of Columbia''.

(O) RESULT OF FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS.—In section 12642(c), by striking ''States, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''States or Puerto Rico''.

(P) LIMITATION ON RELOCATION OF NATIONAL GUARD UNITS.—In section 18238, by striking ''or, in the case of the District of Columbia, the commanding general of the National Guard of the District of Columbia''.

(c) TRANSFER OF PERSONNEL AND ASSETS.—The Secretary of Defense shall transfer the personnel and assets of the District of Columbia National Guard to the Maryland National Guard.

SEC. 113. EFFECT OF RETROCESSION ON LAWS IN EFFECT IN SEAT OF GOVERNMENT OF UNITED STATES.

Except as otherwise provided in this Act and any other Act of Congress, upon the retrocession under section 102, the criminal laws of the State of Maryland, and any laws of the State of Maryland which regulate vehicular traffic, shall apply in the Federal District in the same manner and to the same extent as such laws apply in the State of Maryland, and shall be deemed laws of the United States which are applicable only in or to the Federal District.

SEC. 114. TERMINATION OF LEGAL STATUS OF SEAT OF GOVERNMENT OF UNITED STATES AS MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

Notwithstanding section 2 of the Revised Statutes relating to the District of Columbia (sec. 1–102, D.C. Official Code) or any other provision of law codified in subchapter I of chapter 1 of the District of Columbia Official Code, effective upon the date of the retrocession under section 102, the Federal District (or any portion thereof) shall not serve as a government and shall not be a body corporate for municipal purposes.

Subtitle C—General Provisions

SEC. 121. PENDING ACTIONS AND PROCEEDINGS.

(a) STATE AS LEGAL SUCCESSOR TO DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.—The State of Maryland shall be the legal successor to the District of Columbia in all matters.

(b) NO EFFECT ON PENDING PROCEEDINGS.—All existing writs, actions, suits, judicial and administrative proceedings, civil or criminal liabilities, prosecutions, judgments, sentences, orders, decrees, appeals, causes of action, claims, demands, titles, and rights in any court shall continue unaffected by the retrocession under section 102, except as may be provided under this Act and as may be modified by the laws of the State of Maryland or the United States, as the case may be.

SEC. 122. EFFECT ON JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS PENDING IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

(a) CONTINUATION OF SUITS.—No writ, action, indictment, cause, or proceeding pending in any court of the District of Columbia on the effective date of this Act shall abate as a result of the enactment of this Act, but shall be transferred and shall proceed within such appropriate court of the State of Maryland as established under the laws or constitution of the State of Maryland.

(b) APPEALS.—An order or decision of any court of the District of Columbia for which no appeal has been filed as of the effective date of this Act shall be considered an order or decision of a court of the State of Maryland for purposes of appeal from and appellate review of such order or decision in an appropriate court of the State of Maryland.

SEC. 123. EFFECT ON EXISTING CONTRACTS.

(a) NO EFFECT ON EXISTING CONTRACTS.—Nothing in the retrocession under section 102 shall affect any obligation under any contract or agreement under which the District of Columbia or the United States is a party, as in effect on the day before the date of the retrocession.

(e) SUCCESSION IN INTERSTATE COMPACTS.—The State of Maryland shall be deemed to be the successor to the District of Columbia for purposes of any interstate compact which is in effect on the day before the date of retrocession under section 102.

TITLE II—INTERESTS OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Subtitle A—Property

SEC. 201. TITLE TO PROPERTY.

(a) RETENTION OF FEDERAL TITLE.—The United States shall have and retain title to, or jurisdiction over, for purposes of administration and maintenance, all real and personal property which, on the day before the date of the retrocession under section 102, is located in the District of Columbia and with respect to which, on such day, the United States holds title or jurisdiction for such purpose.

(b) TITLE TO PROPERTY FORMERLY HELD BY DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.—The State of Maryland shall have title to, or jurisdiction over, for purposes of administration and maintenance, all real and personal property with respect to which, on the day before the date of the retrocession under section 102, the District of Columbia holds title or jurisdiction for such purposes.

SEC. 202. TREATMENT OF MILITARY LANDS.

(a) RESERVATION OF FEDERAL AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B) and paragraph (2) and notwithstanding the retrocession under section 2, authority is reserved in the United States for the exercise by Congress of the power of exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever over such tracts or parcels of land located in the District of Columbia that, on the day before the date of the retrocession, are controlled or owned by the United States and held for defense or Coast Guard purposes.

(2) LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY.—The power of exclusive legislation described in subparagraph (A) shall vest and remain in the United States only so long as the particular tract or parcel of land involved is controlled or owned by the United States and held for defense or Coast Guard purposes.

(b) AUTHORITY OF STATE OF MARYLAND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The reservation of authority in the United States under paragraph (1) shall not operate to prevent such tracts or parcels of land from being a part of the State of Maryland, or to prevent the State from exercising over or upon such lands, concurrently with the United States, any jurisdiction which it would have in the absence of such reservation of authority and which is consistent with the laws hereafter enacted by Congress pursuant to such reservation of authority.

(2) SERVICE OF PROCESS.—The State of Maryland shall have the right to serve civil or criminal process in such tracts or parcels of land in which the authority of the United States is reserved under paragraph (1) in suits or prosecutions for or on account of rights acquired, obligations incurred, or crimes committed in the State but outside of such lands.

Subtitle B—Federal Courts

SEC. 211. RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN FEDERAL OFFICIALS.

(a) CIRCUIT JUDGES.—Section 44(c) of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''Except in the District of Columbia, each'' and inserting ''Each''; and

(2) by striking ''within fifty miles of the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''within fifty miles of the Federal District''.

(b) DISTRICT JUDGES.—Section 134(b) of such title is amended in the first sentence by striking ''the District of Columbia, the Southern District of New York, and'' and inserting ''the Southern District of New York and''.

(c) UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS.—Section 545(a) of such title is amended by striking the first sentence and inserting ''Each United States attorney shall reside in the district for which he or she is appointed, except that those officers of the Southern District of New York and the Eastern District of

New York may reside within 20 miles thereof.''.

(d) UNITED STATES MARSHALS.—Section 561(e)(1) of such title is amended to read as follows:

''(1) the marshal for the Southern District of New York may reside within 20 miles of the district; and''.

(e) CLERKS OF DISTRICT COURTS.—Section 751(c) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia and''.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply only to individuals appointed after the date of the retrocession under section 102.

SEC. 212. RENAMING OF FEDERAL COURTS.

(a) RENAMING.—

(1) CIRCUIT COURT.—Section 41 of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in the first column, by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Federal District''; and

(B) in the second column, by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Federal District''.

(2) DISTRICT COURT.—Section 88 of such title is amended—

(A) in the heading, by striking ''**District of Columbia**'' and inserting ''**Federal District**'';

(B) by amending the first paragraph to read as follows:

''The Federal District comprise one judicial district.''; and

(C) in the second paragraph, by striking ''Washington'' and inserting ''the Federal District''.

(3) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The item relating to section 88 in the table of sections for chapter 5 of such title is amended to read as follows:

''88. The Federal District.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO COURT OF APPEALS.—Title 28, United States Code, is amended as follows:

(1) APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES.—Section 44(a) of such title is amended in the first column by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Federal District''.

(2) TERMS OF COURT.—Section 48(a) of such title is amended—

(A) in the first column, by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Federal District'';

(B) in the second column, by striking ''Washington'' and inserting ''Federal District'' ; and

(C) in the second column, by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Federal District''.

(3) APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT COUNSELS BY CHIEF JUDGE OF CIRCUIT.—Section 49 of such title is amended by striking ''District of Columbia'' each place it appears and inserting ''Federal District''.

(4) CIRCUIT COURT JURISDICTION OVER CERTIFICATION OF DEATH PENALTY COUNSELS.—Section 2265(c)(2) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia Circuit'' and inserting ''the Federal District Circuit''.

(5) CIRCUIT COURT JURISDICTION OVER REVIEW OF FEDERAL AGENCY ORDERS.—Section 2343 of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia Circuit'' and inserting ''the Federal District Circuit''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO DISTRICT COURT.—Title 28, United States Code, is amended as follows:

(1) APPOINTMENT AND NUMBER OF DISTRICT COURT JUDGES.—Section 133(a) of such title is amended in the first column by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Federal District''.

(2) DISTRICT COURT JURISDICTION OF TAX CASES BROUGHT AGAINST UNITED STATES.—Section 1346(e) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Federal District''.

(3) DISTRICT COURT JURISDICTION OVER PROCEEDINGS FOR FORFEITURE OF FOREIGN PROPERTY.—Section 1355(b)(2) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Federal District''.

(4) DISTRICT COURT JURISDICTION OVER CIVIL ACTIONS BROUGHT AGAINST A FOREIGN STATE.—Section 1391(f)(4) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Federal District''.

(5) DISTRICT COURT JURISDICTION OVER ACTIONS BROUGHT BY CORPORATIONS AGAINST UNITED STATES.—Section 1402(a)(2) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Federal District''.

(6) VENUE IN DISTRICT COURT OF CERTAIN ACTIONS BROUGHT BY EMPLOYEES OF EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT.—Section 1413 of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Federal District''.

(7) VENUE IN DISTRICT COURT OF ACTION ENFORCING FOREIGN JUDGMENT.—Section 2467(c)(2)(B) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Federal District''.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO OTHER COURTS.—Title 28, United States Code, is amended as follows:

(1) APPOINTMENT OF BANKRUPTCY JUDGES.—Section 152(a)(2) of such title is amended in the first column by striking ''District of Columbia'' and inserting ''Federal District''.

(2) LOCATION OF COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS.—Section 173 of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Federal District''.

(3) DUTY STATION OF JUDGES OF COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS.—Section 175 of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' each place it appears and inserting ''the Federal District''.

(4) DUTY STATION OF JUDGES FOR PURPOSES OF TRAVELING EXPENSES.—Section 456(b) of such title is amended to read as follows:

''(b) The official duty station of the Chief Justice of the United States, the Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, and the judges of the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit shall be the Federal District.''.

(5) COURT ACCOMMODATIONS FOR FEDERAL CIRCUIT AND COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS.—Section 462(d) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Federal District''.

(6) PLACES OF HOLDING COURT OF COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS.—Section 798(a) of such title is amended—

(A) by striking ''Washington, District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Federal District''; and

(B) by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Federal District''.

(e) OTHER CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) SERVICE OF PROCESS ON FOREIGN PARTIES AT STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICE.—Section 1608(a)(4) of such title is amended by striking ''Washington, District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Federal District''.

(2) SERVICE OF PROCESS IN PROPERTY CASES AT ATTORNEY GENERAL OFFICE.—Section 2410(b) of such title is amended by striking ''Washington, District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Federal District''.

(f) DEFINITION.—Section 451 of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new undesignated paragraph:

''The term 'Federal District' means the area serving as the seat of the Government of the United States, as described in section 111 of the Compact Federal District Act.''.

(g) REFERENCES IN OTHER LAWS.—Any reference in any Federal law (other than a law amended by this section), rule, or regulation—

(1) to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia shall be deemed to refer to the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal District;

(2) to the District of Columbia Circuit shall be deemed to refer to the Federal District Circuit; and

(3) to the United States District Court for the District of Columbia shall be deemed to refer to the United States District Court for the Federal District.

(h) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section and the amendments made by this section shall take effect upon the retrocession under section 102.

SEC. 213. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

(a) APPOINTMENT OF UNITED STATES TRUSTEES.—Section 581(a)(4) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Federal District''.

(b) INDEPENDENT COUNSELS.—

(1) APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL.—Section 594(c) of such title is amended—

(A) by striking ''the District of Columbia'' the first place it appears and inserting ''the Federal District''; and

(B) by striking ''the District of Columbia'' the second place it appears and inserting ''the Federal District''.

(2) JUDICIAL REVIEW OF REMOVAL.—Section 596(a)(3) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Federal District''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect upon the retrocession under section 102.

Subtitle C—Federal Elections

SEC. 221. PERMITTING INDIVIDUALS RESIDING IN FEDERAL DISTRICT TO VOTE IN FEDERAL ELECTIONS IN STATE OF MOST RECENT DOMICILE.

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR STATES TO PERMIT INDIVIDUALS TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall—

(A) permit absent Federal District voters to use absentee registration procedures and to vote by absentee ballot in general, special, primary, and runoff elections for Federal office; and

(B) accept and process, with respect to any general, special, primary, or runoff election for Federal office, any otherwise valid voter registration application from an absent Federal District voter, if the application is received by the appropriate State election official not less than 30 days before the election.

(2) ABSENT FEDERAL DISTRICT VOTER DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''absent Federal district voter'' means, with respect to a State, a person who resides in the Federal District and is qualified to vote in the State (or who would be qualified to vote in the State but for residing in the Federal District), but only if the State is the last place in which the person was domiciled before residing in the Federal district.

(3) STATE DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''State'' means each of the several States.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect upon the date of the retrocession under section 102, and shall apply with respect to elections for Federal office taking place on or after such date.

SEC. 222. REPEAL OF OFFICE OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA DELEGATE.

(a) REPEAL OF OFFICE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Sections 202 and 204 of the District of Columbia Delegate Act (Public Law 91–405; sections 1–401 and 1–402, D.C. Official Code) are repealed, and the provisions of law amended or repealed by such sections are restored or revived as if such sections had not been enacted.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ELECTIONS CODE OF 1955.—The District of Columbia Elections Code of 1955 is amended—

(A) in section 1 (sec. 1–1001.01, D.C. Official Code), by striking ''the Delegate to the House of Representatives,'';

(B) in section 2 (sec. 1–1001.02, D.C. Official Code)—

(i) by striking paragraph (6),

(ii) in paragraph (12), by striking ''(except the Delegate to Congress for the District of Columbia)'', and

(iii) in paragraph (13), by striking ''the Delegate to Congress for the District of Columbia,'';

(C) in section 8 (sec. 1–1001.08, D.C. Official Code)—

(i) by striking ''Delegate,'' in the heading, and

(ii) by striking ''Delegate,'' each place it appears in subsections (d), (h)(1)(A), (h)(2), (i)(1), (j)(1), (j)(3), and (k)(3);

(D) in section 10 (sec. 1–1001.10, D.C. Official Code)—

(i) by striking subparagraph (A) of subsection (a)(3), and

(ii) in subsection (d)—

(I) by striking ''Delegate,'' each place it appears in paragraph (1), and

(II) by striking paragraph (2) and redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (2);

(E) in section 11(a)(2) (sec. 1–1001.11(a)(2), D.C. Official Code), by striking ''Delegate to the House of Representatives,'';

(F) in section 15(b) (sec. 1–1001.15(b), D.C. Official Code), by striking ''Delegate,''; and

(G) in section 17(a) (sec. 1–1001.17(a), D.C. Official Code), by striking ''except the Delegate to the Congress from the District of Columbia''.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall take effect on the date on which the individual serving as the Delegate to the House of Representatives from the District of Columbia first serves as a member of the House of Representatives from the State of Maryland.

(b) TEMPORARY INCREASE IN APPORTIONMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Until the taking effect of the first reapportionment occurring after the effective date of this Act—

(A) the individual serving as the Delegate to the House of Representatives from the District of Columbia shall serve as a member of the House of Representatives from the State of Maryland;

(B) the State of Maryland shall be entitled to 1 additional Representative until the taking effect of such reapportionment; and

(C) such Representative shall be in addition to the membership of the House of Representatives as now prescribed by law.

(2) INCREASE NOT COUNTED AGAINST TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBERS.—The temporary increase in the membership of the House of Representatives provided under paragraph (1) shall not operate to either increase or decrease the permanent membership of the House of Representatives as prescribed in the Act of August 8, 1911 (37 Stat. 13; 2 U.S.C. 2), nor shall such temporary increase affect the basis of reapportionment established by the Act of November 15, 1941 (55 Stat. 761; 2 U.S.C. 2a), for the 82nd Congress and each Congress thereafter.

SEC. 223. REPEAL OF LAW PROVIDING FOR PARTICIPATION OF SEAT OF GOVERNMENT IN ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of title 3, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking section 21; and

(2) in the table of sections, by striking the item relating to section 21.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect upon the date of the retrocession under section 102, and shall apply to any election of the President and Vice-President taking place on or after such date.

TITLE III—TEMPORARY CONTINUATION OF CERTAIN AUTHORITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Subtitle A—Continuation of Benefits for Certain Employees of District of Columbia

SEC. 301. FEDERAL BENEFIT PAYMENTS UNDER CERTAIN RETIREMENT PROGRAMS.

(a) CONTINUATION OF ENTITLEMENT TO PAYMENTS.—Any individual who, as of the day before the date of the retrocession under section 102, is entitled to a Federal benefit payment under the District of Columbia Retirement Protection Act of 1997 (subtitle A of title XI of the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997; sec. 1–801.01 et seq., D.C. Official Code) shall continue to be entitled to such a payment after such retrocession , in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same terms and conditions applicable under such Act.

(b) OBLIGATIONS OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Any obligation of the Federal Government under the District of Columbia Retirement Protection Act of 1997 which exists with respect to any individual or with respect to the District of Columbia as of the day before the date of the retrocession under section 102 shall remain in effect with respect to such an individual and with respect to the State of Maryland after such retrocession, in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same terms and conditions applicable under such Act.

(2) D.C. FEDERAL PENSION FUND.—Any obligation of the Federal Government under chapter 9 of the District of Columbia Retirement Protection Act of 1997 (sec. 1–817.01 et seq., D.C. Official Code) with respect to the D.C. Federal Pension Fund which exists as of the day before the date of the retrocession under section 102 shall remain in effect with respect to such Fund after such retrocession, in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same terms and conditions applicable under such chapter.

(c) OBLIGATIONS OF STATE.—Any obligation of the District of Columbia under the District of Columbia Retirement Protection Act of 1997 which exists with respect to any individual or with respect to the Federal Government as of the day before the date of the retrocession under section 102 shall become an obligation of the State of Maryland with respect to such an individual and with respect to the Federal Government after such retrocession, in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same terms and conditions applicable under such Act.

SEC. 302. CONTINUATION OF FEDERAL CIVIL SERVICE BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEES FIRST EMPLOYED PRIOR TO ESTABLISHMENT OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MERIT PERSONNEL SYSTEM.

(a) OBLIGATIONS OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.—Any obligation of the Federal Government under title 5, United States Code, which exists with respect to an individual described in subsection (c) or with respect to the District of Columbia as of the day before the date of the retrocession under section 102 shall remain in effect with respect to such individual and with respect to the State of Maryland after such retrocession, in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same terms and conditions applicable under such title.

(b) OBLIGATIONS OF STATE OF MARYLAND.—Any obligation of the District of Columbia under title 5, United States Code, which exists with respect to an individual described in subsection (c) or with respect to the Federal Government as of the day before the date of the retrocession under section 102 shall become an obligation of the State of Maryland with respect to such individual and with respect to the Federal Government after such retrocession, in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same terms and conditions applicable under such title.

(c) INDIVIDUALS DESCRIBED.—An individual described in this subsection is an individual who was first employed by the government of the District of Columbia before October 1, 1987.

SEC. 303. OBLIGATIONS OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT UNDER JUDGES' RETIREMENT PROGRAM.

Any obligation of the Federal Government under subchapter III of chapter 15 of title 11, District of Columbia Official Code—

(1) which exists with respect to any individual and the District of Columbia as the result of service accrued prior to the date of the retrocession under section 102 shall remain in effect with respect to such an individual and with respect to the State of Maryland after such retrocession, in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same terms and conditions applicable under such subchapter; and

(2) shall exist with respect to any individual and the State of Maryland as the result of service accrued after the date of such retrocession in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same terms and conditions applicable under such subchapter as such obligation existed with respect to individuals and the District of Columbia as of the date of such retrocession, but only in the case of an individual who serves as a judge in the State of Maryland on or after the date of such retrocession.

SEC. 304. EMPLOYEES OF PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE.

(a) CONTINUATION OF FEDERAL BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEES.—Any individual who, as of the day before the date of the retrocession under section 102, is an employee of the District of Columbia Public Defender Service and who, pursuant to section 305(c) of the District of Columbia Court Reform and Criminal Procedure Act of 1970 (sec. 2–1605(c), D.C. Official Code), is treated as an employee of the Federal Government for purposes of receiving benefits under any chapter of subpart G of part III of title 5, United States Code, shall continue to be treated as an employee of the Federal Government for such purposes, but only in the case of an individual who serves as an employee of the public defender service of the State of Maryland (or, if applicable, a jurisdiction of the State of Maryland which operates a public defender service in the territory ceded and relinquished to the State of Maryland pursuant to such retrocession) on or after the date of such retrocession.

(b) RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION.—The Federal Government shall be treated as the employing agency with respect to the benefits described in subsection (a) which are provided to an individual who, for purposes of receiving such benefits, is continued to be treated as an employee of the Federal Government under such paragraph.

SEC. 305. EMPLOYEES EXERCISING AUTHORITY OVER PAROLE AND SUPERVISION.

(a) UNITED STATES PAROLE COMMISSION.—

(1) CONTINUATION OF FEDERAL BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEES.—

(A) CONTINUATION.—Any individual who, as of the day before the date of the retrocession under section 102, is an employee of the United States Parole Commission and who, on or after such date, is an employee of the office of the State of Maryland which exercises the authority described in paragraph (2)

(or, if applicable, a jurisdiction of the State of Maryland which exercises the authority described in paragraph (2) in the territory ceded and relinquished to the State of Maryland pursuant to such retrocession) shall continue to be treated as an employee of the Federal Government for purposes of receiving benefits under any chapter of subpart G of part III of title 5, United States Code.

(B) RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION.—The Federal Government shall be treated as the employing agency with respect to the benefits described in subparagraph (A) which are provided to an individual who, for purposes of receiving such benefits, is continued to be treated as an employee of the Federal Government under such paragraph.

(2) AUTHORITIES DESCRIBED.—The authorities described in this paragraph are—

(A) the authority to grant, deny, and revoke parole, and to impose conditions upon an order of parole, in the case of any individual who is an imprisoned felon who is eligible for parole or reparole under the laws of the State of Maryland; and

(B) the authority to exercise authority over individuals who are released offenders of the State of Maryland.

(b) COURT SERVICES AND OFFENDER SUPERVISION AGENCY.—

(1) CONTINUATION OF FEDERAL BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEES.—

(A) CONTINUATION.—Any individual who, as of the day before the date of the retrocession under section 102, is an employee of the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia and who, on or after such date, is an employee of the office of the State of Maryland which provides the services described in paragraph (2) (or, if applicable, a jurisdiction of the State of Maryland which provides the services described in paragraph (2) in the territory ceded and relinquished to the State of Maryland pursuant to such retrocession) shall continue to be treated as an employee of the Federal Government for purposes of receiving benefits under any chapter of subpart G of part III of title 5, United States Code.

(B) RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION.—The Federal Government shall be treated as the employing agency with respect to the benefits described in subparagraph (A) which are provided to an individual who, for purposes of receiving such benefits, is continued to be treated as an employee of the Federal Government under such paragraph.

(2) SERVICES DESCRIBED.—The services described in this paragraph are as follows:

(A) Pretrial services with respect to individuals who are charged with an offense in the State of Maryland.

(B) Supervision for individuals who are offenders on probation, parole, and supervised release pursuant to the laws of the State of Maryland.

(C) Sex offender registration functions with respect to individuals who are sex offenders in the State of Maryland.

SEC. 306. EMPLOYEES OF COURTS AND COURT SYSTEM.

(a) CONTINUATION OF FEDERAL BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEES.—Any individual who is an employee of the courts or court system of the District of Columbia as of the day before the date of the retrocession under section 102 and who, pursuant to section 11–1726(b) or section 11–1726(c), District of Columbia Official Code, is treated as an employee of the Federal Government for purposes of receiving benefits under any chapter of subpart G of part III of title 5, United States Code, shall continue to be treated as an employee of the Federal Government for such purposes, but only in the case of an individual who serves as an employee of the courts or court system of the State of Maryland (or, if applicable, the courts or court system of the jurisdiction of the State of Maryland which operates the courts or court system in the territory ceded and relinquished to the State of Maryland pursuant to such retrocession) on or after the date of such retrocession.

(b) RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION.—The Federal Government shall be treated as the employing agency with respect to the benefits described in subsection (a) which are provided to an individual who, for purposes of receiving such benefits, is continued to be treated as an employee of the Federal Government under such paragraph.

Subtitle B—Other Programs and Authorities

SEC. 311. DESIGNATION OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FELONS TO FACILITIES OF BUREAU OF PRISONS.

(a) CONTINUATION FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.—Chapter 1 of subtitle C of title XI of the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997 (sec. 24–101 et seq., D.C. Official Code) and the amendments made by such chapter shall apply with respect to an individual described in subsection (b) after the date of the retrocession under section 102 in the same manner and to the same extent as such chapter and such amendments applied with respect to the individual as of the day before such date.

(b) INDIVIDUALS DESCRIBED.—An individual described in this subsection is an individual who, as of the date of the retrocession under section 102, is serving a sentence of incarceration pursuant to the District of Columbia Official Code at a penal or correctional facility operated or contracted for by the Bureau of Prisons.

SEC. 312. APPLICATION OF THE COLLEGE ACCESS ACT.

(a) CONTINUATION FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.—The District of Columbia College Access Act of 1999 (Public Law 106–98; sec. 38–2701 et seq., D.C. Official Code) shall apply with respect to an individual described in subsection (b) after the date of the retrocession under section 102 in the same manner and to the same extent as such Act applied with respect to the individual as of the day before such date.

(b) INDIVIDUALS DESCRIBED.—An individual described in this subsection is an individual with respect to whom the Mayor of the District of Columbia made a payment on the individual's behalf under the District of Columbia College Access Act of 1999 for the award year during which the date of the retrocession under section 102 occurs.

SEC. 313. APPLICATION OF THE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OPPORTUNITY AND RESULTS ACT.

(a) CONTINUATION FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.—The Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act (division C of Public Law 112–10; sec. 38–1853.01 et seq., D.C. Official Code) shall apply with respect to an individual described in subsection (b) after the date of the retrocession under section 102 in the same manner and to the same extent as such Act applied with respect to the individual as of the day before such date.

(b) INDIVIDUALS DESCRIBED.—An individual described in this subsection is an individual with respect to whom an eligible entity under the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act awarded an opportunity scholarship under such Act for the school year during which the date of the retrocession under section 102 occurs.

SEC. 314. FEDERAL PLANNING COMMISSIONS.

(a) NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION.—

(1) CONTINUING APPLICATION.—Subject to the amendments made by paragraphs (2) and (3), upon the retrocession under section 102, chapter 87 of title 40, United States Code, shall apply with respect to the Federal District in the same manner and to the same extent as such chapter applied with respect to the District of Columbia as of the day before the date of such retrocession.

(2) COMPOSITION OF NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION.—Section 8711(b) of title 40, United States Code, is amended—

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

''(B) four citizens with experience in city or regional planning, who shall be appointed by the President.''; and

(B) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

''(2) RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT.—Of the four citizen members, one shall be a resident of Virginia, one shall be a resident of Maryland, and one shall be a resident of the territory ceded and relinquished to the State of Maryland pursuant to the retrocession under section 102 of the Compact Federal District Act.''.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO DEFINITIONS OF TERMS.—

(A) ENVIRONS.—Paragraph (1) of section 8702 of such title is amended by striking ''the territory surrounding the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the territory surrounding the Federal District''.

(B) FEDERAL DISTRICT.—Paragraph (2) of section 8702 of such title is amended to read as follows:

''(2) FEDERAL DISTRICT.—The term 'Federal District' means the area serving as the seat of the Government of the United States, as described in section 111 of the Compact Federal District Act, and the territory the Federal Government owns in the environs.''.

(C) NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION.—Subparagraph (A) of paragraph (3) of section 8702 of such title is amended to read as follows:

''(A) the Federal District and the territory ceded and relinquished to the State of Maryland pursuant to the retrocession under section 102 of the Compact Federal District Act;''.

(b) COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS.—

(1) LIMITING APPLICATION TO FEDERAL DISTRICT.—Section 9102(a)(1) of title 40, United States Code, is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Federal District''.

(2) DEFINITION.—Section 9102 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(d) DEFINITION.—In this chapter, the term 'Federal District' means the area serving as the seat of the Government of the United States, as described in section 111 of the Compact Federal District Act.''.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 9101(d) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Capital''.

(c) COMMEMORATIVE WORKS ACT.—

(1) LIMITING APPLICATION TO FEDERAL DISTRICT.—Section 8902 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(c) LIMITING APPLICATION TO FEDERAL DISTRICT.—This chapter applies only with respect to commemorative works in the Federal District and its environs.''.

(2) DEFINITION.—Paragraph (2) of section 8902(a) of such title is amended to read as follows:

''(2) FEDERAL DISTRICT AND ITS ENVIRONS.—The term 'Capital and its environs' means—

''(A) the area serving as the seat of the Government of the United States, as described in section 111 of the Compact Federal District Act; and

''(B) those lands and properties administered by the National Park Service and the General Services Administration located in

the Reserve, Area I, and Area II as depicted on the map entitled 'Commemorative Areas Washington, DC and Environs', numbered 869/86501 B, and dated June 24, 2003, that are located outside of the territory ceded and relinquished to the State of Maryland pursuant to the retrocession under section 102 of the Compact Federal District Act.''.

(3) TEMPORARY SITE DESIGNATION.—Section 8907(a) of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the Federal District and its environs''.

(4) GENERAL CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Chapter 89 of such title is amended by striking ''the District of Columbia and its environs'' each place it appears in the following sections and inserting ''the Federal District and its environs'':

(A) Section 8901(2) and 8901(4).

(B) Section 8902(a)(4).

(C) Section 8903(d).

(D) Section 8904(c).

(E) Section 8905(a).

(F) Section 8906(a).

(G) Section 8909(a) and 8909(b).

(5) ADDITIONAL CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 8901(2) of such title is amended by striking ''the urban fabric of the District of Columbia'' and inserting ''the urban fabric of the area serving as the seat of the Government of the United States, as described in section 112 of the Compact Federal District Act''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section and the amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the retrocession under section 102.

SEC. 315. ROLE OF ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS IN SUPPLYING WATER.

(a) CONTINUATION OF ROLE.—Chapter 95 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''§ 9508. Applicability to Federal District and certain portion of State of Maryland

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Effective upon the retrocession under section 102 of the Compact Federal District Act, any reference in this chapter to the District of Columbia shall be deemed to refer to the Federal District or the territory ceded and relinquished to the State of Maryland pursuant to the retrocession under section 102 of such Act, as the case may be.

''(b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term 'Federal District' means the area serving as the seat of the Government of the United States, as described in section 111 of the Compact Federal District Act.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections of chapter 95 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following:

''9508. Applicability to Federal District and certain portion of State of Maryland.''.

SEC. 316. REQUIREMENTS TO BE LOCATED IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The location of any person in the Federal District or the territory ceded and relinquished to the State of Maryland pursuant to the retrocession under section 102 on the day after the date of such retrocession shall be deemed to satisfy any requirement under any law in effect as of the day before such date that the person be located in the District of Columbia, including the requirements of section 72 of title 4, United States Code (relating to offices of the seat of the Government of the United States), and title 36, United States Code (relating to patriotic and national organizations).

TITLE IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 401. DEFINITION.

In this Act, the term ''Federal District'' means the area serving as the seat of the Government of the United States, as described in section 111.

SEC. 402. EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS.

No law or regulation which is in force on the effective date of this Act shall be deemed amended or repealed by this Act except to the extent specifically provided in this Act, or to the extent that such law or regulation is inconsistent with this Act.

SEC. 403. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The provisions of this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall take effect on the date the President issues a proclamation under section 102(b).

Amend the title so as to read: ''A bill to provide for the retrocession of the District of Columbia to Maryland, and for other purposes.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XIX, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

The question is on the motion to recommit.

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

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

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 205, nays 215, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 131]

YEAS—205

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

NAYS—215

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

NOT VOTING—9

Cleaver
Clyde
Gibbs
LaMalfa
Meuser
Murphy (FL)
Smith (NE)
Stefanik
Vargas

□ 1124

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York,

Messrs. DeFAZIO, CORREA, and COURTNEY changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Mr. ALLEN changed his vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 131.

Stated against:

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 131.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 131.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)
Barragán (Beyer)
Cárdenas (Gallego)
Costa (Correa)
Crenshaw (Fallon)
Donalds (Cammack)
Doyle, Michael F. (Cartwright)
Gonzalez (OH) (Timmons)
Gosar (Greene (GA))
Grijalva (García (IL))
Khanna (Gomez)
Kirkpatrick (Stanton)
Langevin (Lynch)
Lawson (FL) (Evans)
Leger Fernandez (Jacobs (CA))
Lieu (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
McHenry (Cammack)
Meng (Clark (MA))
Mfume (Connolly)
Moulton (Perlmutter)
Napolitano (Correa)
Nunes (Calvert)
Omar (Bush)
Payne (Pallone)
Porter (Wexton)
Ruppersberger (Raskin)
Rush (Underwood)
Sewell (DelBene)
Sires (Pallone)
Speier (Scanlon)
Trahan (Lynch)
Walorski (Wagner)
Watson Coleman (Pallone)
Welch (McGovern)
Wilson (FL) (Hayes)
Wilson (SC) (Timmons)

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

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

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

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 216, nays 208, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 132]

YEAS—216

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

NAYS—208

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

NOT VOTING—6

Babin
Clyde
Ocasio-Cortez
Smith (NE)
Stivers
Tlaib

□ 1156

Mrs. KIM of California changed her vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 132.

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Mr. Speaker, while at a hearing with the Committee on Oversight and Reform, Subcommittee on Environment, I missed the Roll Call No. 132 vote. Had I been present, I would have voted: "yea" on rollcall No. 132.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)
Barragán (Beyer)
Cárdenas (Gallego)
Costa (Correa)
Crenshaw (Fallon)
Donalds (Cammack)
Doyle, Michael F. (Cartwright)
Gibbs (Balderson)
Gonzalez (OH) (Timmons)
Gosar (Greene (GA))
Grijalva (García (IL))
Khanna (Gomez)
Kirkpatrick (Stanton)
Langevin (Lynch)
Lawson (FL) (Evans)
Leger Fernandez (Jacobs (CA))
Lieu (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
McHenry (Cammack)
Meng (Clark (MA))
Mfume (Connolly)
Moulton (Perlmutter)
Napolitano (Correa)
Nunes (Calvert)
Omar (Bush)
Payne (Pallone)
Porter (Wexton)
Ruppersberger (Raskin)
Rush (Underwood)
Sewell (DelBene)
Sires (Pallone)
Speier (Scanlon)
Stefanik (Katko)
Trahan (Lynch)
Walorski (Wagner)
Watson Coleman (Pallone)
Welch (McGovern)
Wilson (FL) (Hayes)
Wilson (SC) (Timmons)

MOTION TO TABLE MOTION TO RECONSIDER ON ADOPTION OF THE MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to table the motion to reconsider the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bills (H.R. 367) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish an acquisition professional career program, and for other purposes; (H.R. 370) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make technical corrections to the requirement that the Secretary of Homeland Security submit quadrennial homeland security reviews, and for other purposes; (H.R. 396) to amend the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11

Commission Act of 2007 to clarify certain allowable uses of funds for public transportation security assistance grants and establish periods of performance for such grants, and for other purposes; (H.R. 397) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear intelligence and information sharing functions of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security and to require dissemination of information analyzed by the Department to entities with responsibilities relating to homeland security, and for other purposes; (H.R. 408) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a mentor-protege program, and for other purposes; (H.R. 490) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to improve morale within the Department of Homeland Security workforce by conferring new responsibilities to the Chief Human Capital Officer, establishing an employee engagement steering committee, requiring action plans, and authorizing an annual employee award program, and for other purposes; (H.R. 965) to establish a comprehensive United States Government initiative to build the capacity of young leaders and entrepreneurs in Africa, and for other purposes; (H.R. 1251) to support United States international cyber diplomacy, and for other purposes; (H.R. 1395) to require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to discount FHA single-family mortgage insurance premium payments for first-time homebuyers who complete a financial literacy housing counseling program; (H.R. 1491) to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to provide enhanced protection against debt collector harassment of members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; (H.R. 1528) to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to carry out a study of Rule 10b5–1 trading plans, and for other purposes; (H.R. 1532) to require a review of the effects of FHA mortgage insurance policies, practices, and products on small-dollar mortgage lending, and for other purposes; (H.R. 1565) to create an interdivisional taskforce at the Securities and Exchange Commission for senior investors; (H.R. 1602) to direct the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission to jointly establish a digital asset working group, and for other purposes; (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. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020, and for other purposes; and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 124) supporting the people of Belarus and their democratic aspirations and condemning the election rigging and subsequent violent crackdowns on peaceful protesters by the illegitimate Lukashenka regime, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to table offered by the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM).

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 292, nays 123, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 133]

YEAS—292

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Amodei
Auchincloss
Axne
Balderson
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Bucshon
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carl
Carson
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cheney
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davis, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Dunn
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Foster
Frankel, Lois
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gimenez
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gottheimer
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Joyce (OH)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Letlow
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Long
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Mfume
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newman
Norcross
Nunes
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Perlmutter
Peters
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Rice (NY)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Ross
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Soto
Spanberger
Speier
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stevens
Stewart
Stivers
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Womack
Yarmuth
Young

NAYS—123

Aderholt
Allen
Armstrong
Arrington
Bacon
Baird
Banks
Barr
Bergman
Biggs
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Brooks
Buck
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Cammack
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cline
Cloud
Comer
Crawford
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
DesJarlais
Donalds
Duncan
Estes
Fallon
Feenstra
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Foxx
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gohmert
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Granger
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Hagedorn
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Issa
Jackson
Johnson (OH)
Jordan
Joyce (PA)
Kelly (MS)
Kim (CA)
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
LaTurner
Lesko
Mace
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Scalise
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Smith (MO)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Tiffany
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (TX)
Wittman
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—14

Babin
Clyde
Crenshaw
Ferguson
Fortenberry
Gibbs
Gonzalez, Vicente
Green (TN)
Higgins (LA)
Huizenga
Johnson (LA)
Loudermilk
Simpson
Smith (NE)

□ 1234

Ms. STEFANIK and Mr. BERGMAN changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Messrs. BENTZ and SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the motion to table was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 120, "yea" on rollcall No. 121, "nay" on rollcall No. 122, "nay" on rollcall No. 123, "nay" on rollcall No. 124, "yea" on rollcall No. 125, "yea" on rollcall No. 126, "nay" on rollcall No. 127, "yea" on rollcall No. 128, "nay" on rollcall No. 129, "nay" on rollcall No. 130, "yea" on rollcall No. 131, "nay" on rollcall No. 132, and "yea" on rollcall No. 133.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)
Barragán (Beyer)
Cárdenas (Gallego)
Costa (Correa)
Crenshaw (Fallon)
Donalds (Cammack)
Doyle, Michael F. (Cartwright)
Gonzalez (OH) (Timmons)
Gosar (Greene (GA))
Grijalva (García (IL))
Khanna (Gomez)
Kirkpatrick (Stanton)
Langevin (Lynch)
Lawson (FL) (Evans)
Leger Fernandez (Jacobs (CA))
Lieu (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
McHenry (Cammack)
Meng (Clark (MA))
Mfume (Connolly)
Moulton (Perlmutter)
Napolitano (Correa)
Nunes (Calvert)
Omar (Bush)
Payne (Pallone)
Porter (Wexton)
Ruppersberger (Raskin)
Rush (Underwood)
Sewell (DelBene)
Sires (Pallone)
Speier (Scanlon)
Stefanik (Katko)
Trahan (Lynch)
Walorski (Wagner)
Watson Coleman (Pallone)
Welch (McGovern)
Wilson (FL) (Hayes)
Wilson (SC) (Timmons)

MOMENT OF SILENCE RECOGNIZING THE PASSING OF THE HONORABLE ELIZABETH FURSE

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

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, I rise today, joined by my colleagues from the Oregon congressional delegation and others, to announce the passing of our esteemed former colleague, Congresswoman Elizabeth Furse, who represented the First District of Oregon—the district I am honored to represent—from 1993 to 1999.

Congresswoman Furse was not only a friend, but a mentor. My first experience volunteering for a political campaign was during her reelection in 1994. She inspired dedication to worthy causes, including cofounding the Oregon Peace Institute. She embodied the traits public servants should strive to uphold, to meet the needs of their community and drive meaningful change.

Our world, especially northwest Oregon, is a better place because of Elizabeth's tireless devotion to improving the lives of those around her.

On behalf of the Oregon delegation and all who served with Elizabeth and all who are present, I express our sincere condolences to her family and friends. I ask that the House observe a moment of silence in her memory.

MAKING AMERICAN LIVES BETTER

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

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Madam Speaker, it is good to be able to stand on the House floor and speak, not about the crisis of the day or even my hopes for tomorrow, but about something this Congress has delivered to make people's lives better.

When I first ran for this job, the number one demand I heard from voters was to make healthcare more accessible and the Affordable Care Act more affordable. With the American Rescue Plan, that is what we have done in a major way.

By increasing ACA subsidies and capping premiums, we are enabling the typical middle-class family with marketplace coverage to save hundreds of dollars a month. A 60-year-old couple making $75,000 a year will save almost $1,400 a month. That is life-changing.

Now we just have to make this permanent; to keep the promise that no American should be crushed by the cost of their healthcare; and to give people hope that, if they continue to vote for better government, they will continue to get it.

HONORING LUIS PALAU

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

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Luis Palau, a minister and evangelist from Argentina, who eventually called the United States home.

Luis Palau passed away on March 11, 2021, leaving behind a legacy of faith, hope, and love.

His work as a passionate representative for Christ, and one of the most influential international evangelists in history, earned him the nickname of the ''Billy Graham of Latin America.'' He shared with Graham the conviction to make disciples of all nations, as Scripture commands.

His home country of Argentina, much of the Spanish-speaking world, and the United States came to know and respect him because of his faithful preaching, evangelism, and work to unite Christians and reach all peoples of all backgrounds.

With a career that spanned over a half a century, he shared the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ with millions of people throughout television, radio, print, and live events. His platform enabled him to speak with and influence many political and military leaders.

In spite of all that, he once said: ''I've never thought of myself as someone special. I'm just a kid from a cow town in Argentina. Yet God grabbed my heart at a young age and chose to use me to share His good news.''

One of his favorite Scriptures, which also begins the movie about his life, is James 4:10, which says: ''Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up.''

It is a good reminder for all of us.

May his family be comforted during this time.

ACHIEVING THE GOAL OF A CLEAN AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

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

Mr. CASTEN. Madam Speaker, the time for action is now. No longer can we substitute slogans for solutions. The protection of the environment offers America its best hope. Achieving the goal of a clean and healthy environment must be done by every American. We can reach this goal in this decade. And in reaching it, we can trigger a chain reaction of confidence and hope.

Those are the words of Bill Ruckelshaus on this day 50 years ago; a Republican; the first Administrator of the EPA under Richard Nixon, and then again under Ronald Reagan; the man who implemented the Clean Air Act amendments of 1990.

His successor under George H.W. Bush was Bill Reilly, who implemented the Acid Rain Program and the Montreal Protocol, a global, market-based cap and trade program. These men knew that science and our obligations to future generations are not negotiable. They tolerated no conflict between conservatism and conservation.

Sixty percent of all the greenhouse gas emissions we have ever emitted as a species have been released since that speech Bill Ruckelshaus gave 50 years ago today.

Madam Speaker, the time for action is now.

□ 1245

PARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE

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

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to what has become the new normal here in Washington, D.C.

Despite talks of bipartisanship and unity, Democrats have turned to a partisan, top-down, rampant spending style of governing with President Biden's infrastructure vision as the latest example.

The fact is that the President's $2.3 trillion infrastructure vision really isn't about infrastructure at all. Only 5 percent is proposed for roads and bridges, and only 2 percent for airways, waterways, and ports. Instead, Democrats have proposed spending over half a trillion dollars on Green New Deal-style programs to fulfill a far left wish list.

What is their solution for paying for all of this?

Increasing your taxes.

The tax hikes to fund this spending spree will only hurt workers and result in lower wages and suppressed economic growth.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my friends on the other side of the aisle to stop posturing and work with us on this side of the aisle. Madam Speaker, we are ready to work with you across the aisle on a package that will truly make a difference to my constituents in Arkansas and people across our great Nation.

EARTH DAY

(Ms. BROWNLEY asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BROWNLEY. Madam Speaker, on this Earth Day, I rise to recognize the crucial significance of President Biden's international climate summit.

After 4 years of neglecting our responsibilities to the planet and to future generations, the U.S. is back on the world stage and ready to take the bold and urgent action that the climate crisis demands.

There is no ''go it alone'' approach when it comes to climate change. To mitigate the impacts of the climate crisis, the entire world must come together with a common goal of stopping pollution, protecting public health, and building a clean and just economy.

The consequences of neglecting our duty to protect the planet have never been more clear.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to advance the ambitious climate plans of the summit and come together to create a cleaner and better tomorrow.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE REMEMBRANCE DAY

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

Mrs. STEEL. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 106th anniversary of the Armenian genocide.

Saturday, April 24, is Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day. On the anniversary of the Armenian genocide, we mourn the innocent lives lost and renew our call to recognize these events for what they were: a genocide.

The Armenian people were removed from their homes and fell victim to a mass murder campaign between 1915 and 1916. It is estimated that over 1 million Armenians were killed in this tragedy.

So many years later, people still do not call these events a genocide. If we do not teach an accurate history, then we are doomed to repeat it. It is our responsibility to recognize these tragedies and to mourn them.

ADAM TOLEDO

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

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, the killing of Adam Toledo shook the Nation.

The video released a week ago shows a 13-year-old boy being chased by an officer, complying with instructions to drop it, and it show his hands up. Still the officer shot Adam in the chest. He complied and still died.

It is hard to watch the video and not imagine a son or a nephew in his place. It brought about very powerful, personal emotions for people. I know it did for me.

I was around the same age as Adam when I moved to the neighborhood of Little Village. I have known countless youth who have died on our streets, whether it was gun violence from gangs, or in this case, the police.

We must pass the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act and end qualified immunity.

But in Black and Latino communities, we know the police play by a different set of rules too often. Change requires more accountability. We must invest in families and youth rather than violent policing.

(English translation of the statement made in Spanish is as follows:)

''To rest in peace, Adam Toledo, our families and our community need justice and hope that this doesn't happen again.''

Para descansar en paz, Adam Toledo, nuestras familias y comunidad necesitan justicia y esperanza de que esto no se repetira.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. STRICKLAND). The gentleman will provide a translation of his remarks to the Clerk.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DAVE RAAK

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

Mr. FEENSTRA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dave Raak from Hospers, Iowa.

Dave recently passed away from a long and courageous battle with a rare organ condition.

Dave dedicated his life to serving his community. His great-grandfather started Hospers Telephone Company in the early 1900s. Dave eventually took over the company from his dad and worked tirelessly to ensure that rural communities served by HTC Communications had quality telecommunication services.

Dave was instrumental in building a fiber network in the 1990s across Iowa which now serves as the backbone of our economy by connecting rural Iowa to the world.

Dave also leaves behind his wife of 54 years, Arlene; and their children; Ruth, Rachel, and Paul; along with their many grandchildren.

Dave was truly a family man.

Please join me in praying for his loved ones as they say goodbye.

BLACK APRIL

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

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, April 30 we will commemorate the 46th anniversary of Black April and the Fall of Saigon. On this day we are reminded of the pain of losing your homeland and the sacrifices made in the search for freedom from tyranny.

When Saigon fell in 1975, thousands of families were forced to flee their home or be brutalized in reeducation camps. Today, the refugees of Vietnam are proud Americans who are a very important part of our community and our country.

The United States must always be a beacon of hope to those without hope. We must continue to stand up for human rights and religious freedom around the world.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CONGRESSMAN ALCEE HASTINGS

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

Mrs. MURPHY of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to say my final goodbye to Alcee Hastings, the dean of Florida's congressional delegation, who recently passed away.

Someone will be elected to fill his seat, but Alcee is irreplaceable. His life was full, complex, and extraordinary.

Born in 1936, Alcee spent his formative years in my district. He lived in Altamonte Springs and attended the all-Black Crooms Academy in Sanford.

This was the segregated South where the opportunities available to African Americans were few and the obstacles to success were many. But Alcee was a force of nature. He rose to become an attorney, then a State judge, and then a Federal judge.

Judge Hastings suffered a setback, but he rose again becoming a Member of Congress admired by his colleagues and beloved by his constituents.

As Congressman HAKEEM JEFFRIES put it, he loved the people he served, and he always fought for the least, the lost, and the left behind.

The book of Alcee's life contained challenging chapters, but ultimately it is a story of redemption and achievement in the face of adversity, written by a warrior for justice and equality who left the world far better than he found it.

Rest in peace, Congressman. You have earned it.

PAY PARITY FOR WOMEN

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

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, as a proud father of two daughters, Genevieve and Scarlett, I was honored to join my colleagues last week in voting to support the passage of H.R. 7, the Paycheck Fairness Act. It is deeply regrettable that despite the enactment of the Equal Pay Act in 1963, there remains serious wage gaps based on gender.

According to the American Association of University Women, in the First District of Indiana, a woman earns just 63 cents for every dollar that a man earns for performing the same job.

There must be equal pay for equal work, and I am pleased that the House has taken action to right this wrong.

I encourage our Senate colleagues to move forward with addressing this

wage gap so that every individual, regardless of gender, can receive a fair wage for work they do.

REPARATION

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, we have had a tumultuous, but yet invigorating 2 weeks. Just a week ago, we were able, in the Judiciary Committee, to pass H.R. 40, the Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals.

Those who voted for it came from all parts of the country and represented all racial groups. It was a wonderful experience of understanding the cruciality and recognizing the slave history of African Americans and further developing proposals to deal with the dastardly impacts on African Americans.

We are delighted to have the support of Japanese Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Pacific Americans, and, of course, White Americans because they understand the healing power of H.R. 40.

Then we just recently had a judgment—as I have said on this floor, I know the Floyd family. They are America's family.

We had a judgment on Tuesday that showed the strength of America and her justice system and the recognition that we are all created equal and each one has to be held accountable for his actions.

So this has been a good week. America needs to know that. We look forward to passing H.R. 40 on this floor in celebration of the commemoration of Juneteenth when slaves were finally freed and passing the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act.

ISSUES OF THE DAY

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

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to yield to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CAMMACK).

FARMERS TO FAMILIES FOOD BOX PROGRAM

Mrs. CAMMACK. Madam Speaker, last week the press—not the Department of Agriculture—reported that the Trump administration's Farmers to Families Food Box Program would come to an end.

In subsequent reporting and an unapologetic email from the USDA, it was made clear that the only reason for its termination was because of the man who created it.

The Farmers to Families Food Box Program had open eligibility, making certain anyone and everyone in need, regardless of status, income, or household size, had supplementary access to fresh meats, dairy, and produce. Since May 2020, this program has provided more than 156 million boxes to households across the United States.

Farmers to Families provided an alternative market for food intended for restaurants and food service, creating outlets for supply chains. Due to COVID this food could not easily be realigned to retail markets quickly enough to prevent spoilage. Even today, Farmers to Families provides fresh products in greater quantities than traditional emergency feeding programs—items such as dairy, meat, and fresh produce, which have always presented unique logistical challenges for distribution.

The program reemployed workers in the commercial food distribution sector whose work was halted by the closure of restaurants, hotels, and other food service industries during COVID.

□ 1300

In my own district, L&M Farms, a participant in the program, managed to supply more than 600,000 boxes of fresh produce to those in need.

Regardless of the various hiccups heard during USDA's listening sessions in previous hearings and from Members of this very House, the program worked exactly as intended, as a lifeline for consumers and producers alike during a challenging time.

Nine hours after the press broke the story, USDA relayed, via email, that commodity purchases will ''continue to occur and be directed to existing, reliable channels of distribution.''

This leads me to believe that locally focused producers and distributors who benefited greatly from Farmers to Families are being traded in for billion-dollar organizations that have already received billions in government aid to perpetuate dependence instead of eradicating it.

Madam Speaker, I hope this body comes together to voice their strong opposition to the termination of this small piece of salvation that had a positive impact on all of our local communities, particularly those in rural areas.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Florida, who truly is my friend, for her comments.

At this time, it is my privilege to yield to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BAIRD), my friend, a Baird man.

PLIGHT OF LAKES SHAFER AND FREEMAN

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, I appreciate my good friend from Texas allowing me to share with this body the program that I have for today.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the overwhelming challenges plaguing a community in my district. It is located in White and Carroll Counties of west central Indiana. The communities surrounding Lakes Shafer and Freeman are a recreation destination for Hoosiers from all across the State and from Americans across the country.

The Twin Lakes, as they are known, straddle the small community of Monticello. In the nearly 100 years since the two reservoirs were created by damming up the Tippecanoe River, their far-reaching attraction has created a flourishing local economy built on tourism, replete with the trappings of a family vacation, including its own amusement park, cruise boat, resort, marina, and much more.

Despite all the buildup of amenities of this Hoosier destination, the lakes remained the focal point of the community and the driving force of the regional economy. Unfortunately, lake conditions can also have a negative impact on the local area.

At the hands of Mother Nature and outside forces, these crown jewels of the region have been tarnished. On multiple occasions, Lake Freeman, because of drought conditions, has been drained to the riverbed that flows at the bottom.

Unfortunately, these episodes of diminishing lake levels have come at an increasingly frequent rate in recent years and in times of even moderate drought conditions. These droughts caused the lake to become almost completely drained and resulted in devastation to the natural ecology and the local economy.

Businesses, homes, property—both real and personal—tax revenue, and the loss of family time are all impacted. The past 7 months have been one of those times as drought conditions last summer once again caused Lake Freeman's water level to plummet by more than 13 feet, completely draining the vast majority of this 1500-acre reservoir.

One victim of this devastation is the disruption of local ecological balance. During the worst parts of the episode, area residents walked the lake bed only to find dead turtles, fish, mussels, and more that had succumbed to the lack of water.

Safety also became a tremendous challenge for locals and boaters as water levels sank, exposing stumps, sharp objects, and other items usually covered by the water.

These impacts on the lake quality are especially disappointing to a community that has prided itself in its conservation stewardship of the lake. Members of the community have banded together to form Shafer & Freeman Lakes Environmental Conservation Corporation, also known as SFLECC.

This volunteer group raises thousands of dollars every year to fund the Summer Lakes Clean Up project. Over the years, this group has volunteered over 17,000 hours in helping preserve the beauty and natural environment of the lakes.

Residents are facing tremendous economic costs as well. Property values have plunged; local drinking water and drinking wells have dried up; retaining walls have buckled, threatening to collapse; and boats are stranded and unable to be winterized.

The financial costs to solve these issues are too high for many residents.

Even if they wanted to move, the values of their homes have dropped considerably. One resident who moved to Lake Freeman after she retired said: ''We built a retirement home 10 years ago. It is probably not worth half of what we have in it. It is very depressing.''

Another resident told our office about the difficulties they have faced after their water well dried up. In order to use any water, they have to drive miles away to purchase their water from a grocery store.

Small businesses are facing the same tough financial decisions. The Madam Carroll, a cruise boat and entertainment venue, struggled significantly to keep their business above water, literally. Because of the dried-up lake, the owners of the vessel had to dock their boat that usually sails year-round. ''It is almost as bad as it can get,'' Chris Peters, co-owner of the Madam Carroll, told me.

Tall Timbers, a marina that helps prepare and store boats for the winter, saw a dramatic drop in their business. In an average year, they process and winterize around 500 boats but were only able to house around 200 boats this year due to them being unable to access the customers' boats.

Susan Wagner, who owns the convenience store and gas station on the shores of the lake, described the situation as bleak. She had to let her employees go earlier than usual because of the lack of business.

I am proud of the resiliency that the Hoosiers of this magnificent community have shown. They have exhausted many options to find a solution to this constant problem.

While I am disappointed and saddened for these Hoosiers because of the difficulty that these conditions have created, I am happy to report that conditions have finally been restored to normal just recently because of the rains after more than 7 long months of this kind of condition.

I want the Hoosiers in my district and all those impacted by Lake Freeman's challenges to know that I hear their concerns, that I am here on their behalf, and that I will do everything I can to remedy this problem.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments. It is obviously an important issue. We have been taking up such issues, but it is not necessarily the best way to proceed.

For one thing, the bill that was passed today to make the District of Columbia a State flies in the face of the brilliance of the Founders when it came to setting up our Federal Government.

Before we had the Constitution ratified in 1789, our first President was sworn in under the new Constitution in 1789, George Washington, and the first Vice President, John Adams. They were all sworn in in Federal Hall there in New York City, so that was technically the first Capital under the new Constitution. Before that, under the Articles of Confederation, they used Philadelphia and, obviously, New York.

But in the Constitution itself, there was a provision for a Federal district 10 miles by 10 miles square. It included land that was ceded from Maryland that was on the east side of the Potomac River, as well as a little bit less land from the west side of the Potomac from Virginia.

The reason the Founders felt it was so important to have a separate Federal entity that was not wholly contained within a State, not contained within a city, but a Federal enclave as the Capital, was so that—the big reason—no State, no city government could try to extort or hold the Capital hostage.

For example, if the Capital got its water from or through a State or city, then they would be subject to having their water turned off. Of course, that was a rather big issue back in the day.

We know that New York City had a problem with disease and lack of water to put out fires. A guy named Aaron Burr, who ended up being Vice President and hoped to be President, he and some partners made a proposal for legislation that would create the Manhattan Water Company that would provide all the water that was needed, and it would be clean. That would help stop the disease.

They would provide water free to put out fires, and so that seemed very attractive. The thing is, though, they said they needed a monopoly so that they could afford to pay for all they were going to do.

They had Alexander Hamilton review it. They got him to sign on that it was a worthy, honorable project. Somewhere after Alexander Hamilton reviewed the language for that, other words were inserted not only to provide for the Manhattan Water Company, or water business, but also such other economic practices or businesses they felt appropriate.

Well, that was the scheme the whole time, to create a bank that was not created under other Federal law. So, the Manhattan Bank was created. Aaron Burr and his partners let Manhattan suffer without the water. So, even back then, in the late 1700s, early 1800s, water was a big deal.

Electricity was, obviously, not a big deal yet, but the same thing. If you have to get things you need to subsist through another State or city, then there is always a possibility that you could be extorted.

We saw the brilliance of the Founders back last summer when we had a Democrat Mayor that did not like the President of the United States. Some of us were wondering whether she was going to authorize Washington, D.C., police to protect the White House itself.

Obviously, she didn't provide much help to stop fires from being lit at the historic church right there, catty-corner to the White House. But some of us observed what was going on and a Mayor who didn't seem to care too much about the President.

Wow, what if you saw that play out? It is exactly what the Founders wanted to avoid, the U.S. Capital, the U.S. Government, being held hostage. You could see how it could very easily have played into that situation.

So, it was brilliant. The Federal enclave, the Federal district that was provided for in our Constitution, would not be part of any State, would not be part of a city. It would be the District of Columbia. It was brilliant.

Now, as the majority leader pointed out, purely for politics—this was all about politics. The majority decided they wanted to make the District of Columbia a State unto itself. If that were to become a part of our system here, then this government would be totally subject to the whims of the State of Columbia.

□ 1315

We could be prevented from going into session. We could be prevented from leaving. It creates a situation down the road for when things could truly get out of hand.

And even though the mainstream media and our friends across the aisle referred to the at least $2 billion of damage, the deaths, shooting, looting, government buildings being burned as peaceful demonstrations, they certainly weren't in the areas where things were being burned, stores were being looted, and destruction was the lot.

That could come back again, and you could have people who would be that active. It certainly appears that BLM is more concerned about making this a socialist country, an Orwellian, a totalitarian country than they are about any race. Antifa is just all about creating chaos, because they figure, out of chaos, will come a totalitarian, Orwellian government.

So this time we are going through right now will be looked at historically in other countries and whatever this country becomes, and this will be pointed to as a very, very important time.

Now, we were accused of playing politics with this issue on the Republican side. I can't speak for everyone, but I can speak for all the Republicans I have talked to. This is still an important concept that we not have a Capital subject to being held hostage. And if D.C. becomes a State, that scenario is then set up, and it is not good for the country.

In wrestling with these issues after I got here—you know, I saw the license plate, and I mentioned this before in years past—that, at first, when I saw ''taxation without representation,'' you know, I didn't get it. It didn't seem appropriate. But then you find out that actually every territory that does not have a full voting Member of the House of Representatives that is a territory of the U.S.—whether it is Puerto Rico,

Guam, Samoa, U.S. Virgin Islands, a number of places—if they don't elect a full voting representative, they do not pay Federal income tax.

And in going back to the Revolution—and I put this in what is H.R. 1295, in this Congress, but I filed it back several Congresses ago, and I filed it, I think, in most every Congress since because I believe it is the right thing to do. To me, it is not a matter of politics; it is a matter of being consistent with an ideal.

As Ben Franklin said, if we don't elect one Member of the British Parliament, they have no right to tax us.

That was a righteous concept, and it still is. As a matter of principle, I have to agree with that. The people of D.C. are right, they shouldn't have to pay a Federal income tax.

But as I put in my bill and have in all these different Congress sessions we have been through, as I filed it each time, the phrase ''no taxation without representation'' was a rallying cry of many American colonists during the period of British rule in the 1760s and early 1770s. The slogan gained widespread notoriety after the passage of the Sugar Act on April 5, 1764. American colonists increasingly resented having taxes levied upon them without having any legislators they elected who were voting in Parliament in London.

The idea that there should be no taxation without representation dated back even further. This issue became even more defined in 1765, with the passage of the Stamp Act, which was the first true attempt to levy a direct tax on the American colonies. Ultimately, that tax was repealed, but the idea of no taxation without representation persisted.

Article I, Section 2, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution says: ''The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States.''

That is why, unless someone was from a State, then under the Constitution, they didn't get a full voting Member of the House.

By the same token, if we are going to be consistent with the founding principles, the residents of the District of Columbia should not be paying Federal income tax, just as those in Puerto Rico and other territories don't pay Federal income tax.

So the bill goes on, and it points out that Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, all of these, don't pay Federal income tax.

So the rest of this bill, H.R. 1295, in this Congress, just has, in effect, the residents of D.C. shouldn't have to and don't pay Federal income tax.

Now, since I have been here, this issue has been coming up, just as it has over the centuries, about the District of Columbia representation. It came up back in 1847. The Federal Government was not really utilizing the land west of the Potomac, and the people there were saying, Look, we want to elect two Senators, Representatives as our population allows; and you are not using our land; let us go back to being part of Virginia.

So, in 1847, Congress, the House and Senate, signed by the President, ceded land back to Virginia, the State from which it came, because to do otherwise would have been to cheat Virginia, because Virginia gave that land for the purpose of being used as part of the Federal enclave, the Federal Capital.

So if the U.S. Government had done anything besides use it as a Federal enclave for part of the U.S. Capital, without Virginia's permission, that basically the Federal Government would have stolen that from Virginia. The right thing, the proper, honorable thing to do, if it wasn't going to use the land, was to give it back to Virginia.

Now, some of us can see why it might have been nice if they had said, No, we are going to use it, so we are not going to cede it back, but you don't have—when Federal income tax came along, you don't have to pay that.

But that is not what happened. It was ceded back to Virginia. That is why, when anyone sees a map of the District of Columbia, it is not a perfect square. On the west, it follows the Potomac River.

So I have that bill. I have had it for many Congresses now. I wish that when Republicans were in the majority, I could have gotten our leadership to bring it to the floor, because it should have been brought to the floor and it should have passed. But I really thought that at some point—and I had even offered to redo the bill and put any Democrats, including Delegate ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, have it as her bill. She has not chosen to ever be part of this bill. And then we hear today, well, it is all because of politics.

Well, I have not ever proposed this for politics. I am proposing it because I know our history and I know this is the right thing to do. They should not have to pay Federal income tax.

What I have offered in prior years is, Look, you are trying to have D.C. have a full voting representative with just legislation. That will be unconstitutional at some point. Why don't you at least go ahead and get this bill passed, especially while Democrats are in the majority, so that until such time as D.C. has a full voting representative, you at least don't have to pay taxes without full representation?

But I have never gotten Democrats to agree to do that. So it was not brought to the floor by Republican leaders over the years. That may well have been for political reasons. But it is being pushed by me, and has all these years, as a matter of principle, and it still is.

Why wouldn't Democrats agree to go ahead and do this bill until such time, when and if, it becomes unnecessary? Why would Democrats continue to allow taxation without representation to go unchanged?

I have been trying to do this for 13 years or so. Apparently, it is a problem on both sides of the aisle. I wish people would quit playing politics and just be fair to the people of Washington, D.C.

Back when I first proposed a bill to eliminate the Federal income tax—as Puerto Rico knows, there is no Federal income tax, but they have a very, very substantial local tax, which is what happens when you have approaching 30 percent of the workers working for the government. You are going to have a lot of taxes to pay.

But on the other hand, in 1847, since land was ceded west of the Potomac back to Virginia, if you are bent on giving people two Senators to vote for, as well as at least one Representative, then the proper thing to do would be to cede the land back to the State from which it came; don't cheat that State. The Federal Government should not be in the business of cheating people or cheating States.

This bill—it has had another number before, but in this Congress it is 2651, and it is cited as the ''District of Columbia-Maryland Reunion Act.'' It goes through and gives some history. I am kind of big on that. It is important to know where we came from so we know where we should go. It cites some of the things I have already mentioned, but then it gets into actually drawing a descriptive line around the Federal buildings, to include the Capitol and the White House and the important Federal buildings—so that would still be Federal property—and then ceding the rest of the land back to Maryland.

Now, I would prefer just to keep the District of Columbia and the residents not pay Federal income tax, rather than trying to do what is unconstitutional—it seemed pretty clear to me—to cheat Maryland out of the land they gave. I mean, it is a bait and switch. Yeah, you gave it for the Federal enclave, but we are going to take it and make it a separate State. And, yes, each time you create a new State, it weakens the power of those States already in existence, because their two Senators' votes are not quite as important as they once were. But this would be a constitutional and appropriate solution if the majority chose to go that way.

□ 1330

I still think, regardless, even as the majority persists in trying to create a State, which I think should ultimately be struck down, why not go ahead and give the residents of the District of Columbia the relief they deserve and say, In the meantime, Congress has full authority to say who is taxed and who isn't, and the residents of the District of Columbia do not elect a full voting Representative yet, so they don't pay any income tax.

And, again, I will extend that offer. I was told by State senator Bill Ratliff—

and I can't remember who he quoted—but ''It is amazing what you can get done if you don't care who gets the credit.'' I have often been willing to say, put whoever's name will help this bill get through.

In fact, sometimes I have made my own leadership mad enough that, you know, if I had a good idea, I would provide it to somebody on the committee of jurisdiction and say, ''This is a good bill, why don't you lead on it?

''Well, why don't you do it?

''Because you are on the committee of jurisdiction, and I have made Republican leaders mad, and so it has got a better chance if you do it.'' And it has been nice to see people make good use of their authority in that way.

Of course, there has been plenty of things written about this issue. There is one from a blog of the National Archives, ''Unratified Amendments: D.C. Voting Rights,'' interesting article there.

National Review has an article from March of this year, ''D.C. Statehood is an Idea Whose Time Should Never Come.''

Another from David Harsanyi, ''Concerning D.C. Statehood, the Founders Have Already Spoken.'' That is from March of this year also.

Something called the Wayback Machine has an article on ''Constitutional Amendments Not Ratified,'' and of course, D.C. statehood is one such, as is the idea of giving full representation, though the Constitution says it will come from the several States. That was something we had voted on in a prior Congress since I have been here.

There is a great letter from the Attorney General of South Carolina, Alan Wilson, on this issue, and he makes a great argument just stating how Article IV, Section 3 provides that new States may be admitted by Congress in the Union, but goes on to explain why the only lawful way to provide statehood to the District of Columbia is to amend the Constitution. The District of Columbia's creation traces to Article I, Section 8, Clause 17 of the Constitution, and he goes on and makes a very compelling case.

So I don't know what the Senate is going to do. I hope that at least some of the Democrat Senators will understand that this is no time to be violating our Constitution when things have been going out of control. You have got even some people right in our own House of Representatives that are calling for and have called for confrontation, getting in people's faces, making them miserable, intimidating, threatening, making sure they aren't feeling welcome.

This is a tragic time. The Founders would normally quote Voltaire—some say the attribution lies elsewhere—but the statement was, ''I disagree with what you say, but will defend to the death your right to say it.'' And nowadays it seems like the majority in power in Congress and the White House more takes a position: I disagree with what you say, and I am truly woke, so I want you fired. I want you never to be able to get work again. I want your children harassed. We are going to threaten to rape, kill, destroy, do all kinds of damage to your family, and we hope that, you know, your family is destroyed and no longer exists very soon.

I mean, that is a long way from where we came. We have come so far, and in each century we made major steps forward so that the Constitution would mean exactly what it says. And now we are arriving at a time where, instead of reaching what Dr. King dreamed of, people being judged by the content of their character and not the color of their skin or anything else, we are going back to being a more racist society. We do want segregation.

I mean, there was a time when segregation was considered evil. You shouldn't segregate people by their skin color. Yes, Franklin Roosevelt believed in it, Democrat that he was. Democrat Woodrow Wilson believed in segregation and did so and used segregation inappropriately.

And now we are coming back to a time where people on the left are advocating for segregation, advocating for judging people by their skin color. It is still wrong. It has always been wrong. It still is.

One of the beauties of a country founded on Judeo-Christian principles was, regardless that slavery existed, if this country was going to continue under the principles on which it was founded, there was going to have to be a day of reckoning when people who were leaders in this country said, Look, we were endowed by our God, our Creator with certain inalienable rights, and it doesn't matter what your skin color is.

Those things don't matter. God loves every human being. There are some things we are told in the Bible God hates. Lying lips is one that God detests, and that is easy to understand. But God doesn't want for any of us to stumble, and he doesn't want people causing others to stumble. We seem to have been approaching that more closely than ever in our history.

It took a Civil War, it took a Christian minister named King preaching nonviolence, peaceful demonstration, not getting in people's faces and intimidating them or using violence. We were making so much progress. We had come further than any country in the history of the world.

I heard somebody this week say we are really probably the most racially diverse country, and we don't penalize people for their race. That has been a problem throughout history for the world, and yet we have made so much progress, and now we have people on the left advocating for segregation and advocating for judging people by characteristics instead of by the content of their character.

It was also shocking this week in debate in the Judiciary Committee to hear somebody across the aisle saying that no Democrats have ever advocated for defunding the police, and I am sure it was intended as an honest statement. The trouble is it is simply not true. And you don't have to do much of an online search. Even with Google and Facebook and Twitter covering for the Democratic Party, you still don't have to work too hard to find so many Democrat-controlled cities that are defunding the police. They are cutting funds to the police. It is easy to find. And there are more even in this body itself that are advocating to just completely do away with the policing like we have.

Having dealt with the justice system for most of my adult life, I know the police are not immune to having bad apples, but it always struck me that there were a whole lot fewer bad apples, percentage wise, in law enforcement than there were in most any other area of life, of any other profession. And they are owed our respect. That is why it becomes very unpleasant when anyone in control ends up using law enforcement as a political battering ram against those who are not in the majority.

We have known for many weeks now that there was and is, according to the chief of Capitol Police and Sergeant at Arms, no intelligence from any source that any Member of Congress is a threat to any other Member of Congress, which means the metal detectors that the Speaker has had installed around the west, east, and north entrance were totally unnecessary.

And then, of course, after I pointed out that I was being fined $5,000 for going to the restroom right out that door, where there was no metal detector there or at the other end of the Speaker's lobby, and I didn't avoid the metal detectors. I went through the metal detector on the west and did so satisfactorily, and for days when I was in here for a long period of time, I could go right there to the restroom, the guards right there at the entrance of the Speaker's lobby could see you go in, see you come out. They checked out the restroom, you know. There is not even a tank where you could do like was done in ''The Godfather'' where a gun was put in the tank of the toilet. Not even a tank to do that in there. I had never been told you need to be wanded or checked or anything. That was totally new. But since I raised that, now metal detectors have been put there so that Democrats can go after Republicans. And I say that because we now have examples of even the Speaker and others who have gone through metal detectors, set off the metal detector, and refused to be wanded and have not been fined.

Now, I understand the majority whip may have done that today. I am very sorry for Mr. CLYBURN, they may have to make an example of him just to keep the pressure, to keep me from getting out of my fine, but it doesn't change the fact that to this time the use of the metal detectors has been

very arbitrary and capricious, and the enforcement of the metal detectors has been very arbitrary and capricious.

Hopefully, those being utilized to harass Members of Congress—especially since a couple of our folks have missed votes. If they hadn't had to go through the metal detector, they would have gotten in here in time to vote.

□ 1345

It is time to open things up. Then we get word: Well, we are going start opening up, but you have to go through us, tell us anybody you are proposing to meet with and what the purpose is, this kind of stuff. We are not letting a good crisis go to waste. We are going to be very Orwellian here, and we are going to use this as an excuse to control who Members of Congress can see, who they can talk to, and really have an iron grip on what people can do.

It has gotten really sad around this place.

Here is an article from Stephanie Pagones, ''Cities such as Austin, L.A., Minneapolis, New York City, and Portland have shifted funds from police departments.'' Obviously, this lady, Stephanie, knows that when Democrats have said they are not defunding the police, that is not true. Democrats around the country are pushing for and actually getting budgets slashed for police departments.

''Cities in parts of the U.S.,'' she said, ''that slashed their police department funding last year, in part as a result of police-involved shootings, have seen an uptick in certain crimes over the past year, according to data analyzed by FOX News. Cities such as Los Angeles, Minneapolis, New York City, Portland, Oregon, and Austin, Texas, have shifted funds from police departments to social services programs. Such cuts have led some departments to lay off officers, cancel recruiting classes, or retreat from hiring goals.

''As police departments were left to make do with shrunken budgets and less support, some big cities have seen sometimes drastic upticks in murders and other violent crimes. . . . The 'defund the police' movement is not necessarily about gutting police department budgets, though some groups have tried. And budget cuts were already expected as a result of alternative needs for funding because of the coronavirus pandemic.''

Then, the article goes on and looks at the cuts that some of these cities have had.

Here is an article: ''Democrat Representative MAXINE WATERS Demanded Special Police Motorcade and Escort Before Calling for Violence at Anti-Police Event,'' by Jordan Davidson at The Federalist.

Daily Caller's Henry Rodgers reports: '' 'The Squad' Pushes to 'Defund the Police' While Spending Thousands on Private Security to Protect Themselves.''

You have to have some protection from somewhere. Otherwise, you are not going to be able to maintain a position of authority in government. There are always going to be evil people, in this world at least, who are going to attempt to bring down people in authority.

This article is from Matt Palumbo, December 30, 2020: ''2020 Homicide Surge Sets RECORD Amid 'Defund the Police' Hysteria.'' It has facts and figures on that.

One other thing I want to touch on. Since we have some people who believe climate change is the most pressing issue of our time, I was surprised to hear the former leader of NASA say that they had found that our Moon, the Earth's Moon, is slightly changing its orbit because I had not read that or seen that anywhere, and that even Earth's orbit around the Sun is slightly changing.

Of course, I had seen previously that the ice caps were melting, and some people say it is because of the cars, pollution. But it still doesn't explain to me why the ice caps on the planet Mars have melted or have been melting for cow flatulence or different things here on Earth. How is that causing the ice caps on Mars to melt?

Here is an article from NASA, from February 27, 2020. It says: ''Our lives literally revolve around cycles: series of events that are repeated regularly in the same order. There are hundreds of different types of cycles in our world and in the universe. Some are natural, such as the change of the seasons,'' that is one form of climate change, ''annual animal migrations, or the circadian rhythms that govern our sleep patterns. Others are human-produced, like growing and harvesting crops, musical rhythms, or economic cycles.''

It goes on to point out something called the Milankovitch cycles, and they include: ''The shape of Earth's orbit, known as eccentricity; the angle Earth's axis is tilted with respect to Earth's orbital plane, known as obliquity; and the direction Earth's axis of rotation is pointed, known as precession.'' It goes on to discuss this.

Apparently, there is another article from Forbes from April of last year, ''Earth Is Spiraling Away From the Sun for Now, But Eventually Will Crash Into It.'' I had not heard or read that before, about our Moon's orbit changing at all or the Earth's orbit around the Sun changing at all. I don't know what, if anything, could be done about that, but there is no question that the Moon's orbit changing or Earth's orbit changing around the Sun can't help but have significant effects on our climate.

This article, the headline says that Earth will eventually crash into the Sun. Well, it is amazing. I remember in the 1970s reading that we were at the beginning of a new ice age. It was very early in the new ice age, but eventually, Earth would be covered by ice. It would mean the end of life as we knew it.

As a Christian, I was thinking that is not how the Earth is going to end, and I didn't really believe that. Lo and behold, it wasn't too many years later we find out, or we are told: Well, the Earth is warming, and the Earth's warming is going to destroy the planet. It is global warming.

Then, of course, global warming, we found out some places it was cooling. As one witness said some years back, actually, the Northern Hemisphere is not nearly as warm as it was back when the Norse were coming over and having these big farms in what we now call Greenland.

There are cycles, and there is something that could come into play in the great design of our Creator that would keep Earth from crashing into the Sun. But in the meantime, it is important that we not run around like Chicken Little and destroy the rich blessings we have out of fear that we may miss out on other blessings. Let's use the wisdom and common sense that most of our constituents have.

In the meantime, I think we really need to find out more about the changing orbit of Earth around the Sun and the changing orbit, if any, of the Moon around the Earth. It is a lot to learn.

If we are going to help contribute to the downfall of the greatest experiment in self-government in the history of the world, then making our Nation's Capital where it could be subject to being extorted, held hostage, then these other things may not matter anyway.

In the meantime, we have a responsibility to the Nation, our oath, and the Constitution to ensure that we keep this experiment in self-government going.

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

WAITING FOR ANSWERS ABOUT JOSHUA JOHNSON

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, and still I rise. And I rise today because I am deeply saddened.

I am saddened because today represents the day in the life of a constituent that she will never forget, that her husband will never forget.

I rise to call to the attention of the world the words of a constituent. These words were printed in the Houston Chronicle. I am grateful to the Chronicle for publishing this story because this story speaks to a circumstance unlike that with George Floyd. I will say more about that in just a moment.

But I rise, grateful to the Chronicle, with the words of a mother. Here are her words: ''Our son was killed before George Floyd, but we are still waiting for answers.''

Their son lost his life 1 year ago today in Houston, Texas, in my congressional district. He lost his life several houses down from his home, the

home of his parents. He lost his life while housesitting for a neighbor. He was 35 years of age, well-liked.

I spoke to many of his neighbors, many of his friends, many of the people in the neighborhood. I never heard one unkind thing said about him. He was a person who was always there to be of service. He lost his life while housesitting, trying to help a friend, a neighbor.

He served in the military. Here is a photo. He served in the military, a graduate of a local high school, Westbury High School. He loved the Dallas Cowboys. He was a typical young person. His name was Joshua Johnson.

Joshua's parents, the Bearys, Mr. and Mrs. Beary, are grieving. They have been grieving since he lost his life a year ago. They have been grieving because the circumstances are questionable.

But these circumstances, unlike the circumstances that we had with George Floyd, are circumstances where there was no body camera. There was no witness to record what happened. These circumstances occurred early in the morning, perhaps around 6 a.m., 1 year ago.

□ 1400

The parents were not present. Mr. Beary took his wife to work. He returned home, and she received a phone call. Here are her words: ''It was April 22, 2020, around 7:30 a.m., when my husband, Richard, who had just dropped me off at work an hour earlier, called me and said the words that changed my life and his forever. He said, 'Someone shot and killed Josh.'''

They would go as close as they could to the actual scene, which is just a few houses down from where they lived, and they would encounter a peace officer.

I like the term ''peace officer'' as opposed to ''police officer.'' Both are good terms, but to me, the term ''peace officer'' carries with it something that I think is important for us to consider, as we consider the great issues of our time.

Policing is one of the great issues of our time. A peace officer is always there to make peace, to help us acquire peace, to help us maintain the peace, to do the peaceful thing whenever possible. I know that it is not always possible, but whenever possible.

So, they went as close as they could to the scene, and they encountered an officer who was investigating. They wanted to know what happened to their son, which is what any parent would want to know: What happened to my son?

It is not an unreasonable question. It is not unusual, by the way, for parents to have some emotional characteristics at the time they are posing questions because they just lost their son. They don't know what happened.

This officer proceeded to explain to them that their son approached an undercover officer, that their son approached this officer, who was seated in a vehicle, and when he approached this officer, he had his phone in one hand and a gun in the other hand.

There were persons who were with them at the time the officer was explaining this. These persons sought to intercede and said he had a BB gun. The officer acknowledged that it was a BB gun.

They were told by this officer that the officer who was seated in the vehicle, the officer who was undercover, around 6 a.m., that he told the son to lower his BB pistol—he didn't say BB pistol, but to lower what he thought was a gun.

The story gets murky, but the officer who was undercover said to the son: Lower your pistol. Lower your gun.

He said that their son, Josh, did not do so, that he, in fact, raised it, and the officer responded by shooting him—not once, but twice.

The parents were obviously moved by what they were hearing. By the way, all of this is recorded. What I am saying to you now was being recorded. I have the recording.

They were moved by what was said, and they were wanting more answers. This officer told them that this is how it happened. Maybe not in these exact words, but Ms. Beary quotes him as saying: ''This is how it happened,'' and there is ''no reason to believe it happened any other way.''

Well, let's examine that statement, ''no reason to believe it happened any other way.'' The officer investigating said this without the benefit of a body camera, unlike the George Floyd case where there were multiple cameras, and we saw different angles. No body camera; no camera recording by someone who was a witness standing by; no camera available to the officer who now, within a few hours at most, is giving this rendition of what happened to their son.

He said what he said without the benefit of speaking to a medical examiner. The medical examiner had not arrived. He came to his conclusions without the benefit of what would ordinarily be an autopsy that would be performed at a later time. No autopsy had been performed, so he couldn't have come to these conclusions after perusing an autopsy report.

He came to these conclusions without speaking to the officer who shot her son. No autopsy report; no ballistics report; no conversation with the medical examiner; no body camera. But he indicated that ''this is how it happened,'' and there is ''no reason to believe it happened any other way.'' No other way?

You haven't had a conversation with a medical examiner. You haven't talked to the person who actually did the shooting. You have no body camera. No other way?

You have no ballistics report. No other way?

That story became the actual story that has been published and republished, and it causes great grief for this family because they believe that there has to be a better investigation, that this officer was too quick to draw these conclusions.

In court, we call these things a rush to judgment, a rush to judgment within just a few hours, without having completed an investigation.

He didn't do a walkthrough, hadn't done the walkthrough. For those who may not be familiar with walkthroughs, this is where the officer gets with the person involved, the officer who was in the car, and they walk through and point out certain things that may have happened. He couldn't have had the walkthrough because he didn't talk to the officer who did the shooting.

The family, desperate for help, finally contacted my office. I was, quite frankly, amazed myself when I heard the recording of this officer who was investigating.

By the way, before we go any further, I need to say this: This is not an indictment of all police officers, not an indictment of all peace officers. We are talking about a circumstance that happened in my congressional district.

So, they came to me, and I decided that I would, at a very minimum, go out and see what they were trying to call to my attention.

I was a judge for a quarter of a century of a lowly justice/small claims court. I was known to go out and look at things, to go to the scene of things that occurred, so I went. Thank God I did.

After going out to the actual site, things became even more murky. I was there, getting an understanding as to where the officer was supposed to have been at the time the encounter with their son took place. The son is Joshua, and I am not going to call the name of the officer who did the shooting. At the time the encounter took place and the shooting occurred, it became difficult to comprehend some evidence that was found in a location many feet away, over behind some cars, near a garage, across a street, behind not one, not two, but three cars.

It became difficult to understand how this piece of evidence was at this location, difficult to understand because the piece of evidence was a bullet, a bullet that was fired from the shooter's weapon, made its way to this very difficult location, hit the garage, and bounced off onto the pavement.

This was found the same day that the investigation was taking place. It is difficult to comprehend how it got there, given the angles involved and the location of the garage. It is difficult to understand.

Later on, after talking to more people, we concluded that it would be appropriate to ask the sheriff for a visit. The sheriff was very generous with his time. He did visit with the family, and he brought others with him, another person with him. They had a visit.

We talked, and the sheriff gave assurances that there would be a thorough investigation.

After having that conversation with the sheriff, something else was discovered. This family had a camera. We didn't know about the camera at the time they heard from the initial officer who was investigating.

So, there is a camera that monitors the street that runs past their home. This camera picked up what appears to be the shooting officer, who was undercover, parked on the street. It picked him up as he left the scene. This is important.

Their son is shot twice. Apparently, based upon what has been said and what the evidence seems to reveal, he walked away after he was hit twice. He went over to a car, his car, parked some feet away. He made his way into his car, sat on the driver's side, under the steering wheel. Apparently, having done this—this is, without question, he did these things. Apparently, he is shot twice. The officer drives away after shooting him twice. He leaves the scene, and the person shot, to go out to some other location.

Now, if this is true—and I say ''apparently'' because you look at the cars and then you have to draw conclusions. But if this is true, what kind of officer—assuming that all of what he said was the case, do you really leave the scene? Do you leave a person who is armed, if you believe the person to be armed? Do you leave this person who you believe to be armed to be out, such that someone else might be harmed? There are a lot of questions to be answered.

□ 1415

There a lot of questions to be answered. The family needs to know. I have some of the questions that the family would like to have answers to. I am going to share a few of these questions with you because it is a year later. They have not had any indication that they will receive justice in the near future, perhaps, but not the kind of indication that they are looking for.

Here is a question: How could an investigating officer present an accurate assessment of the facts to Mr. and Mrs. Beary, near the scene, within a few hours after Joshua, their son, was killed, before having done the walkthrough, without talking to the deputy who did the shooting, without the benefit of a camera recording, before the medical examiner examined the body of their son, before an autopsy report was completed, and, in fact, an autopsy was performed, before a ballistics report was produced? How could he present an accurate assessment?

And this assessment has been published and republished many times.

Second question: How did the bullet hit this garage of the neighbor across the street with no clear path from where the shooter indicated the shooting took place or where it was indicated by someone that the shooting took place?

Third question: Why would the deputy leave the scene immediately or sometime shortly after firing those shots?

This is a questionable circumstance. It is not comparable to what happened to George Floyd.

And the question that we are going to have to grapple with is: What happens when the cameras are off and no witnesses are available, and you have evidence that seems to contradict the story of the investigating officer, that was given before he had an opportunity to perform a fair and accurate investigation?

What happens when you don't have what we have in the George Floyd case?

Notwithstanding all that we had in the George Floyd case, I don't know of a single person who thought that there would be a guilty, guilty, guilty; who thought that the officer would be found guilty on all three of the charges. I don't know of a single person. Perhaps you do.

But notwithstanding all of the evidence that we saw, all of the testimony that we heard, there were people—I was among them—who literally had great concern for what the verdict would be and how it would be responded to. I had my concerns. I think they were legitimate concerns to have in this case, given our history in the case of questionable shootings, police-civilian encounters, and a person ends up losing his life.

I heard the verdict with my colleagues right here on campus in this facility, and I believed it after a moment of disbelief. It wasn't something that you just automatically, axiomatically believe. But it was something that I believed, but I had a moment of disbelief. But I knew that verdict could be a seminal moment in time that will impact the rest of time.

I believe that those jurors will be treated very kindly by history. I think that history is going to show that they were people who rose to the occasion. Jurors do this, they can rise to the occasion. These did, and I am grateful to them.

I believe that those officers who testified rose to the occasion. They separated themselves from that which is perceived to be egregious, and that is being kind, but they separated themselves from that conduct. History will be kind to them.

But there was overwhelming evidence, and we know what happened with overwhelming evidence. This case has not been ruled upon or judged by a grand jury, and, as a result, we don't know what will happen. All we know is that this family is still grieving. It has been a year since their son lost his life—a year today, around 6 a.m.—and they are still waiting for a decision.

I have some concerns now about the decision. Hear my concerns.

Let us assume that it goes before a grand jury, this case. When I say ''it,'' I mean this case goes before a grand jury. And let's assume that it results in a no bill, the grand jury does not indict. It does not return a true bill, which would be an indictment. Let's assume this is a no bill in this case. What happens before the grand jury stays with the grand jury. This family won't have answers.

There was supposed to be a ballistics report.

Will they have the opportunity to read the ballistics report?

I hope so. But the grand jury works in secrecy. It is shrouded in secrecy. And I am not antithetical to grand juries. But my point is, will this family get answers if there is a no bill?

The system has got to change. You cannot leave a family under these circumstances with more questions than answers after the case has made its way through the judicial system. You can't leave them like this. They will suffer the rest of their lives. They have got to know what happened.

The system has to change. There has to be a way for these families to know more about what happened when the cameras are off and no witnesses are available. There has to be a way for them to at least know what happens when the case is presented.

They are not allowed to be there when the grand jury deliberates. I am not going to quarrel with this. I understand that grand jurors have a right, to some degree, of protection because what they do can bring harm to them. But what I don't understand is why we don't have a system that allows for the evidence to be made available to people who have lost someone near and dear, someone that they love.

In Texas, there is another way that would be perceived as novel. It is only in Texas, by the way. Only in Texas. There is something called a court of inquiry. In Texas, if you believe that a crime has been committed, you can take your evidence to a district court judge, and you can ask that judge to review what you have. And if that judge believes that there may have been a crime committed, that judge would go to an administrative judge. We will call this person a presiding judge. And then that judge can require—that second judge—so you have two judges involved—happens to concur. And then witnesses can be called, and we can examine what happened. But this is only in Texas.

I am looking at legislation to give us the opportunity at a national level to do something similar to what we can do in Texas, because people need to know. These parents would feel much better and get through the grieving process, something that we all will go through at some point in our lives if we live long enough. It would give them—if they had the transparency, if they could just know what was said, what was the decision really based upon if there is not a true bill, an indictment. They need to know.

But they represent many other families who have circumstances where

they have lost someone; questionable circumstances, no camera, no witnesses; and in some cases where there are witnesses who are not believed; in some cases where the camera reveals what others would have us not believe when we see it with our own eyes. There are some cases where we have had video, but we are told that we can't believe our eyes.

Thank God the jurors in the George Floyd case believed their eyes, believed what they saw, believed those officers who gave testimony.

I hope that we will, at some point in our history, reach a time when we won't have a Member of Congress have to engage with family members under these circumstances, but some things have to change before we will get to this time.

One of the things that will have to change is a belief that has been called to our attention by some people who have been demeaned and vilified. And the belief is that Black lives matter.

This is a powerful movement.

Are there some persons who associate with the movement who may have done some things that I don't approve of?

Yes, many have.

But this is a powerful movement. We have got to have persons who are armed, those who have the power of life and death, believe that Black lives matter. We have got to have them believe that you don't have the right to punish a person after you have arrested the person.

Notwithstanding what you heard a former President say, you don't have the right to punish after you have arrested. And you know he said it.

□ 1430

He told peace officers—I like peace officer as opposed to police—when you are arresting a person you don't have to be nice.

Madam Speaker, once you have a person within your care, custody, and control, that person's well-being is in your hands. You don't have the power or the right to punish them. You may have the power, but you don't have the right to. You don't punish 9 minutes and 29 seconds, a knee on a neck—cruel and unusual punishment. You don't have the right to do this. You may have the power, but you don't have the right. If Black lives matter, then you wouldn't do it.

Not all police officers—not all peace officers—I prefer peace officer to police—not all, but those who do have to be punished, because we have got to let the world know that Black lives matter and that you have got to treat people with the same level of dignity and respect that you want your child to receive and that you want your mother to receive, the same level of dignity and respect because Black lives matter.

I will be with the Bearys this weekend. There will be a vigil in Houston, and I will be there with them. My hope is that we will have heard something about their son's demise from the officials who are charged with the responsibility and an obligation to perform a just and fair investigation. My hope is that this will happen and that they will have some closures.

Madam Speaker, I want Mr. and Mrs. Beary to know that I am never going to give up on this. Their son's life mattered to me. I never met him, but his life mattered. I will be with them. I will be with them until the end. His life mattered.

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

THE CRISIS AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in order to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLY).

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, this has been a confusing time period I think for most of America, and why the confusion is becoming so cluttered among us all is because we are using definitions that sometimes don't seem to make sense for the situation that we are in.

So I was thinking back, and not too long ago we were told that we don't have to worry about our borders because we really don't have a crisis there, what we have is a challenge.

As we seem to constantly redefine or put different labels on what we know to be true, I think it is time for a moment of clarity. I went to Oxford Languages to find out just what a crisis is.

So this is not my definition. This is what Oxford Languages has said: A crisis is a time of intense difficulty or trouble or danger; a time when a difficult or important decision must be made.

So what is it I am talking about?

I am talking about our crisis at our borders.

So why would a guy who lives in western Pennsylvania worry about what is happening on the borders in Texas and Arizona? That is almost 2,000 miles away from where I live. That is almost 2,000 miles away from the people I represent. How could it possibly impact them?

So I would tell my friends that if you don't think this is going to have an impact in the community you live in, this is coming to a town real close to you real soon.

In Erie, Pennsylvania, we are now housing about 150 young girls who have come from the border. Now, I don't know where their starting point was. I know where their entry came, and I know now that these unaccompanied young ladies—they are 7 to 12 years old—have now been shuttled to Erie, Pennsylvania, into housing which is much better than what they were experiencing at the border. They are living there now, and I am not sure that they know what the consequences of this relocation means to them.

I have been told that of those people who have come in, those little girls who have come in, approximately 30 of them have COVID.

We sit in this House—the people's House—and we debate issues that are sometimes very confusing and very conflicting and separate us as a people. This is not an issue that should separate us. If we truly believe that there is a humanitarian crisis, then we should fix it in a humanitarian way.

I have often been told that you can't beat something with nothing. The previous administration under President Trump had a very clear policy about how we were supposed to handle the surge at our borders, a very clear process, very clear what was to take place. That all changed. As the Biden administration came in, they said, no, this policy from the previous administration is untenable, it is not humane, and it is no longer going to be in existence.

Again, Madam Speaker, you can't replace something with nothing. My question to the administration through several letters and through several requests for the HHS and the Office of Refugee Resettlement, was answered with no answer at all. So if you have no policy you have no answer.

If you continue to say that we really don't have a crisis at our border, then you are either unaware or just choose not to say what you really have in mind, and you can only do that if you don't really have anything in mind.

Madam Speaker, I think that in the people's House—and we are always defined as who is in the majority and who is in the minority and who represents whom and whose best interests are being upheld, and I would just suggest that this is the people's House. It is not called the Republic House or the Democrat House. It is called the people's House, and the people—the American people—need to have an answer to what is our policy on the border?

What is our policy going forward?

How are we going to relocate these children?

They are children. My wife and I being the mother and father of four children and grandparents of 10 children, I cannot imagine in my life handing over my grandchildren or my children to somebody I don't know and saying: Would you please get them to America where I know they will be safe, sound, and well-treated?

This is truly a crisis. More importantly, this is a dereliction of duty by

the current administration. I am requesting that the Biden administration answer not just me from western Pennsylvania, the 16th Congressional District, but the people of America who deserve to know what this policy is, how it is going to be administered, and what do these contracts look like when we are transporting these children from one location to another, and, ultimately, where are they supposed to land?

Where are they supposed to find refuge?

Where are they supposed to find a loving family to take care of them?

I have been told that 90 percent of these unaccompanied children are going to end up with family members, and my question is: Where did you collect that data?

I have granddaughters who were 12, and I have granddaughters who were 7. I think it would be a difficult question to ask them what their future looks like whenever they have been shuttled off to someplace far away from home by people they don't know and then being told: Don't worry, everything is going to be fine, and 90 percent of you are going to end up with a family member.

Really?

Where is that data?

I will close with this—and I really appreciate the gentleman yielding—it is time for Americans to stand up and demand that we have an answer to what our policy is at our border.

What are we going to do with these children?

If we are truly calling this a humanitarian crisis, then we need to have a humanitarian answer. No answer, no process absolutely is not the way America works.

So I am calling on the administration today to please answer our questions. I will be in Erie, Pennsylvania, on Saturday where I will be able to physically examine where these children are, and I will come back to Congress with what I have seen happen.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I also rise to address the self-inflicted disaster occurring at our southern border. I, along with nine other Republicans in the House Oversight and Reform Committee, visited the border last week to see for ourselves the national security and humanitarian disaster that is wreaking havoc on our Nation.

When our Border Patrol agents are pulled from their posts to deal with the swarms of children at processing facilities, the remote border is left wide-open for the really bad folks to stroll right in. These aren't people whom we see on television wearing Biden T-shirts, looking for the nearest Border Patrol agent so they can surrender to them. These are folks in full camouflage, ski masks, and usually armed, often with automatic weapons.

These intruders who breach the remote parts of the border illegally are referred to as get-aways. Because our agents are outnumbered, usually all they can do is simply document these groups as they pass on by. The notation for the records is simply 20 plus, even though there are often 40, 60, or even 80 or more people.

In January and February alone, there were over 61,000 reported get-aways. That is a staggering amount, but because the 20-plus documentation grossly underestimates the actual figures, agents told us the real number for the first 2 months of this year was probably closer to 120,000.

Left unchecked, we are looking at 750,000 get-aways breaking into our country this year alone. Again, these are not asylum seekers surrendering at the border. They are dangerous criminals, drug smugglers, human traffickers, and terrorists who are willing to do anything to get into America and not be caught. Once they make it to Interstate 10, just a few miles north of the border, they can have easy access to any place in the country.

This isn't a border State problem. It is an unfolding national disaster of unprecedented scope that must be addressed for the security of our country. Yet the Biden administration and my colleagues across the aisle refuse to even acknowledge the problem. So far, neither the President nor Vice President have bothered to visit the border.

We can stop this manufactured crisis.

First, we need to complete the border wall. We have construction materials laying idle in the desert. President Biden used to think the border wall was a good idea. It is time he stops cowing to the radical elements within his own party and do what he knows is right. The materials are there and the contracts to complete the work are in place, just sitting there. Just finish the job.

Second, end the practice of catch and release and re-implement the Migrant Protection Protocols that proved so successful in reducing the number of border incursions. Officers shared with us that only 10 to 12 percent of people who come here seeking asylum have legitimate cases. The rest are sent back. By requiring them to remain in Mexico while their asylum requests are adjudicated, roughly 90 percent who know their cases are bogus won't risk the journey, and those who do have legitimate causes to seek asylum will have it granted more expeditiously. That would be the humane course of action.

We are, indeed, a nation of immigrants. Many industries in my home State of Florida, including agriculture, hospitality, and construction, depend on a steady flow of legal immigrants in order to function. But for America to remain the world's brightest beacon of hope, we must acknowledge that a fundamental part of what makes it so attractive is our adherence to the rule of law.

Honest, law-abiding citizens like the Johnsons, the Coopers, and others we met at the border asked us to tell their story. They are not confident, though, that we will. They also want our government to know that they aren't looking for special consideration. These are tough people who simply want the opportunity to live and work their land in peace and security without having to live in fear. They want to know that we will not forget about them. We promised to share their story. We must not let them down.

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

CORRECTION TO THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 2021 AT PAGE H2003

COMMEMORATING 46TH ANNIVERSARY OF BLACK APRIL

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

Mrs. STEEL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the 46th anniversary of Black April.

April 30, 1975, marked the fall of Saigon and the end of the Vietnam war. Many Vietnamese Americans who were alive during the war remember this as the day that signified the loss of a country they once called home.

The people left everything they knew to flee communism. Hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese people have resettled in the United States and built vibrant communities here. California's 48th District is the proud home of Little Saigon, which is home to more Vietnamese Americans than anywhere else in the United States.

On Black April, I will join the Vietnamese Americans in our community and around the country in honoring those who served in Vietnam, and those who lost their lives attempting to flee Communist rule.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until noon on Monday, April 26, 2021.

Thereupon (at 2 o'clock and 43 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, April 26, 2021, at noon.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

EC–915. A letter from the Under Secretary, Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's Agency Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2020; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–916. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's 2020 Annual Report of the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion, pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 5452(e); Public

Law 111-203, Sec. 342(e); (124 Stat. 1543); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC–917. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's 2020 Merger Decisions Report, pursuant to section 18(c)(9) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act; to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC–918. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Cooking Products (RIN: 1904-AE36) received April 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–919. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Test Procedure Interim Waiver Process [EERE-2019-BT-NOA-0011] (RIN: 1904-AE24) received April 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–920. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Establishment of a New Product Class for Residential Dishwashers [EERE-2018-BT-STD-0005] (RIN: 1904-AE35) received April 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–921. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final interim rule — Interpretive rule on Energy Conservation Program for Appliance Standards: Energy Conservation Standards for Residential Furnaces and Commercial Water Heaters (RIN: 1904-AE39) received April 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–922. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program for Appliance Standards: Procedures for Evaluating Statutory Factors for Use in New or Revised Energy Conservation Standards [EERE-2017-BT-STD-0062] (RIN: 1904-AE84) received April 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–923. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Definition of Showerhead [EERE-2020-BT-TP-0002] (RIN: 1904-AE85) received April 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–924. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Establishment of New Product Classes for Residential Clothes Washers and Consumer Clothes Dryers [EERE-2020-BT-STD-0001] (RIN: 1904-AE86) received April 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–925. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedure for Walk-In Coolers and Walk-In Freezers [EERE-2020-BT-TP-0016] (RIN: 1904-AF02) received April 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–926. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final determination — Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Fluorescent Lamp Ballasts [EERE-2015-BT-STD-0006] (RIN: 1905-AD51) received April 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–927. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures [DOE-HQ-2020-0017] (RIN: 1990-AA49) received April 20, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–928. A letter from the Director, National Intrepid Center of Excellence, transmitting the Center's Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Report, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–929. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a semiannual report detailing telecommunications-related payments made to Cuba pursuant to Treasury Department licenses during the period from July 1 through December 31, 2020, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 6004(e)(6); Public Law 102-484, Sec. 1705(e)(6) (as amended by Public Law 104-114, Sec. 102(g)); (110 Stat. 794); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–930. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Appropriations, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Fiscal Year 2020 Financial Report of the United States Government, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 331(e)(1); Public Law 97-258, Sec. 331(e)(1) (as amended by Public Law 103-356, Sec. 405(c)); (108 Stat. 3416); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC–931. A letter from the Senior Advisor, Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting three (3) notifications of a federal vacancy, designation of an acting officer, and discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC–932. A letter from the Senior Advisor, Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting one (1) notification of a federal vacancy and designation of an acting officer, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC–933. A letter from the Senior Advisor, Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting one (1) notification of a designation of an acting office, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC–934. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting three (3) notifications of a designation of an acting officer, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC–935. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's FY 2020 No FEAR Act report, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 2301 note; Public Law 107-174, 203(a) (as amended by Public Law 109-435, Sec. 604(f)); (120 Stat. 3242); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC–936. A letter from the Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's FY 2020 Annual Report, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 2301 note; Public Law 107-174, 203(a) (as amended by Public Law 109-435, Sec. 604(f)); (120 Stat. 3242); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC–937. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting the Commission's 59th Annual Report for fiscal year 2020, pursuant to 46 U.S.C. 306(a); Public Law 109-304, Sec. 4; (120 Stat. 1489); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

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. PALLONE (for himself, Mr. NEAL, and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia):

H.R. 3. A bill to establish a fair price negotiation program, protect the Medicare program from excessive price increases, and establish an out-of-pocket maximum for Medicare part D enrollees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Education and Labor, Oversight and Reform, and Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. BONAMICI (for herself, Mr. POSEY, Mr. BEYER, and Mr. MAST):

H.R. 2750. A bill to establish an Interagency Working Group on Coastal Blue Carbon, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Science, Space, and Technology, and House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. DEAN (for herself, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. NADLER, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. NEWMAN, and Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York):

H.R. 2751. A bill to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to codify a Federal cause of action and a type of remedy available for individuals significantly exposed to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, to encourage research and accountability for irresponsible discharge of those substances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. ESCOBAR:

H.R. 2752. A bill to designate the Castner Range in the State of Texas, to establish the Castner Range National Monument, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ALLRED (for himself and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois):

H.R. 2753. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide the representative of record of a claimant for compensation or benefits administered by the Secretary an opportunity to review a proposed determination regarding that claim; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BEYER (for himself and Mr. BERGMAN):

H.R. 2754. A bill to authorize the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Trust Fund to fund research of the symptoms of COVID-19, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. BOEBERT (for herself, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. ROSENDALE, and Mr. FULCHER):

H.R. 2755. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to develop a modeling tool, conduct a study, and issue reports relating to the tax equivalent amount of payments under the Payments in lieu of taxes program; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 2756. A bill to require a study of the barriers to conservation practice adoption on leased agricultural land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 2757. A bill to require the Natural Resources Conservation Service to review the national conservation practice standards, taking into consideration climate benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. BUTTERFIELD (for himself, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, and Mr. HUDSON):

H.R. 2758. A bill to provide for the recognition of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BUTTERFIELD (for himself, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CRAWFORD, Ms. DEGETTE, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Ms. ROSS, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. TONKO, Mr. WESTERMAN, and Mr. GUEST):

H.R. 2759. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of pharmacist services; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 2760. A bill to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere to identify a consistent, Federal set of best available forward-looking meteorological information and to require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to convene an effort to make such set available, with advice and technical assistance, to standards-developing organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. MAST, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 2761. A bill to establish a national mercury monitoring program, 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. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. GIMENEZ, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. CASE, Mr. TRONE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. MORELLE, and Mr. COHEN):

H.R. 2762. A bill to require the integration of climate-resilience considerations into all development work of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. COHEN, Mr. RASKIN, and Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 2763. A bill to establish the Financing Energy Efficient Manufacturing Program at the Department of Energy to provide financial assistance to promote energy efficiency and onsite renewable technologies in manufacturing facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida (for herself, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. TONKO, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ):

H.R. 2764. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a program to increase participation in community solar and the receipt of associated benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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. CASTRO of Texas (for himself, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. ESPAILLAT):

H.R. 2765. A bill to promote equity in advanced coursework and programs at elementary and secondary schools; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. BASS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. JONES, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. OMAR, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. CARSON, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. SOTO, Mr. POCAN, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. CHU, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. BUSH, and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York):

H.R. 2766. A bill to grant lawful permanent resident status to certain eligible persons who were separated from immediate family members by the Department of Homeland Security; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. CHU (for herself and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska):

H.R. 2767. A bill to clarify the eligibility for participation of peer support specialists in the furnishing of behavioral health integration services under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CLEAVER (for himself, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. COHEN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. BONAMICI, and Ms. LEE of California):

H.R. 2768. A bill to make housing more affordable, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Veterans' Affairs, and 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. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. RUSH):

H.R. 2769. A bill to establish the Intercity Passenger Rail Trust Fund to ensure a safe, sustainable, convenient transportation option for the people of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DEFAZIO (for himself, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. COHEN, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. KAHELE, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. NEWMAN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. SIRES, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. TITUS, and Ms. WILSON of Florida):

H.R. 2770. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for aviation system enhancements during public health emergencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. COOPER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. RUTHERFORD, and Mr. SAN NICOLAS):

H.R. 2771. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the health and well-being of maltreated infants and toddlers through the implementation of infant-toddler court teams within States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 2772. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose an excise tax on sugary drinks, to dedicate the revenues from such tax to the prevention, treatment, and research of diet-related health conditions in disproportionately impacted populations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. DINGELL (for herself, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. HILL, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr.

AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. DEFAZIO, and Ms. PINGREE):

H.R. 2773. A bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to make supplemental funds available for management of fish and wildlife species of greatest conservation need as determined by State fish and wildlife agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. NADLER, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. BUSH, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PHILLIPS, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. TITUS, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CASE, and Mr. JONES):

H.R. 2774. A bill to authorize appropriations for climate financing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. GALLEGO (for himself and Mr. JOYCE of Ohio):

H.R. 2775. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make certain information publicly available on one internet website of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas (for himself, Ms. HERRELL, and Mr. CUELLAR):

H.R. 2776. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to modify the authority for pay and work schedules of border patrol agents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio (for himself, Ms. STEVENS, and Mr. LUCAS):

H.R. 2777. A bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish and support advanced recycling research and development programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio (for himself, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Ms. JACOBS of California):

H.R. 2778. A bill to require a pilot program on activities under the Transition Assistance Program for a reduction in suicide among veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia (for himself, Mr. PERRY, Ms. MACE, and Mr. FEENSTRA):

H.R. 2779. A bill to amend title 5, united States Code, to provide for the publication, by the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, of information relating to rulemakings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. SOTO, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H.R. 2780. A bill to provide for climate change planning, mitigation, adaptation, and resilience in the United States Territories and Freely Associated States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HARDER of California (for himself, Mr. WITTMAN, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO):

H.R. 2781. A bill to amend the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 to reauthorize grants for and require applied water supply research regarding the water resources research and technology institutes established under that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. HARTZLER (for herself, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. GOHMERT, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. MANN, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. NORMAN, and Mr. KELLY of Mississippi):

H.R. 2782. A bill to ensure that women seeking an abortion are notified, before giving informed consent to receive an abortion, of the medical risks associated with the abortion procedure and the major developmental characteristics of the unborn child; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HICE of Georgia (for himself, Mr. COMER, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. NORMAN, Ms. MACE, Mr. SESSIONS, and Ms. HERRELL):

H.R. 2783. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to require that the Office of Personnel Management submit an annual report to Congress relating to the use of official time by Federal employees; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. HOULAHAN (for herself and Mr. BAIRD):

H.R. 2784. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to create a new national program to support mid-career workers, including workers from underrepresented populations, in reentering the STEM workforce, by providing funding to small- and medium-sized STEM businesses so the businesses can offer paid internships or other returnships that lead to positions above entry level; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. KINZINGER (for himself and Ms. SPANBERGER):

H.R. 2785. A bill to establish in the Department of State the United States Energy Resource Governance Initiative to promote sound mining sector governance and resilient energy mineral supply chains by bringing countries together to engage on advancing governance principles, sharing best practices, and encouraging a level playing field for investment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI (for himself and Ms. DELAURO):

H.R. 2786. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax rate parity among all tobacco products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KUSTOFF (for himself, Mr. PERRY, Mr. TIFFANY, and Mr. CRAWFORD):

H.R. 2787. A bill to secure the research enterprise of the United States from the Chinese Communist Party, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Science, Space, and Technology, Education and Labor, and Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LAMB (for himself and Mr. MANN):

H.R. 2788. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate the cap on full-time employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs who provide equal employment opportunity counseling; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. LAMB (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 2789. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to administer a pilot program to employ veterans in positions that relate to conservation and resource management activities; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LEVIN of Michigan (for himself and Mr. KILMER):

H.R. 2790. A bill to establish jobs programs for long-term unemployed workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. LIEU (for himself, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. SOTO):

H.R. 2791. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a renewable energy grant program for Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 2792. A bill to require sales and leases of assets of public housing projects in connection with solar energy projects to financially benefit the residents of such public housing project and the budget of the public housing agency that owns such public housing project, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York (for himself, Ms. DEAN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. JONES, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. NADLER, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. SIRES, Mr. TONKO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Ms. WILD):

H.R. 2793. A bill to reauthorize the Highlands Conservation Act, to authorize States to use funds from that Act for administrative purposes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. MCCOLLUM (for herself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. PHILLIPS, Ms. OMAR, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. KILMER, Mr. KIND, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. CHU, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mrs. AXNE, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. BUSH, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. CASE, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. NADLER, Ms. DELBENE, and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois):

H.R. 2794. A bill to provide for the protection of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and interconnected Federal lands and waters, including Voyageurs National Park, within the Rainy River Watershed in the State of Minnesota, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. MEIJER (for himself and Mr. CORREA):

H.R. 2795. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enhance the Blue Campaign of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PANETTA (for himself and Mr. ARRINGTON):

H.R. 2796. A bill to amend section 414 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to update the family attribution rule; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PAPPAS (for himself, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mr. BANKS):

H.R. 2797. A bill to establish an interagency committee on the development of green alert systems that would be activated when a veteran goes missing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PERRY (for himself, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mrs. GREENE of Georgia, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. BUDD, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. BIGGS, and Mr. GOHMERT):

H.R. 2798. A bill to provide for the withdrawal of the United States from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. PERRY:

H.R. 2799. A bill to amend the Small Business Act ensure duplicate loans are ineligible under the paycheck protection program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. PERRY (for himself, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. PETERS, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. MASSIE, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Ms. MACE, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. ROSE, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Ms. HERRELL, Mr. CLOUD, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. BUDD, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mrs. GREENE of Georgia, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. CAWTHORN, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, and Mr. DUNN):

H.R. 2800. A bill to title 38, United States Code, to permit veterans to grant access to their records in the databases of the Veterans Benefits Administration to certain designated congressional employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PETERS:

H.R. 2801. A bill to establish a durable framework for achieving long-term reductions in methane emissions from the oil and gas sector through advanced detection, measurement, and abatement technologies and practices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PFLUGER (for himself, Mr. BABIN, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. GUEST, Mr. MEIJER, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. ARRINGTON, Ms. VAN DUYNE, and Mr. GIMENEZ):

H.R. 2802. A bill to allow amounts made available under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 for the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund to eligible law enforcement agencies for border security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. PINGREE (for herself, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. RYAN, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Mr. WELCH):

H.R. 2803. A bill to address the impact of climate change on agriculture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Education and Labor, Energy and Commerce, Oversight and Reform, and House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. POCAN (for himself, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. CHU, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. WELCH):

H.R. 2804. A bill to establish State-Federal partnerships to provide students the opportunity to attain higher education at in-State public institutions of higher education without debt, to provide Federal Pell Grant eligibility to DREAMer students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. QUIGLEY (for himself, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 2805. A bill to discontinue a Federal program that authorizes State and local law enforcement officers to investigate, apprehend, and detain aliens in accordance with a written agreement with the Director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and to clarify that immigration enforcement is solely a function of the Federal Government; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Miss RICE of New York (for herself, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. PETERS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. KEATING, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. LAMB, Ms. TITUS, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mrs. HAYES, and Ms. JAYAPAL):

H.R. 2806. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a mission statement of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. RICE of South Carolina (for himself, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. REED, and Mr. BUTTERFIELD):

H.R. 2807. A bill to permit Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-recognized virtual diabetes prevention program suppliers to be included in the Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program Expanded Model conducted by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation under section 1115A of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1315a); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ROSENDALE (for himself, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Ms. MACE, Mr. VAN DREW, Ms. HERRELL, and Mr. CAWTHORN):

H.R. 2808. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make improvements to Health Savings Accounts; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ROUZER (for himself and Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana):

H.R. 2809. A bill to authorize the President to provide disaster assistance to States and Indian Tribes under a major disaster recovery program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. RYAN (for himself, Mr. ADERHOLT, and Mr. MRVAN):

H.R. 2810. A bill to ensure that certain Federal infrastructure programs require the use of materials produced in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SABLAN (for himself, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. ALLRED, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CASE, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. COOPER, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DEAN, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. EMMER, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JACOBS of California, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KILMER, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. MACE, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. MOULTON, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. PENCE, Mr. PETERS, Mr. POCAN, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. RYAN, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. SIRES, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SOTO, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. TONKO, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. WELCH, Ms. WILD, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. ISSA, and Mr. BUCHANAN):

H.R. 2811. A bill to prohibit the sale of shark fins, and for other purposes; to the

Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SÁNCHEZ (for herself and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY):

H.R. 2812. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to prohibit skilled nursing facilities and nursing facilities from using pre-dispute arbitration agreements with respect to residents of those facilities under the Medicare and Medicaid programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself and Mr. RUSH):

H.R. 2813. A bill to amend the Consumer Product Safety Act to strike provisions that limit the disclosure of certain information by the Consumer Product Safety Commission; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Ms. BASS, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. BUSH, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. NEWMAN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. TITUS, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. CROW, and Mr. EVANS):

H.R. 2814. A bill to repeal the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act, and provide for the discoverability and admissibility of gun trace information in civil proceedings; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

H.R. 2815. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a temporary payment increase under the Medicare program for certain biosimilar biological products to encourage the development and use of such products; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SCHRIER (for herself, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. KILMER, Mr. NEGUSE, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 2816. A bill to provide for the Forest Service Legacy Roads and Trails Remediation Program; 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 Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (for himself, Mr. SABLAN, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. WILD, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. MRVAN, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. MENG, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. COHEN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. BASS, Mr. KILMER, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. TITUS, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. JACOBS of California, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. EVANS, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. CARSON, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. TONKO, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. LIEU, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SOTO, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. VARGAS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. MFUME, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. ROSS, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Ms. MCCOLLUM):

H.R. 2817. A bill to amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 and the Head Start Act to promote child care and early learning, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. SHERRILL (for herself and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER):

H.R. 2818. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a grant program for States to offset incremental rate increases paid by low-income households resulting from the implementation of infrastructure programs that are designed to accelerate the necessary replacement, repair, or maintenance of natural gas distribution systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. SLOTKIN (for herself and Mr. JOYCE of Ohio):

H.R. 2819. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and expand the Solid Start program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. SPANBERGER (for herself, Mr. BACON, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. TONKO, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. STEFANIK, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. KATKO, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH, Mr. COOPER, Ms. MACE, Ms. WILD, Mr. COSTA, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, and Mrs. BUSTOS):

H.R. 2820. 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 markets, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. STEVENS (for herself, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, and Mr. LUCAS):

H.R. 2821. A bill to provide for a coordinated Federal program to accelerate plastics waste reduction and support recycling research and development for the economic and national security of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. TAKANO:

H.R. 2822. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to carry out an energy storage research program, loan program, and technical assistance and grant program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TAKANO:

H.R. 2823. A bill to provide for the consideration of energy storage systems by electric utilities as part of a supply side resource process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. TITUS (for herself and Mr. YOUNG):

H.R. 2824. A bill to promote United States-Mongolia trade by authorizing duty-free treatment for certain imports from Mongolia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. TONKO:

H.R. 2825. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a registry of certain veterans who were stationed at Fort McClellan, Alabama, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Ms. ESCOBAR):

H.R. 2826. A bill to establish a Global Climate Change Resilience Strategy, to authorize the admission of climate-displaced persons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WALTZ (for himself, Mr. MOULTON, and Mr. CROW):

H.R. 2827. A bill to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to expand certain benefits for surviving spouses of members of the Armed Forces who die in line of duty, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. TONKO, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. KIND, Mr. STEUBE, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. PAPPAS, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. DELGADO, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. KELLER, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. REED, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. MEUSER, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. UPTON, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. LONG, and Mr. BAIRD):

H.R. 2828. A bill to require enforcement against misbranded milk alternatives; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WELCH:

H.R. 2829. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish reference prices for prescription drugs for purposes of Federal health programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Armed Services,

Veterans' Affairs, Oversight and Reform, and Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. MAST):

H.R. 2830. A bill to protect the Second Amendment rights of adults whose use of marijuana is permitted by State or tribal law; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee:

H.J. Res. 43. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to require that the Supreme Court of the United States be composed of nine justices; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MCCOLLUM (for herself, Mr. POCAN, Ms. JAYAPAL, and Ms. OMAR):

H.J. Res. 44. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States regarding health care; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GREEN of Texas:

H.J. Res. 45. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to clarify the presidential pardoning power; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRAWFORD:

H. Res. 342. A resolution recognizing that Mississippi County, Arkansas, is the leader in electric arc furnace steel production; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN (for herself, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. GIMENEZ, and Mr. SOTO):

H. Res. 343. A resolution recognizing the 500th anniversary of the founding of the city of San Juan, Puerto Rico; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mrs. HAYES (for herself and Mr. CÁRDENAS):

H. Res. 344. A resolution declaring racism a public health crisis; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LUCAS (for himself, Mr. MULLIN, Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma, Mr. HERN, and Mr. COLE):

H. Res. 345. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the International Olympic Committee should correct the Olympic records for Jim Thorpe for his unprecedented accomplishments during the 1912 Olympic Games; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MCEACHIN (for himself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. NADLER, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mrs. AXNE, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BROWN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CASE, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. CHU, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. COOPER, Mr. COSTA, Mr. CROW, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. KAHELE, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KEATING, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KILMER, Mr. LIEU, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MORELLE, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. RASKIN, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SIRES, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. TONKO, Mr. TRONE, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. WELCH, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. DEAN, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. LEVIN of California, and Mr. COHEN):

H. Res. 346. A resolution expressing support for honoring Earth Day, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. STEUBE:

H. Res. 347. A resolution congratulating Charlotte County, Florida, on its 100th anniversary; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. TENNEY (for herself, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. KIM of California, Ms. JACOBS of California, Ms. TITUS, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mr. VARGAS, and Mr. MEIJER):

H. Res. 348. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United Nations Security Council should immediately impose an arms embargo against the military of Burma; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mrs. TRAHAN (for herself, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. SOTO, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. TRONE, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. DEAN, Ms. JACOBS of California, Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. MCKINLEY, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts):

H. Res. 349. A resolution supporting the goals of Overdose Awareness Day by lowering the United States flag to half-staff on all Federal buildings the 31st day of August each year; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

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. PALLONE:

H.R. 3.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: [The Congress shall have Power] To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes

By Ms. BONAMICI:

H.R. 2750.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. DEAN:

H.R. 2751.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. ESCOBAR:

H.R. 2752.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8.

By Mr. ALLRED:

H.R. 2753.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, which gives Congress the power to make ''all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers and all other Powers Vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.''

By Mr. BEYER:

H.R. 2754.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mrs. BOEBERT:

H.R. 2755.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 and Article IV Section 3.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 2756.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 2757.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution By Mr. BUTTERFIELD:

H.R. 2758.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution, Congress has the power to collect taxes and expend funds to provide for the general welfare of the United States. Congress may also make laws that are necessary and proper for carrying into execution their powers enumerated under Article I.

By Mr. BUTTERFIELD:

H.R. 2759.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution, Congress has the power to collect taxes and expend funds to provide for the general welfare of the United States. Congress may also make laws that are necessary and proper for carrying into execution their powers enumerated under Article I.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 2760.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (relating to the power of Congress to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.)

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 2761.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (relating to the power of Congress to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with Indian Tribes.)

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 2762.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3. To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 2763.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (relating to the power of Congress to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.)

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida:

H.R. 2764.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:

H.R. 2765.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Constitutional Authority—Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. I, Sec. 8, Clause 18)

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I, SECTION 8: POWERS OF CONGRESS

CLAUSE 18

The Congress shall have power . . . To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:

H.R. 2766.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Constitutional Authority—Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. I, Sec. 8, Clause 18)

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I, SECTION 8: POWERS OF CONGRESS

CLAUSE 18

The Congress shall have power . . . To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

By Ms. CHU:

H.R. 2767.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 Article 1, Section 8 of the US Constitution

By Mr. CLEAVER:

H.R. 2768.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is introduced pursuant to the powers granted to Congress under the General Welfare Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 1), the Commerce Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 3), and the Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 18).

Further, this statement of constitutional authority is made for the sole purpose of compliance with clause 7 of Rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and shall have no bearing on judicial review of the accompanying bill.

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 2769.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I of the Constitution and its subsequent amendments and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mr. DEFAZIO:

121 H.R. 2770.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1, Clause 3, and Clause 18 of the Constitution.

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 2771.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 2772.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8; U.S. Constitution

By Mrs. DINGELL:

H.R. 2773.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT:

H.R. 2774.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8:

To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

By Mr. GALLEGO:

H.R. 2775.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18:

[The Congress shall have Power . . .] To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas:

H.R. 2776.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio:

H.R. 2777.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution stating that Congress has the authority to ''make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution.''

By Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio:

H.R. 2778.

Congress has the pwer to enact this legislation to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution stating that Congress has the authority to ''make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution.''

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia:

H.R. 2779.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H.R. 2780.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article. IV. Section. 3. Clause 2. ''The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all of the needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or the Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.''

By Mr. HARDER of California:

H.R. 2781.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Const. art. I, sec. 8.

By Mrs. HARTZLER:

H.R. 2782.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. HICE of Georgia:

H.R. 2783.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution states ''To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.''

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution states ''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any Department or Officer thereof.''

By Ms. HOULAHAN:

H.R. 2784.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. KINZINGER:

H.R. 2785.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI:

H.R. 2786.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. KUSTOFF:

H.R. 2787.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article I, Section 8, the Necessary and Proper Clause. Congress shall have power to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing powers and all Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department of Officer thereof.

By Mr. LAMB:

H.R. 2788.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. LAMB:

H.R. 2789.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

By Mr. LEVIN of Michigan:

H.R. 2790.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 1 of the Constitution.

By Mr. LIEU:

H.R. 2791.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Const., Art. 1, Sec. 8.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 2792.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 2793.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. MCCOLLUM:

H.R. 2794.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. MEIJER:

H.R. 2795.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. PANETTA:

H.R. 2796.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, clause 18
By Mr. PAPPAS:
H.R. 2797.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. PERRY:
H.R. 2798.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. PERRY:
H.R. 2799.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. PERRY:
H.R. 2800.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section VIII of the U.S. Constitution
By Mr. PETERS:
H.R. 2801.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. PFLUGER:
H.R. 2802.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Ms. PINGREE:
H.R. 2803.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. POCAN:
H.R. 2804.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution
By Mr. QUIGLEY:
H.R. 2805.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution
By Miss RICE of New York:
H.R. 2806.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. RICE of South Carolina:
H.R. 2807.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution
By Mr. ROSENDALE:
H.R. 2808.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. ROUZER:
H.R. 2809.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution
By Mr. RYAN:
H.R. 2810.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution: ''The Congress shall have power to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.''
By Mr. SABLAN:
H.R. 2811.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.
By Ms. SÁNCHEZ:
H.R. 2812.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8
By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:
H.R. 2813.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.
By Mr. SCHIFF:
H.R. 2814.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3, the Commerce Clause and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, the Necessary and Proper Clause. Additionally, the Preamble to the Constitution provides support of the authority to enact legislation to promote the General Welfare.
By Mr. SCHRADER:
H.R. 2815.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, clause 3.
By Ms. SCHRIER:
H.R. 2816.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia:
H.R. 2817.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.
By Ms. SHERRILL:
H.R. 2818.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 18 of Section 8 or Article 1 of the Constitution of the United States of America.
By Ms. SLOTKIN:
H.R. 2819.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.
By Ms. SPANBERGER:
H.R. 2820.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution
By Ms. STEVENS:
H.R. 2821.
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. TAKANO:
H.R. 2822.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8.
By Mr. TAKANO:
H.R. 2823.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Acticle 1, Section 8.
By Ms. TITUS:
H.R. 2824.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. TONKO:
H.R. 2825.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1
The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States, but all Duties, Imposts, and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.
By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:
H.R. 2826.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1
The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .
By Mr. WALTZ:
H.R. 2827.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
The Congress shall have the power to provide for the common defense.
By Mr. WELCH:
H.R. 2828.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: The Congress shall have Power To . . . make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.
By Mr. WELCH:
H.R. 2829.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: The Congress shall have Power To . . . make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer therof..
By Mr. YOUNG:
H.R. 2830.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee:
H.J. Res. 43.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article V
By Ms. MCCOLLUM:
H.J. Res. 44.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution
By Mr. GREEN of Texas:
H.J. Res. 45.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Powers and Duties of the President (Art. 2, Sec. 2, Cl. 1)
Mode of Amendment (Art. 5)
[Page H218]

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 19: Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. BARR, Mr. ESTES, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. LATTA, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. MCCARTHY, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. PENCE, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr.

NEHLS, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. BUCHANAN, and Mr. WENSTRUP.

H.R. 55: Ms. SLOTKIN.

H.R. 82: Ms. CASIO-CORTEZ and Mr. NORCROSS.

H.R. 151: Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. RUIZ, and Mr. LANGEVIN.

H.R. 366: Ms. PINGREE and Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 431: Mr. DUNN.

H.R. 432: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 463: Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 472: Mr. WALTZ.

H.R. 521: Ms. SCANLON.

H.R. 549: Mr. TONKO and Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 619: Mr. COMER.

H.R. 748: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts and Mr. LAWSON of Florida.

H.R. 845: Ms. STEFANIK.

H.R. 859: Mr. ROSENDALE.

H.R. 908: Ms. PORTER.

H.R. 917: Ms. KAPTUR.

H.R. 959: Ms. MANNING.

H.R. 1012: Mr. GUEST and Mrs. RODGERS of Washington.

H.R. 1079: Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 1155: Mrs. WALORSKI, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Mr. BARR.

H.R. 1193: Mr. COLE and Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma.

H.R. 1217: Mr. NEWHOUSE.

H.R. 1259: Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. BUDD, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, and Mr. BABIN.

H.R. 1283: Mr. PENCE.

H.R. 1297: Mr. MANN and Mr. LIEU.

H.R. 1345: Mr. TAYLOR.

H.R. 1346: Ms. SALAZAR.

H.R. 1368: Mr. TONKO, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. SHERMAN, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.

H.R. 1411: Mr. TIFFANY.

H.R. 1455: Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. PORTER, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. KILDEE, and Mr. BEYER.

H.R. 1458: Mr. FOSTER, Mr. Pallone, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, and Mr. MALINOWSKI.

H.R. 1480: Mr. BACON.

H.R. 1485: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 1522: Ms. STEVENS and Mr. HUFFMAN.

H.R. 1534: Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. STEUBE, and Mr. BIGGS.

H.R. 1543: Mr. FALLON, Mr. CARTER of Texas, and Ms. FOXX.

H.R. 1650: Mr. SIMPSON.

H.R. 1655: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 1667: Ms. SCANLON and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.

H.R. 1729: Mr. JACKSON and Mr. ROGERS of Alabama.

H.R. 1738: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 1752: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS.

H.R. 1783: Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 1884: Mr. CASE, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.

H.R. 1905: Ms. BARRAGÁN.

H.R. 1916: Mrs. WALORSKI and Mr. GALLAGHER.

H.R. 1978: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 2107: Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, and Mr. BILIRAKIS.

H.R. 2125: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.

H.R. 2127: Mr. STEUBE.

H.R. 2167: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Mr. KATKO.

H.R. 2192: Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. TONKO, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. POSEY, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. Upton, and Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 2198: Ms. SPEIER, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. KAPTUR, and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.

H.R. 2222: Ms. BASS, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. JOHNSON of GEORGIA, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. VARGAS, and Mrs. Watson Coleman.

H.R. 2229: Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. Grijalva, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. LIEU.

H.R. 2244: Mr. BAIRD, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. Jordan, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. Fleischmann, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. BUDD, Mr. WOMACK, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. COLE, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. CLINE, Mr. ESTES, Mr. BURCHETT, Ms. CRAIG, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, and Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ.

H.R. 2294: Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. KILMER, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 2347: Ms. PORTER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. O'HALLERAN, and Mrs. BEATTY.

H.R. 2414: Ms. TENNEY.

H.R. 2441: Ms. CRAIG and Mr. LAWSON of Florida.

H.R. 2449: Mr. EVANS.

H.R. 2460: Mr. CARBAJAL.

H.R. 2466: Mr. QUIGLEY.

H.R. 2486: Mr. LUCAS.

H.R. 2577: Mr. JACOBS of New York.

H.R. 2584: Ms. NEWMAN and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.

H.R. 2588: Mr. PERLMUTTER.

H.R. 2600: Mr. SMITH of Missouri.

H.R. 2616: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 2637: Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana.

H.R. 2651: Mr. WALTZ.

H.R. 2654: Ms. STEFANIK and Mr. GOSAR.

H.R. 2658: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. GROTHMAN, and Mr. GOSAR.

H.R. 2705: Mr. ROY.

H.R. 2709: Mr. CLEAVER and Ms. MANNING.

H.R. 2718: Mr. MAST, Mr. FERGUSON, and Mr. GIMENEZ.

H.R. 2735: Mr. BOWMAN.

H.R. 2745: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.J. Res. 11: Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Ms. LETLOW, Mr. CAWTHORN, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. TURNER, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, and Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.

H. Res. 99: Mr. EMMER.

H. Res. 113: Mr. LATURNER.

H. Res. 118: Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. ROY, and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.

H. Res. 305: Mr. CALVERT and Mr. ISSA.

H. Res. 314: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. GROTHMAN, and Mr. CAWTHORN.

H. Res. 317: Mr. KIM of New Jersey and Mr. MOORE of Utah.

H. Res. 318: Mr. BUCSHON.

DISCHARGE PETITIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XV, the following discharge petitions were filed:

Petition 2, April 20, 2021, by Mr. ROY on House Resolution 216, was signed by the following Members: Mr. Roy, Ms. Herrell, Mr. Cloud, Mr. Burchett, Mrs. Miller of Illinois, Mr. Biggs, Mr. Gaetz, Mr. Johnson of Louisiana, Mr. Higgins of Louisiana, Mr. Norman, Mr. Moore of Alabama, Mrs. Greene of Georgia, Mr. Grothman, Mrs. Harshbarger, Mr. Budd, Mr. Posey, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Bishop of North Carolina, Mr. Fallon, Ms. Tenney, Mr. Weber of Texas, Mr. Jacobs of New York, Mr. Gosar, Mr. Pfluger, Mr. Perry, Mr. Buck, Mr. Carter of Georgia, Mr. Mooney, Mr. Davidson, Mr. Hice of Georgia, Ms. Van Duyne, Mr. Joyce of Ohio, Mr. Baird, Mr. Duncan, Mr. Brooks, Mr. Jordan, Mr. Garcia of California, Mr. Owens, Mr. Babin, Mr. Armstrong, Mr. Womack, Mr. Williams of Texas, Mr. Rutherford, Ms. Foxx, Mr. Green of Tennessee, Mr. Allen, Mr. Hern, Mr. Cline, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Rose, Mr. Gohmert, Mr. McKinley, Mr. Carter of Texas, Mr. Rosendale, Mr. Fitzgerald, Mrs. Cammack, Mr. Ferguson, Mrs. Hinson, Mr. McCarthy, Mrs. Miller of West Virginia, Mr. Good of Virginia, Mr. Sessions, Mr. Scalise, Mrs. Boebert, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Harris, Mr. Hagedorn, Mrs. Miller-Meeks, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Timmons, Mr. LaTurner, Mr. Waltz, Mr. Mast Mr. Kustoff, Mr. Meuser, Mr. Steube, Mr. Palazzo, Mrs. Lesko, Mr. C. Scott Franklin of Florida, and Mr. Arrington.

Petition 3, April 21, 2021, by Mr. ROY on House Resolution 292, was signed by the following Members: Mr. Roy, Mrs. Boebert, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Harris, Mr. Hagedorn, Mrs. Harshbarger, Mr. LaTurner, Mr. Waltz, Mr. Johnson of Louisiana, Mr. Cawthorn, Mr. Newhouse, Mr. Young, Mr. Van Drew, Mr. Murphy of North Carolina, Mr. LaMalfa, Mr. Norman, Mr. Mast, Mr. Duncan, Mr. Griffith, Mrs. Cammack, Mr. McClintock, Mr. Mann, Mr. Biggs, Mr. Rosendale, Mr. Steube, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Perry, Mr. Estes, Mr. Baird, Mr. C. Scott Franklin of Florida, Mr. Cloud, Mr. Kelly of Mississippi, Mr. Stauber, Mr. Moore of Alabama, and Mr. Arrington.

DISCHARGE PETITIONS—ADDITIONS OR WITHDRAWALS

The following Members added their names to the following discharge petition:

Petition 1 by Mrs. CAMMACK on House Resolution 274: Mrs. Greene of Georgia, Mr. Steube, Mr. Babin, and Mr. Cawthorn.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 167 WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 2021 No. 70

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, nature speaks of Your glory. With every sunrise and sunset, we are reminded of Your power and majesty.

Lord, we think of You when we watch the birds You guide through the boundless skies with flawless flight. We hear Your voice in the pattern of the falling rain and the shouts of the thunder. Great and marvelous are Your works.

Today, rule in the lives of our lawmakers with the sovereignty You hold over nature. Guide our Senators with Your perfect and trustworthy precepts, bringing joy to their hearts because of Your love.

We pray in Your mighty Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. ROSEN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

COVID–19 HATE CRIMES ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, after nearly 2 weeks of Democrats and Republicans working together, the Senate is going to take a final vote on the anti-Asian hate crimes bill later this morning. The vote today on the anti-Asian hate crimes bill is proof that when the Senate is given the opportunity to work, the Senate can work to solve important issues.

In the wake of the COVID–19 pandemic, Asian Americans across the country have been victims of the surge of discrimination and racially motivated violence and bigotry. In New York, I attended rally after rally and heard one story after another about Asian Americans who were afraid to ride the subway, afraid to go to work, afraid to walk down the streets, and having to adjust their daily lives for fear of being spat upon, glared at, or even worse. This was not an occasional occurrence. It is occurring every day in just about every corner of America.

Now, racism has always existed in America, unfortunately and sadly, and the legacy of anti-Asian sentiment goes back centuries to dark chapters in our history like the Chinese Exclusion Act and the internment of Japanese-American citizens during World War II.

Now, we have made great strides since those days, but over the past several years, the forces of hate and bigotry seemed to have gained strength, too often encouraged by our former President. It is time for all of us to stand up.

By passing this bill, the Senate makes it very clear that hate and discrimination against any group has no place in America. Bigotry against one is bigotry against all, and I believe that passage of this bill will send two—two—very important messages.

One important message is to the Asian-American community. By passing this bill, we say to the Asian-American community that their government is paying attention to them, has heard their concerns, and will respond to protect them; and, second, by passing this bill, we will send a message to the country that should be all too obvious by now. Hate crimes will not be tolerated, and Federal law enforcement will do everything in its power to detect, deter, and, if necessary, prosecute crimes to the full extent of the law.

So this bill has a one-two punch, to assure the Asian-American community we are going after the bigotry against them and to tell the American people, particularly those bigots, we are going after you in a legal way, of course.

Now, yesterday, we reached an agreement to consider three more Republican amendments to the bill before a final vote. The legislation, as is, already includes significant bipartisan input, including modifications from Senator COLLINS and bipartisan legislation called the No Hate Act developed by Senators MORAN and BLUMENTHAL and modified by Senator SCOTT of Florida. Senator WARNOCK has also made sure the bill recognizes the recent tragedy in Atlanta in which six women of Asian descent were killed.

Through it all, Senators DURBIN, DUCKWORTH, and especially the bill's sponsor, Senator HIRONO, have demonstrated exceptional leadership; the same for Representative MENG in the House.

Over the past 6 years, we have had too few opportunities to work together on timely, bipartisan legislation. Let this be a reminder that when Senators of good will work with each other, at the end of the day, we can achieve a good result. We can do it again in the next few weeks with a bipartisan water infrastructure bill, which will be on the floor next week, and soon thereafter, another bipartisan package of legislation concerning American competitiveness.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Printed on recycled paper.

Let's continue the bipartisan momentum as we move into next week, but today I want to thank my colleagues who have worked together to bring this bill to the finish line. I look forward to seeing the anti-Asian hate crimes bill passed by this Chamber today and move one step closer to reaching the President's desk.

WASHINGTON, D.C. ADMISSION ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, on DC statehood, another matter, today the House of Representatives will pass a bill granting the District of Columbia official statehood. I applaud my House Democratic colleagues for taking this important step toward recognizing the full citizenship of more than 700,000 residents of the District of Columbia.

This is a matter of just representation. Our system of government is designed to give everyone in our country a voice in forging their own destiny. Most citizens do that by voting for Members of Congress and Senators from their States to represent them in this temple of democracy to advocate for their interests and to voice their concerns.

The District of Columbia has more residents than Vermont and Wyoming and nearly the same as Delaware, Alaska, and several other States, and they bear the full responsibilities and duties of citizenship, like residents in all those other States. DC residents can be summoned for jury duty. They have served in every war since the American Revolution. They pay Federal income taxes, just like residents from every other State. You can learn that from any license plate outside this building. Yet they are denied real representation in Congress—in the words DC borrowed from the Founding Fathers, ''taxation without representation.''

Sadly, the debate over DC statehood has taken a rather dark turn. Some of my colleagues on the other side, rather than fashion any argument on the merits, have taken to denigrating the basic worth of residents of the District of Columbia—a part of our country that is 47 percent African American.

One Member of the minority party went so far as to say lawmakers should ''go out to where the real people are across the country and ask them what they think [about DC statehood].'' ''[Get] out to where the real people are.'' Bigotry, bigotry, bigotry. I shouldn't have to remind my colleagues that it is shockingly inappropriate to imply that lives and occupations and rights of DC's residents are somehow less than their fellow citizens in other ''more real'' and almost always more White parts of the country.

We all know that the minority party opposes DC statehood because it fears giving political power and representation to American citizens if they might not vote for Republicans. It smacks of the effort going on right now in Republican legislatures all across the country to pass laws that overwhelmingly make it harder for minorities, poorer Americans, and younger Americans to vote.

The far right, the hard right—which seems to be so dominant in the party on the other side—is so afraid of losing political power and so unwilling to appeal to anyone who doesn't already agree with them that their strategy has become to restrict voting rights and deny equal representation in Congress to hundreds of thousands of Americans. So DC statehood, unfortunately, is part of a continuing thread of not allowing people their right to vote, to representation, that seems to be growing in the Republican Party, particularly here in the Senate and in legislatures throughout the country, unfortunately.

Self-government, voting rights: These are not Democratic rights. These are not Republican rights. They are American rights. They are issues of fairness and democracy. It is not about right and left; it is about right and wrong.

DC statehood is an idea whose time has come.

CLIMATE LEGISLATION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, now on climate, this year's celebration of Earth Day comes with an ambitious new goal from the Biden administration: The United States should aim to cut its greenhouse gas emissions in half by the end of the decade. It is a great goal. I fully support it.

Not only is President Biden finally returning the United States to a position of global leadership in the fight against climate change, but he is showing that America is ready to ramp up our climate ambition beyond—beyond—the Paris Agreement.

Now, it will take extraordinary action to meet the marker that President Biden laid down, but he was exactly right to do it. If we need any reminders about what America can achieve when it puts its mind to something, President Kennedy committed to landing on the Moon over the course of a single decade. If America could reach that lofty goal in the name of ingenuity, in the name of exploration, surely we can achieve this goal in the name of saving the planet on which we live.

Now, I believe the best way to achieve this ambitious goal is through bold action by this Congress through legislation to reduce carbon pollution while creating millions of jobs and economic prosperity in a new clean energy economy. Any legislation without a serious and bold climate component will make it much, much harder to achieve President Biden's goal, and we must work to have a strong green climate component in the American Jobs Plan.

The Democratic majority here in the Senate is eager to get to work. One of the very first things I did when Democrats took the majority was to instruct every committee chair—the new committee chairs—to hold hearings on the climate crisis to begin preparing for landmark legislation. I repeat once again that any infrastructure bill we consider here in the Senate must include green infrastructure, create green jobs, and make significant progress toward the reduction of greenhouse gases.

Luckily, the Senate will have an opportunity to address another serious climate-related issue next week. The Senate will consider a Congressional Review Act bill before the end of the work period to reimpose critical regulations concerning the release of methane into our atmosphere.

Methane gets less attention than its big bad brother, carbon dioxide, but in truth, methane is like carbon dioxide on steroids. Over 20 years, a ton of methane will warm the atmosphere more than 86 times as much as a ton of carbon dioxide, but because it breaks down much faster than carbon dioxide, the gains we make in the reduction of methane emissions can reduce global warming even faster. Many of the things we need to do to reduce methane emissions are fairly cheap and cost-effective, like plugging leaks in fossil fuel infrastructure. So this made common sense, especially when our globe is at risk.

The Obama administration had instituted these commonsense rules of the road to encourage that sort of activity. It was widely supported, even by industry. The Trump administration, so typically and so unfortunately, reversed those rules in an act of pure idiocy. The Senate Democratic majority will soon put a bill on the floor to revert back to the original policy, which should never have been tampered with in the first place.

Reducing methane emissions will be only the first of many actions this Senate will take to combat climate change.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, one final issue. It has come to my attention that President Biden intends to have the United States formally recognize the Armenian genocide, becoming the first sitting U.S. President to do so. Great news. It is a long time coming and a step that I have called on Presidents of both parties to take.

Each year, I gather with Armenian Americans in Times Square to commemorate the annual anniversary of this atrocity. Every year, my heart breaks for the victims of the genocide and their descendants. There are very few left, but some very elderly people are sitting in the audience each year, reminding us how painful and how real that genocide was. The Turkish Government's idea of saying there was no genocide just defies history. I have seen the victims. I have talked to the victims.

Saturday marks the 106th anniversary of the Armenian genocide. I am so relieved, grateful, and moved that we

can finally commemorate the anniversary with the knowledge that the Government of the United States, led by President Joseph Robinette Biden, has recognized the truth of the Armenian genocide at last.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

CLIMATE LEGISLATION

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, yesterday, I mentioned that the DNA of the far-left Green New Deal is all over President Biden's spending bills. That wasn't just my opinion; it was the verdict of our colleague the junior Senator from Massachusetts.

Today, the President is scheduled to meet virtually with a group of the world's leaders on climate policy. His agenda, reportedly, is to encourage them to expand their countries' Paris climate agreement commitments to meet even more ambitious emissions goals. The problem, of course, as our colleagues, no doubt, remember, is that the hollow commitments these countries made back in 2015 carry no serious means for enforcement.

Under the last administration, even from outside this agreement, the U.S. economy proved more than capable of meaningfully reducing CO_2 emissions. But many of the signatories within the supposed deal have largely ignored their stated commitments and continue to emit with reckless abandon.

As the Biden administration climate envoy, John Kerry, once lamented, ''[M]ost countries are . . . not getting the job done in living up to Paris.'' China, for example, has just kept emitting more and done it shamelessly. Their share of greenhouse gas emissions is now nearly double—double—that of the United States.

On a recent trip to Shanghai, Kerry tried to echo President Biden's encouragement on emissions reduction, but the kid-gloves approach didn't seem too successful. China's Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs said: ''I'm afraid this is not very realistic.'' A direct quote from the Chinese Government.

Democrats' zeal for imposing costly environmental agendas on our own country is not something our biggest foreign competitors seem to share. If that is true, our colleagues could inflict as many painful policies on American workers and American industries as they want and still not achieve a significant change in worldwide emissions or global temperatures.

The cost of these misplaced priorities is already hitting Americans hard. Remember, revoking permitting for the Keystone XL Pipeline and killing thousands of jobs was a day-one priority for this new administration. Now their so-called infrastructure plan would aim at completely decarbonizing our electric grid, which means hurting our coal and natural gas industries and putting good-paying American jobs into the shredder.

Borrowing money in order to kill jobs, now, there is a concept. Meanwhile, a mountain of redtape would keep public works projects smothered, literally smothered in endless environmental reviews, and their plan would thrust the west coast obsession with electric vehicles onto the entire Nation, onto rural school districts, onto industries, whether they like it or not.

Next week, President Biden is set to address a joint session of Congress for the first time. I expect we will hear more claims like the ones that have been debunked by fact checkers that all this Green New Deal DNA would actually create a lot of American jobs. Fact checkers are debunking that claim.

But even the most favorable analyses, even the administration's favorite projections, suggest that the President's plan would be terrible, just terrible at creating jobs. The rosiest numbers you could come up with suggest it might cost American taxpayers more than $800,000 for every job it might create—more than $800,000 per job.

And Ivy League economists have calculated that the plan's long-term effects on GDP, capital stocks, and hourly wages would all be negative. Let me say that again. These multiple trillions of dollars would buy us less GDP, less investment, and lower wages. It almost takes talent to craft something that completely disastrous.

So this is quite a one-two punch: toothless requests of our foreign adversaries and maximum pain for American citizens.

ELECTIONS

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, now, on another matter, earlier this week, the Democratic leadership of the Judiciary Committee convened a hearing with the embarrassing title of ''Jim Crow 2021.'' It was the latest effort to use shocking rhetoric to distract from the specific details of actual voting laws in States like Georgia.

Amazingly, one of our Democratic colleagues testified before the committee that people actually shouldn't bother combing through the specifics of the law—don't bother reading the actual law. He suggested that ''narrow analysis only obscures the larger, unmistakable picture.'' Put another way, the facts deflate the narrative.

Misrepresentations of Georgia's election law have been debunked by fact checkers. The real, unmistakable picture is that the bill would expand early voting and make no changes to current election day hours—none. Ironically, Democrats' own star witness at this week's hearing once sponsored and supported an earlier effort that would have cut early voting days in Georgia in half.

The facts puncture the left's big lie. Much of this overheated rhetoric seems like simple projection because there is, indeed, a piece of legislation that would create a stunning one-party takeover of voting laws and elections in our country, and that would be Washington Democrats' darling, H.R. 1. This is the bill that was first introduced back in 2019, with many Democrats still in denial that a Republican had won the White House in 2016.

It was marketed at that time as a wholesale transformation designed to salvage a broken democracy. But now that Democrats got an election outcome they liked better in 2020, what is essentially a xerox copy of the same overhaul is now being marketed, oh, as a modest step, just a modest step to maintain the status quo.

The first sales pitch was actually more honest. This 800-plus-page takeover would give Washington Democrats unprecedented control over 50 States' election laws, over a newly—listen to this—a newly partisan Federal Election Commission, over policing America's political speech. That is what it would do.

Now, Democrats know that the same Senate rules they happily used for the last 6 years will not make it easy to launch this awful proposal, so there is another important piece in their plan. They are aiming the same wild rhetoric at the Senate's own rules—at our rules here in the Senate.

The legislative filibuster which senior Democrats have loudly and proudly defended in the past, which Democrats used repeatedly in recent years, all of a sudden has become an offensive and outdated relic overnight. Isn't it amazing how this new awakening only happened when Democrats felt they had a chance to retake the majority.

Now, the American people can see right through this. Nobody is fooled. Nobody is fooled by their desperation to rewrite 50 States' election laws or the campaign to pack the Supreme Court or the attempt to pack the Senate with new blue States, rewriting the rules of American politics to exclusively benefit one side: their side. That was the Democrats' false charge in Georgia, but it is exactly what they are trying to do in this Capitol on a national scale.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

COVID–19 HATE CRIMES ACT—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. 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.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority leader.

AMENDMENT NOS. 1456, 1425, AND 1458 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1445

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order be executed with respect to the reporting of the three amendments under the consent agreement.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the amendments by number.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Texas [Mr. CRUZ] proposes an amendment numbered 1456 to amendment No. 1445.

The amendment is, as follows:

[Purpose: To prohibit Federal funding for any institution of higher education that discriminates against Asian Americans in recruitment, applicant review, or admissions]

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 6. PROHIBITION OF FEDERAL FUNDS FOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST ASIAN AMERICANS.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no institution of higher education (as defined in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)) may receive any Federal funding if the institution has a policy in place or engages in a practice that discriminates against Asian Americans in recruitment, applicant review, or admissions.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL], for Mr. LEE, proposes an amendment numbered 1425 to amendment No. 1445.

The amendment is, as follows:

[Purpose: To require a report on State restrictions on religious exercise during the COVID–19 pandemic]

Strike section 3 and insert the following:

SEC. 3. REPORT ON RELIGIOUS RESTRICTIONS DURING THE COVID–19 PANDEMIC.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report on the restrictions on religious exercise imposed by States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and any other territory or possession of the United States during the COVID–19 pandemic.

(b) CONTENTS.—The report required to be submitted under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) an analysis of whether the same restrictions applied to religious institutions also applied equally to secular organizations or businesses; and

(2) an analysis of whether each imposed restriction complies with the ruling of the Supreme Court of the United States in Tandon v. Newsom, No. 20A151, 539 U.S. _____ (2021).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Tennessee [Mrs. BLACKBURN] proposes an amendment numbered 1458 to amendment No. 1445.

(Purpose: To improve the bill.)

(The amendment is printed in the RECORD of April 21, 2021, under ''Text of Amendments.'')

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EARTH DAY

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, today is Earth Day, our planet's largest annual civic event. More than 1 billion people in 192 nations are expected to participate in activities to draw attention to the urgency of the climate crisis and environmental degradation. From the South Side of Chicago to South America and South Asia, ordinary citizens—schoolchildren, scientists, environmental activists, business and government leaders, and others—are calling for help for our ailing planet.

This year, the most important Earth Day gathering is just 16 blocks from where we meet. At the White House today, President Biden is hosting a 2-day virtual summit of leaders from 40 Nations—leaders from the highest emitting countries, China, India, Russia, as well as leaders from countries that suffer the worst consequences, such as Bangladesh and Kenya. The leaders are coming together, after a year of staggering pandemic hardship and climate-related crises, to renew their commitment to save our planet from irreversible climate catastrophe.

With this Earth Day Leaders Summit, President Biden is sending the world a clear message: The United States is back and is ready to be a leader again in combating climate change. The White House Leaders Summit is meant to encourage countries to make strong commitments under the Paris Agreement to prevent the global average temperature from rising more than 1.5 degree Celsius above preindustrial levels. This sounds technical and dry and wonky, but here is what it means. At 1½ degrees Celsius of warming, much of the world will likely see sea level rise that swallows coastlines, leaves millions of homes underwater, and produces recordbreaking droughts, floods, and other climate catastrophes. Hundreds of millions of people will be pushed into poverty because of this, and climate-related famine and conflicts would trigger a global refugee crisis worse than anything we have ever seen. That is the future if we do nothing. That is something we must avoid, and the United States needs to show leadership.

President Biden does that today with this meeting. One of his first official acts as President, on his first full day in office, was starting the process of recommitting the United States to join every nation in the world in the Paris Agreement. If you will remember, the previous President decided that America would step away from that.

At the White House Leaders Summit, the President will announce a new goal: to reduce U.S. greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50 percent by the year 2030. The Biden administration's leadership stands in sharp contrast to what we have seen over the last 4 years. We saw a President withdraw from the Paris Agreement, ridicule science at every opportunity, deny the existence of a growing climate threat, and even censor the remarks of government scientists that might suggest otherwise.

Fortunately, the disengagement by the previous administration didn't prevent the American people, scientists, real business leaders and entrepreneurs, and cities and States from ignoring President Trump and moving ahead.

There is no substitute, though, for leadership at the top. The American Jobs Plan, which President Biden plans to pass, and I hope there is support, is a plan to secure America's global economic leadership, strengthen America's working families, and build the infrastructure of the future we can count on. The American Jobs Plan, of course, will rebuild America's crumbling rail lines, roads, bridges, ports, and water systems; strengthen America's power grid; and invest in 5G broadband internet for every community in America. The previous President promised it but didn't deliver. This President wants to deliver, with our help.

I have heard those on the floor who then criticize that part of the American Jobs Plan, which goes further. President Biden also wants to invest in green energy, wind, solar, and other renewable energy projects. To hear that described by some of his Republican critics, it is just pure socialism. Socialism? It is a realistic response to the 21st challenge of climate change. The American Jobs Plan includes billions of dollars to retrain any workers who are dislocated if they work in the fossil fuel industry and to find better, well-paying jobs with a future in clean energy and other fields. Just this week, the president of the United Mine Workers of America—a sixth generation

West Virginia coal miner—announced that his union was going to support President Biden's American Jobs Plan in exchange for training his coal miners in how they can be effective and also have good jobs in a cleaner energy future. That union understands clean energy. Most Americans do. I hope Senators on both sides of the aisle will.

American business gets it. I have introduced two bills that would bring efficiency and innovation of the marketplace and the financial clout of the Federal Government to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and create a more sustainable economy that works for the people and the planet. My bills are called the America's Clean Future Fund Act and the Climate Change Resiliency Fund for America Act.

We talked about investing in American infrastructure so we can tackle climate change and create renewable energy jobs and the industries of the future. But I want to make it clear that our highest priority is to create those jobs right here in America. I hope my colleagues will work with us and won't filibuster the President's efforts to move our economy forward in a dramatic way.

We can't afford denial, defeatism. We can't afford people who say it is too late to do anything about climate disaster. We owe it to our children, grandchildren, and future generations to do everything in our power to save this planet from what is obviously coming our way.

Safe, effective vaccines have brought us so far in fighting this pandemic. We have developed in a short period of time under this President not only the vaccines but also their delivery and administration to the people of our country at a rate no one ever expected. The research that led to this was good scientific research. Two of the leading vaccines were developed using something called messenger RNA—mRNA—and it worked. The basic science that led to the discovery of mRNA was largely funded by American taxpayers—government programs—and applied by the private industry with great success. And now, because of our investment in science and belief in science, people's lives are being saved in the United States and around the world. Imagine solutions we can find if we harness the power of public partnerships together with science and citizen engagement to address climate change.

The first Earth Day was 51 years ago. It was proposed by a Senator from Wisconsin named Gaylord Nelson. It brought 20 million Americans together at the time, put preservation of our planet on the national agenda, and ushered in a decade of remarkable environmental progress. That decade saw the creation of some of our most important protections of clean air, land, and water.

Ten years later, Gaylord Nelson looked back on that first Earth Day and the decade that followed. His words bear repeating today, And this is what he said: ''So long as the human species inhabits the Earth, proper management of its resources will be the most fundamental issue we face. Our very survival will depend upon whether or not we are able to preserve, protect, and defend our environment. We are not free to decide about whether or not our environment matters. It does matter. Apart from politics, it is fundamental to survival. We disregard the needs of our ecosystem at our mortal peril.'' That was the lesson of Earth Day, and it should never be forgotten.

S. 937

Madam President, this morning, we are going to take up the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act that Senator HIRONO and Senator DUCKWORTH bring before us.

In the wake of the COVID–19 pandemic, we have, unfortunately, witnessed an appalling rise in hate incidents targeting the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. The numbers are shocking. Between March 2020 and February 2021, the Stop AAPI Hate Initiative documented nearly 3,800 hate incidents in the United States, and a recent analysis by the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism found that while hate crimes in 16 of America's largest cities decreased overall by 7 percent in the year 2020, those targeting Asian Americans increased by nearly 150 percent.

Our friends and neighbors in the AAPI community are facing an urgent, imminent threat. It is time to do something about it. That is why I am proud to support the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act. This will provide State and local law enforcement with guidance and tools to track and address hate crimes and hate incidents.

I am grateful for the bipartisan support, which Senator COLLINS and others have brought to this bill to strengthen it. These efforts include Senator BLUMENTHAL's and Senator MORAN's NO HATE Act, critical legislation that will improve hate crime reporting and expand assistance and resources for victims of hate crimes.

There is so much more we can do and should do to address the broader issue of domestic terrorism, identified by the Director of the FBI as one of the gravest threats to security in our country. That is why I introduced the Domestic Terrorism Prevention Act earlier this year, and I will continue with my efforts to send that legislation to the President's desk.

But today, we have an opportunity to come together—Democrats and Republicans, Americans—and support our friends, our siblings, and our fellow Americans in the AAPI community. Millions of Americans count on us to do that. Let's show them that we can.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MURPHY). The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I am honored to follow our distinguished Judiciary Committee chairman and whip, Senator DURBIN, who has fought so hard for the principles and values that are embodied in the Jabara-Heyer NO HATE Act, which is part of the legislation. It is, indeed, bipartisan, and, hopefully, we will pass it today.

The fact is that this August marks two excruciatingly sad anniversaries. It will be 4 years since Heather Heyer was killed when a White nationalist drove his car into a crowd of peaceful protesters, and it will be 5 years since Khalid Jabara was shot and killed on his own front porch by his neighbor, an avowed and virulent racist.

The temptation is to get lost in the numbers and statistics about hate crimes. Make no mistake, these statistics are horrifying, especially the surge in hate crimes directed against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

The FBI reported just over 7,300 hate crimes in 2019. The Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Statistics estimates that there was an average of 198,000 hate crime victimizations in 2017. Hate crimes are vastly underreported. One of the objectives of the Jabara-Heyer NO HATE Act is to spur greater reporting so we know the horrifying dimensions and magnitude of this problem and we can better fashion solutions to fight them.

But what is most important to remember about each of these 198,000 incidents is that they involve real people, real communities, lives torn apart, communities torn asunder. In the most heartbreaking cases, they involve real lives that are lost forever, real families who will never see their loved ones again.

The NO HATE Act that the Senate is considering today is named for two of those people: Heather Heyer and Khalid Jabara. For just a few moments, I would like to spend this time on the Senate floor honoring them and their families. We are here because of them.

Heather Heyer was counterprotesting the Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, VA, on August 12, 2019, when she was murdered by a White supremacist who purposefully ran his car into a crowd of protesters, also injuring 19 other people.

Heather is remembered as a young woman with a big heart. She devoted her life to the fight for justice and equality. The foundation named in her honor notes that ''Heather was a young woman deeply involved in taking a stand against injustice when she didn't have to do so,'' who ''spoke passionately'' about what she believed in. She was just 32 years old when she was murdered.

Khalid Jabara was shot on the steps of his own home, his family's home in Tulsa, OK, by a neighbor who had been harassing the Jabara family for months. That family had come to America to flee civil war and religious persecution in Lebanon, only to be terrorized here by their racist, murderous next door neighbor.

Khalid is remembered for his sense of humor and unfailing devotion to his family.

He cared for our entire family, our friends, and people he didn't even know. He created every Jabara family joke and filled their lives with love and laughter.

Jabara was 37 years old when he was murdered.

Today's vote honors the memory of those two individuals and the thousands of other individuals who have been victims of similar hate crimes—un-American, abhorrent, unacceptable. Today, we make a statement that we will not accept those kinds of hate crimes in America.

I am grateful to the entire Jabara family and to Susan Bro, Heather's mother, for their unfailing devotion to ending hate and their courageous advocacy in support of the NO HATE Act. I also want to thank my partner in this legislation, Senator MORAN of Kansas. We would not be here today without his support and bipartisan cooperation on this bill.

There will always be hateful people who want to lash out violently at the world. They will lash out at Muslims, at Jews, at African Americans, at Asian Americans, at Pacific Islanders. But America is above it. America is better than they are. And we owe Heather Heyer, Khalid Jabara, and every other victim of hate crimes—from the Orlando nightclub massacre to the shooting in El Paso—the kind of action we are taking today.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

BIPARTISANSHIP

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today we are wrapping up consideration of the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act. Next week the majority leader has indicated the Senate will take up the Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021. These are both bipartisan pieces of legislation.

The COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act was an initially partisan bill that has now been improved by input from Republicans and I expect will receive strong bipartisan support on final passage.

The Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act has been 100 percent bipartisan from the very beginning. Senators DUCKWORTH and CAPITO developed this legislation, along with Democratic Senators CARPER and CARDIN and Republican Senators LUMMIS and CRAMER. The legislation went through regular committee consideration and was reported out of the Environment and Public Works Committee to the full Senate with a unanimous vote. It is a model of how we should work here in the Senate.

Mr. President, after a very partisan start to this Congress, with Democrats and the President steamrolling through a massive, partisan COVID bill packed with non-COVID-related priorities, it is encouraging to see the Senate working the way it should: Senators from both parties talking, negotiating, coming together to work out legislation that both parties can support.

It is particularly encouraging to see the Drinking Water and Wastewater bill—a bipartisan effort from start to finish and a too-rare example of legislation that went through the committee process, which should be our goal for most bills in the Senate. I hope this trend will continue.

Democrats want the Senate to take up infrastructure legislation in the near future—a goal that Republicans support. What we don't support is Democrats' threat to shove through another massive, partisan bill—this time on infrastructure—using reconciliation rules to ensure Republicans don't have a voice in the legislation.

The Senate was designed to promote moderation and consensus. It was intended to be a check on the more partisan—or as the Founders would put it, factious—House of Representatives. The Senate fulfills its constitutional role best when it engages in serious, bipartisan consideration and negotiation and ensures that Members of both parties are heard. This is the framework we should adopt for infrastructure.

I am encouraged by President Biden's decision to meet with Republicans to discuss infrastructure legislation. Republicans have now met with the President at least twice, and more meetings are expected. I anticipate meeting with the President and other Senators soon to discuss broadband infrastructure priorities. I hope we can reach bipartisan agreement on priorities in this area, including closing the digital divide by increasing broadband access in rural America and removing obstacles to digital infrastructure deployment. I know it can be done.

When I served as chairman of the Commerce Committee, for example, we passed bipartisan legislation that reduced the redtape associated with building broadband networks. I introduced bipartisan legislation to accelerate 5G infrastructure deployment. There was a lot of bipartisan agreement to be found on infrastructure in general.

Congress has a history of bipartisan collaboration on infrastructure legislation. Our last major infrastructure bill, the FAST Act, went through regular order and several committees, including the one I led at the time, and was supported by both Democrats and Republicans, and it was a remarkably successful bill.

Not long thereafter, our committee spearheaded enactment of the largest reauthorization of the FAA since the early 1980s, including critical programs to improve airport infrastructure.

Last Congress, the Environment and Public Works Committee here in the Senate developed bipartisan infrastructure legislation.

There is no reason that we shouldn't reach bipartisan agreement on another substantial piece of infrastructure legislation. Senator CAPITO and other Republicans will be releasing a Republican proposal today that will reflect a lot of the bipartisan infrastructure priorities. I hope that after she releases this proposal, Democrats and Republicans will be able to sit down and engage in serious negotiation on our two plans.

Our Founders established a democratic republic instead of a pure democracy because they wanted to balance majority rule with protection for minority rights. They knew that majorities could be tyrants, so they wove protection for minority rights into our system of government. The Senate was one of those protections. That is why we should be preserving rules like the filibuster, which ensures that the minority party and the many Americans it represents have a voice in legislation.

It is always important that the minority party's voice be heard and the Senate engage in bipartisan negotiation and discussion, but it should be especially obvious that in a 50–50 Senate, any major legislation should be bipartisan. If one thing is for sure, it is that a 50–50 Senate is not a mandate for one side to force through its agenda unchecked.

It is absurd for Senate Democrats or House Democrats to pretend they have a mandate for a partisan revolution. Yet much of the legislation that they have been pushing since taking office appears to have been drafted by Members of the extreme left wing of their party.

In his inauguration address, President Biden appeared to recognize the bipartisan character of his mandate and his obligation to work with Members of both parties and promote unity in the country. Unfortunately, to date, his administration has not delivered on that promise of bipartisan leadership. As I said, I am encouraged that it appears he may be changing that when it comes to infrastructure. I hope the Senate and House Democrats will follow his lead.

The ball is in Democrats' court. We can pass a substantial, bipartisan infrastructure bill, or Democrats can continue down the extremely partisan path that they have been pursuing. For the sake of our country, Mr. President, I hope they will choose bipartisanship.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

S. 937

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I thank my colleagues who worked diligently to enhance the legislation that we are considering on the floor here this morning. I commend them for the work they put into this effort.

I have an amendment that has been included in a vote we are going to take here momentarily, a NO HATE amendment, and I would like to speak for just a few minutes about this topic. I will limit my remarks to speaking in support of the amendment's language, which simply seeks to collect better data on hate crimes under existing statutes.

We know that crimes committed against specific groups increased in recent years. Anti-Semitic attacks hit a record high in 2019. There are gaps in our knowledge of how prevalent these crimes truly are.

The language included in this amendment, based upon the NO HATE Act introduced by Senator BLUMENTHAL, has bipartisan support in this Chamber and for its companion in the House. It would establish incentives for State and local law enforcement to submit credible and complete hate crime reports, create grants for State-run crime hotlines, require the Department of Justice to collect and analyze data on hate crimes, and allow judges to require community service or educational programs for individuals convicted under existing statutes.

I would also take a moment to express my gratitude to Senator RICK SCOTT for working to help improve the text, and that improvement, in fact, is also found in this agreement.

Kansans have personally been touched by incidents during my time in the Senate.

In 2014, a neo-Nazi killed three at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Kansas City and a Jewish retirement home, both in Overland Park. In late 2016, the FBI thwarted a bomb plot against an apartment complex housing Somali immigrants in Garden City, and the following year, a man shot two Indian immigrants, killing one, at a restaurant in Olathe, KS, after shouting, ''Get out of my country.''

These were high-profile, well-publicized incidents of hate. It is important that the incidents that do not gain broad attention are nevertheless recorded properly so that the Department of Justice can properly analyze the data.

A bipartisan group of attorneys general for 35 States and territories, including Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt, have endorsed the NO HATE Act. It is also backed by Major Cities Chiefs Associations and the National District Attorneys Association.

No statutes are expanded by this amendment, nor are there any mandates. Instead, it will allow for State and local entities to voluntarily seek grants to better provide data on specific crimes in their jurisdictions and to give judges flexibility in sentencing violent offenders.

I condemn the recent attacks on Asian Americans, and assaults on minorities are an assault of our Nation's creed of ''e pluribus unum''—out of many, one. That is what our country is—out of many, one.

The crimes Senator BLUMENTHAL and I seek more information on tear at the fabric of our Nation. But out of many crimes, it is time we speak as one to condemn the perpetrators and their ideology, to support the communities that live in fear despite that all of us—all of us—are made in God's own image.

Committed to unifying principles, our diversity is our country's strength. We continue to strive to make a more perfect union. This amendment is but a small step in that direction.

I urge my colleagues to support the amendment.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, I rise because it is a historic day. It is a historic day because the House is scheduled to pass H.R. 51, the Washington, D.C. Admission Act. My original intent was to speak about that, but before I do, I want to honor my colleagues who have worked very hard on the hate crimes legislation that we will tackle later today.

I want to thank Senators HIRONO and DUCKWORTH and Senator COLLINS for working with them. I want to thank Senators BLUMENTHAL and MORAN and all the Senators who have worked to get us at the threshold where we will do something bipartisan that will send comfort to people around the country who are worried about being targeted because of who they are.

In honor of my colleagues who have worked hard, I just want to tell you a story about Heather Heyer, the Virginian for whom the NO HATE Act is partially named, who was killed when she was 32 in 2017 by a White supremacist in Charlottesville.

I didn't know Heather—I know her mother Susan pretty well—but I went to Heather's funeral. Let me tell you this amazing story about Heather Heyer.

Heather was a waitress, and she saw an ad in the newspaper to apply to be a paralegal at a local law firm specializing in bankruptcy. A Charlottesville attorney, an African-American man, had a bankruptcy firm. He needed a paralegal, put an ad in the paper, and got a lot of applications. He got this application from Heather Heyer. The other applicants had paralegal degrees. Heather Heyer was a waitress who didn't have a paralegal degree, but something about the letter made him think, well, I at least have to talk to this person.

He interviewed those with the paralegal degrees, and then he interviewed Heather Heyer and was very struck with her personality but said: Look, I am interviewing for people to be a paralegal. You don't have background in this area. You are a waitress. Why do you think you can do this job?

Heather said: Because I am a waitress, I listen to people all day long, and I want to tell you about some of my customers—the elderly widower who comes in every Tuesday for lunch, and I know his order, and I know how to converse with him to lighten his mood.

She went on to describe some of the people in the restaurant she had served for years. Then she looked at this attorney and said: You are a bankruptcy lawyer. The people who come to you are hurting. They need to be listened to. They are worried about losing everything. I think you couldn't do better than to hire somebody who has made a specialist out of listening to other people.

He said: Well, you may not have a degree, but you have answered that in a wonderful way, and I am going to hire you.

He hired Heather. Heather ended up, as he described at her funeral service, kind of becoming like the office den mother, manager, et cetera, who was so good dealing with clients who were so very worried when they came to see him.

One night after she had been working with him for a while, they worked late and they left the office. As they left the office, Heather's relatively new boyfriend was waiting outside. Heather introduced him to her boss.

The next day, the attorney noticed that Heather wasn't her normal, talkative self, that she wasn't in a very good mood.

At the end of the day, he said to her: Heather, is something wrong?

She said: Yes. I broke up with my boyfriend last night.

He said: Well, I just met him last night outside the office. He seemed like a wonderful guy.

She said: Well, I thought he was a wonderful guy, but when he saw that I was working for a Black man, he started to criticize me for that, and I had no choice but to break up with him.

She is Heather Heyer. She is the woman whom we are honoring in passing the NO HATE amendment as part of the hate crimes bill today, and I appreciate my colleagues for including her in the NO HATE amendment that will be part of this bill.

WASHINGTON, D.C. ADMISSION ACT

Mr. President, our colleagues in the House today are acting on H.R. 51, and there is an equivalent bill, S. 51, the Washington, D.C. Admission Act. As somebody who represents a State just a few miles from DC, I didn't want to let this historic day pass without saying a word about it.

The bill would, as everyone knows, make Washington, DC, the Nation's 51st State. I am proud to serve as an original cosponsor of the Senate version, led by my colleague Senator CARPER. The bill was introduced earlier this year after many previous efforts with a record number of cosponsors, and I am proud to say that statehood for DC is enjoying the largest support in years.

The right to vote is the cornerstone of our American democratic society. Through free and fair elections, ordinary citizens choose the leaders and direction of our country; yet some 712,000 residents of the Nation's Capital do not enjoy the right fully.

For too long, Virginia's neighbors in DC have been denied their civil rights and have been subject to taxation without full representation in Congress, which is a founding principle of our Nation.

Virginians love history. So, on May 29, 1765, Patrick Henry gave his famous

speech before the Virginia House of Burgesses, encouraging the passage of the five resolutions, commonly referred to as the Virginia Resolves, to address the Stamp Act. The act that was passed the following day included four of his resolves.

Everybody remembers that the Stamp Act of 1765 levied an unfair tax on American Colonies on paper goods, newspapers, almanacs, pamphlets, and legal documents. The Crown was worried about the content of those documents, so it levied the tax.

In his first resolve, Henry declared that Virginians should be entitled to ''all of the liberties, privileges, franchises, and immunities'' that other British subjects enjoyed. He wanted for Virginians the same rights enjoyed by people living in Britain, thousands of miles away.

I can't help but notice the parallel. We stand in the District of Columbia, the seat of our Nation's Federal Government. Not thousands of miles away but just across the Potomac River or just over the border in Maryland, hundreds of thousands of American citizens don't enjoy the same ''liberties, privileges, franchises, and immunities'' as those in Virginia, Maryland, or other States.

In his third resolve, Patrick Henry stated:

> The taxation of the people by themselves, or by persons chosen by themselves to represent them, who can only know what taxes the people can bear, or the easiest method of raising them, and must themselves be affected by every tax laid on the people, is the only security against a burdensome taxation, and the distinguishing characteristic of British freedom, without which the ancient constitution cannot exist.

To date, DC pays more in Federal taxes per capita than any State. Its residents pay more in Federal taxes per capita than any State and more total Federal taxes than 22 States. Yet, for more than 200 years, the people of Washington, DC, have been denied what Patrick Henry urged on the Virginia House of Burgesses as a reason for American independence. DC not only pays more per capital Federal taxes than any State, it is also subject to a higher degree of congressional regulation of its internal affairs than any other State. So it is both taxed and overregulated without representation.

DC meets the two criteria that have always been the test of admission of a new State into the Union: sufficient population and a demonstrated desire by the population for statehood.

Congress used to establish minimal required populations for statehood. The Northwest Ordinance of 1787, for example, incorporated territories into the United States in the upper Midwest and allowed that they could become States once their populations exceeded 60,000. While there is no such statutory minimum today, all would acknowledge that DC, because it has a larger population than both Wyoming and Vermont and is close to the populations of the two Dakotas, is sufficiently sizable to be a State.

DC has also demonstrated its desire to be a State over and over again by popular referendum. Most recently, in 2016, a statehood referendum was supported by 86 percent of DC residents.

So DC meets the traditional test for statehood. Its people are both taxed and regulated by a Congress that does not include representatives who can advocate on their behalf.

Finally, I support adding a 51st star to the American flag because it will show that we are still a thriving nation. We haven't added a State in nearly 70 years. This is the longest period in American history without adding a State. Adding DC as a State will show the world that America is still a confident and growing nation with our best days ahead of us, not a fixed, inward, and static nation with our best days behind us.

With that, I stand here today to call on my colleagues in the Senate to give full and fair consideration to H.R. 51, which will pass today, and S. 51 and provide the more than 700,000 residents of our Nation's Capital the full and equal citizenship that Patrick Henry demanded in 1775 and that the rest of the country enjoys today.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to speak for 5 minutes, as well as Senator HIRONO and Senator COTTON for 5 minutes each, prior to the order for 11:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

S. 937

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of Senate amendment No. 1445 that Senator HIRONO and I have introduced.

I want to begin by thanking my colleague from Hawaii for working with me on this amendment and acknowledging her leadership. I also want to thank Senators GRASSLEY, BLUMENTHAL, MORAN, and WARNOCK for their contributions as well.

Crimes motivated by bias against race, national origin, or other characteristics simply cannot be tolerated. Our amendment both denounces these acts and marshals additional resources toward addressing and stopping these despicable crimes.

The amendment that the Senator from Hawaii and I are offering today will improve the underlying bill in a number of key ways, while it will affirm our steadfast commitment to stand with the Asian-American, Pacific Islander community against all forms of violence and harassment.

First, our amendment strongly condemns the hate crimes targeting the AAPI community. In the past year, Stop AAPI Hate reported nearly 3,800 cases of anti-Asian discrimination. The Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism found that the reporting of anti-Asian hate crimes increased by 145 percent in 16 major cities even though hate crimes declined in those cities overall.

Racially motivated discrimination and violence should never be tolerated.

I want to thank Senator GRASSLEY and Senator WARNOCK for their contributions to this section of our amendment.

Second, the Hirono-Collins amendment directs the Attorney General to assign a point person at the Department of Justice to expedite the review of these hate crimes and requires the Attorney General to issue guidance to State, local, and Tribal law enforcement partners about how to address them. Our amendment would also improve data collection and expand public awareness about hate crimes and ways to support victims. With better information, we can help prevent these crimes before they occur and assist law enforcement in bringing the perpetrators to justice.

Third, our amendment incorporates the Jabara-Heyer NO HATE Act, authored by Senators BLUMENTHAL and MORAN. This bipartisan bill, which I have cosponsored, provides State and local governments and law enforcement agencies with additional tools and resources to understand, identify, and report hate crimes. It provides grants to State and local governments for training and for using the FBI's national hate crimes database to create reporting hotlines and to support community engagement around prevention and services for victims. This is important because far too many hate crimes go unreported, and without data, it is difficult to investigate and prosecute them.

Again, let me thank the Senator from Hawaii for her leadership on this amendment. I enjoyed working with her to strengthen and improve the bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it. In doing so, we can send an unmistakably strong signal that crimes targeting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in our country will not be tolerated.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, our Nation is in the midst of a historic crime wave that is affecting Americans of every background and walk of life. This surge in violence includes a shocking rise in hate crimes against our fellow citizens of Asian descent. Last year, the total number of hate crimes in America's largest cities dropped by 7 percent, but they surged by nearly 150 percent against Asian Americans.

Often, these hate crimes target the elderly and the frail—people who can't fight back against their vicious assailants.

Just last month, a 65-year-old Asian-American woman was knocked to the ground and repeatedly kicked in broad daylight on the streets of New York City while her attacker shouted anti-Asian slurs. We later learned that her attacker was a convicted murderer who was out on parole, thanks to criminal

leniency policies. Instead of being in prison, locked up, where he belonged, he was brutalizing an innocent victim in broad daylight—yet more proof that being weak on crime doesn't reduce crime; it only invites more crime.

A civilized society can't ignore such attacks on our innocent citizens. We have to protect them. We have to protect every citizen and get tough on violent hate crimes.

Unfortunately, in response to this terrible rise in anti-Asian hate crimes, the Democrats initially introduced an extremely partisan bill intended to score political points. This flawed piece of legislation that the Senator from Hawaii originally sponsored contained provisions tailor-made to muzzle free speech.

For example, the bill would have directed the Department of Justice to tell Americans how they were supposed to talk about this virus. I voted against proceeding to this bill, in part because of this crazy, radical idea to impose a speech code on how Americans can talk about this virus. Some say: How could you vote against it? Very simple. I will never support a speech code imposed on the American people on how they can exercise their First Amendment rights to talk about this pandemic.

This whole idea is deeply concerning, especially because some in the media and some of our Democratic friends believe that even pointing out that the virus came from China is somehow inciting violence. That is as foolish as it is dangerous. Calling this virus—which, yes, came from Wuhan, China—the Wuhan virus is not racist, and it doesn't incite violence. You may recall, after all, that last year, journalists from such esteemed outlets as CNN, Reuters, the Washington Post, and the New York Times all used the terms ''Chinese virus,'' ''Chinese coronavirus,'' and ''Wuhan coronavirus.'' Were they inciting violence? Were they racist? No, of course not. They were following the centuries-old practice of referring to diseases by their geographic names.

It wasn't anti-Spanish to call the influenza outbreak of 1918 the ''Spanish flu'' even though it didn't even start in Spain. It was not anti-Egyptian to use the term ''West Nile virus.'' What about the variants of this virus from Brazil? from South Africa? from Great Britain? We use those terms. Is that somehow going to have to be banned from polite society's lexicon as well?

Second, I also want to point out that the Democrats' original bill, supposedly about the violence against Asian Americans, never actually used the term ''Asian American''—not once. Instead, it had some new, manufactured, mysterious term called ''COVID–19 hate crimes,'' which could have set a precedent for the even wider suppression of free speech against citizens who have no animus toward Asians and who haven't committed any crimes—citizens, for instance, who are concerned about the spread of the coronavirus due to the surge of illegal immigration at our border.

According to the mainstream media, if you so much as ask a question about the unvaccinated and untested persons who are entering our country at the border every day, you are somehow bigoted or nativist or xenophobe. In the original version of the bill, the language ''COVID–19 hate crimes'' could have resulted in individuals opposed to illegal immigration being reported for merely expressing an opinion.

Yet I am happy to report that this process, which had a bitter, partisan beginning, will soon have a rather uplifting and unifying end. Thanks to the diligent work of one of the hardest working Senators in the U.S. Senate, the Senator from Maine, these offensive provisions of the Democrats' original bill have been removed. The Senator from Maine has helped turn what was a bitter, partisan piece of legislation into something that now Members of both parties can hopefully support. Thanks to her efforts, this legislation is specifically focused on the crisis at hand and will improve the reporting of anti-Asian hate crimes.

Soon, we will also vote on a series of amendments from some of my fellow Senators to improve this legislation even further. I look forward to voting for those amendments, for the substitute amendment, and for the bill, as amended.

Today, this Chamber will take a step forward in fighting the rise of anti-Asian violence. I hope that we continue to make progress so that every victim gets justice and that further attacks are deterred.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, as the author of this bill, I totally disagree with characterizing it as having had a bitter partisan beginning, but my colleague is exercising his free speech right, so there you go.

After 2 weeks of hard work and bipartisan collaboration, the U.S. Senate is poised to take real action to confront the wave of anti-Asian hate sweeping our country. Although we still have some damaging amendments to defeat, I am confident that, in a few hours, the Senate will pass the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act, as amended, with the substitute Hirono-Collins amendment. By doing so, we will send a powerful message of solidarity to the AAPI community that the Senate will not be a bystander as anti-Asian violence surges in our country.

Over the past years, hate crimes targeting the AAPI have risen 150 percent, as noted. More than 3,800 incidents have been reported across all 50 States and the District of Columbia. These statistics paint a disturbing picture of what is happening in our country, but they only quantify part of the problem. Why? Because hate crimes and other incidents are notoriously underrepresented.

These attacks have not ceased in the 2 weeks since the Senate began debating this bill. Last Sunday, an 80-year-old woman and her 79-year-old husband, both of Korean descent, were taking an evening walk in a local park near their home in Southern California. Suddenly, without warning, an assailant approached the couple and punched them in their faces. That same assailant is also suspected of threatening Sakura Kokumai, a Japanese-American Olympic karate athlete, who, incidentally, was born in Hawaii.

These unprovoked, random attacks and incidents are happening in supermarkets, on our streets, in takeout restaurants—basically, wherever we are. These disturbing and horrifying attacks are in many ways a predictable and foreseeable consequence of the use of racist and inflammatory language like ''Chinese virus'' or ''Kung flu'' to describe the pandemic.

I have been heartened by the steps President Biden has taken to denounce this language and confront this epidemic of hate. Under his leadership, the executive branch is doing its part, and in a few short hours, Congress will do ours by passing the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act.

This is not a controversial bill. It focuses Federal leadership to investigate and report hate crimes and other incidents, and it provides resources for our communities to come together to take a stand against intolerance and hate.

Over the past 2 weeks, I have worked with Senators in both parties to make changes that broaden support for this bill while retaining its original purpose. In particular, I want to acknowledge and thank Senator COLLINS for her good-faith efforts to amend this bill and build support for it in the Republican caucus.

I also want to thank Senator DUCKWORTH for her leadership on this issue; Senators BLUMENTHAL and MORAN, whose NO HATE Act is now included in our legislation; and Senators WARNOCK and GRASSLEY, who contributed important findings to this bill.

This moment would not have been possible without the determined efforts of Leader SCHUMER and Chairman DURBIN and the excellent work of my friend and colleague in the House, Congresswoman GRACE MENG.

I am grateful that the Senate will soon be taking action to confront anti-Asian hate in our country, but ours is not the only community suffering right now. Earlier this week, a jury in Minneapolis delivered justice and accountability for the murder of George Floyd, but make no mistake: One conviction cannot and will not erase the enduring legacy of systemic racism and disparate policing in our country. It is my sincere hope that we can channel and sustain the bipartisan work done on this important piece of legislation into debating and passing the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, and I understand that bipartisan talks are underway. We are in this together. We are in this together.

Senator COLLINS, I really appreciate your work on this bill. We would not be here without your support.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1456

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 4 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote in relation to amendment No. 1456.

Who yields time?

The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, I rise in support of amendment No. 1456, which I have introduced, along with Senator KENNEDY from Louisiana.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSOR

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator HAGERTY also be added as a cosponsor to the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, this amendment is straightforward. It targets the ongoing discrimination that is being directed against Asian Americans by colleges and universities across the country, including preeminent institutions such as Yale and Harvard, which are denying admission to qualified Asian-American applicants in favor of underrepresented minority groups. The U.S. Department of Justice was suing Yale for its discrimination against Asian Americans until the Biden administration dismissed that lawsuit.

My amendment, simply put, would prohibit institutions of higher education from receiving any Federal funding if they have a policy or if they engage in discrimination against Asian Americans during the recruitment review of applications or admissions.

I urge the adoption of the amendment.

I yield the remainder of my time to Senator KENNEDY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, in 2021, the year of our Lord 2021, we have major universities in this country that are discriminating in admissions against Asian Americans. Now, I know they think they know how to discriminate in the right way, but discrimination is discrimination.

At one of these universities in 2013, Harvard admitted that if it admitted Asian Americans purely on the basis of academic achievement, it would have doubled the number of Asian Americans. Now, this is wrong; it is contemptible; it is odious. This amendment doesn't go nearly far enough. It is a baby step, but at least it is a step.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who yields time?

The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment. Discrimination against Asian-American students or any students on the basis of race is already prohibited by Federal law.

This amendment is a transparent and cynical attack on longstanding admission policies that serve to increase diversity and provide opportunity to students of color in our institutions of higher learning. This amendment also threatens colleges and universities with the loss of all Federal funding for pursuing or using policies that our courts have upheld repeatedly.

I urge everyone to reject this amendment.

I yield back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSOR

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to be added as a cosponsor to this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I yield back the remainder of my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

Mr. CRUZ. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE).

The result was announced—yeas 49, nays 48, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 162 Leg.]

YEAS—49

Barrasso	Graham	Risch
Blackburn	Grassley	Romney
Blunt	Hagerty	Rounds
Boozman	Hawley	Rubio
Braun	Hoeven	Sasse
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Johnson	Shelby
Collins	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lankford	Thune
Cotton	Lummis	Tillis
Cramer	Marshall	Toomey
Crapo	McConnell	Tuberville
Cruz	Moran	Wicker
Daines	Murkowski	Young
Ernst	Paul	
Fischer	Portman	

NAYS—48

Baldwin	Heinrich	Peters
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Reed
Blumenthal	Hirono	Rosen
Booker	Kaine	Sanders
Brown	Kelly	Schatz
Cantwell	King	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Luján	Sinema
Casey	Manchin	Stabenow
Coons	Markey	Tester
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Feinstein	Murray	Warren
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Hassan	Padilla	Wyden

NOT VOTING—3

Klobuchar	Lee	Smith

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). On this vote, the yeas are 49, the nays are 48.

Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this amendment, the amendment is not agreed to.

The amendment (No. 1456) was rejected.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1425

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 4 minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to a vote in relation to amendment No. 1425.

The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of Senator LEE's amendment No. 1425.

Despite the protections of the First Amendment, over the course of the pandemic, many States have placed heavy-handed restrictions that have limited Americans' freedom to gather for worship, to meet in smaller groups for religious purposes, or even to sing praise and worship.

At first, many Americans accepted these restrictions. Our Nation was grappling with the new and deadly virus, and the restrictions were only supposed to be temporary. But as the weeks and months dragged on, States lifted restrictions on restaurants, on casinos, on museums, while keeping tight restrictions in place for synagogues, for churches, for temples, for mosques, and other religious gatherings.

Senator LEE's amendment requires the Department of Justice to investigate whether the government applied the same rules to religious groups that were applied to similar nonreligious organizations and businesses and whether those restrictions complied with the First Amendment.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senator LEE's written remarks on his amendment be inserted into the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection.

Mr. CRUZ. I urge adoption of the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, if you believe the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act is a good piece of legislation—and, obviously, over 90 Senators voted to move to proceed to this bill—then you can't vote for the Lee amendment because the first thing he does before he puts out his own idea of what we should consider instead is to strike key sections of the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act that require the Attorney General to issue guidance to establish online reporting of hate crime incidents, collect data on hate crime incidents, and expand public education in campaigns. The Lee amendment strikes that. He doesn't want us to do that.

He wants us to assign the Attorney General the responsibility, in the next 180 days, to survey every COVID–19 restriction in every State in the Union.

I urge a vote against the Lee amendment.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1425

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

Mr. CRUZ. 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 legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The result was announced—yeas 49, nays 48, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 163 Leg.]

YEAS—49

Barrasso	Graham	Risch
Blackburn	Grassley	Romney
Blunt	Hagerty	Rounds
Boozman	Hawley	Rubio
Braun	Hoeven	Sasse
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Johnson	Shelby
Collins	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lankford	Thune
Cotton	Lummis	Tillis
Cramer	Marshall	Toomey
Crapo	McConnell	Tuberville
Cruz	Moran	Wicker
Daines	Murkowski	Young
Ernst	Paul	
Fischer	Portman	

NAYS—48

Baldwin	Heinrich	Peters
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Reed
Blumenthal	Hirono	Rosen
Booker	Kaine	Sanders
Brown	Kelly	Schatz
Cantwell	King	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Luján	Sinema
Casey	Manchin	Stabenow
Coons	Markey	Tester
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Feinstein	Murray	Warren
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Hassan	Padilla	Wyden

NOT VOTING—3

Klobuchar	Lee	Smith

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). On this vote, the yeas are 49, the nays are 48.

Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this amendment, the amendment is not agreed to.

The amendment (No. 1425) was rejected.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1458

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 4 minutes of debate, equally divided prior to a vote in relation to amendment No. 1458.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, I rise in support of amendment No. 1458, which I introduced. It will narrow the scope of the tangled web of regulatory guidance that the bill calls for and keep politics out of the process of reporting and addressing hate crimes against Asian Americans. It addresses crimes, not incidences.

I don't think it is out of line to introduce a little precision to the process and make sure the Agency officials who will be responsible for running this program know what they are supposed to be looking for and what they are supposed to be doing with all that information.

I can guarantee my colleagues that support of this change will result in a bill that will fulfill its purpose to protect victims and potential victims of hate crimes, and it will stop their attackers.

I urge adoption of the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I strongly urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment because it essentially shreds the bill. It removes core provisions.

It would prevent the Department of Justice from tracking hate crime incidents that don't rise to the level of criminal conduct. That provision is contrary to policy of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. It would eliminate a provision from the NO HATE Act that I have advocated that funds creation of State-run hotlines so we know more about these hate crimes.

It would eliminate a judge's ability to order that a person convicted of hate crimes undertake educational classes and provide that kind of remedy as a condition for supervised release.

In short, it eliminates some of the most important provisions of this bill.

I strongly urge opposition to this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. 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 assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE).

The result was announced—yeas 46, nays 51, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 164 Leg.]

YEAS—46

Barrasso	Fischer	Murkowski
Blackburn	Graham	Paul
Boozman	Grassley	Portman
Braun	Hagerty	Risch
Burr	Hoeven	Romney
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cassidy	Inhofe	Rubio
Cornyn	Johnson	Sasse
Cotton	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cramer	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Crapo	Lummis	Shelby
Cruz	Marshall	Sullivan
Daines	McConnell	
Ernst	Moran	
Thune	Toomey	Wicker
Tillis	Tuberville	Young

NAYS—51

Baldwin	Hassan	Padilla
Bennet	Hawley	Peters
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Reed
Blunt	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Booker	Hirono	Sanders
Brown	Kaine	Schatz
Cantwell	Kelly	Schumer
Cardin	King	Shaheen
Carper	Leahy	Sinema
Casey	Luján	Stabenow
Collins	Manchin	Tester
Coons	Markey	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Warner
Duckworth	Merkley	Warnock
Durbin	Murphy	Warren
Feinstein	Murray	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Wyden

NOT VOTING—3

Klobuchar	Lee	Smith

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 46, the nays are 51.

Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this amendment, the amendment is not agreed to.

The amendment (No. 1458) was rejected.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1445

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, amendment No. 1445 is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 1445) was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass, as amended?

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today, I express my support for S. 937, as amended by Senators HIRONO and COLLINS.

Every single one of us is horrified to see our fellow Americans attacked because of their race or ethnicity. We are united in our opposition to this despicable violence and to seeing it investigated and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. I have introduced a resolution to this effect and asked for a hearing to learn more about Attorney General Garland's review of hate crimes committed against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

It is good to see my Democratic friends acknowledge that bipartisanship is still the way to solve problems in the Senate. We have come together and, with a bipartisan amendment, improved this bill and made it more useful. We have gone beyond merely looking at COVID-related hate crimes to all hate crimes, and we have increased funding for reporting hate crimes.

I would be remiss if I did not say that more bipartisanship could have made the bill even better. I think a committee markup would have been useful. I think if Democrats had allowed us to bring a Republican amendment extending the Violence Against Women Act for a vote, that would have been useful. Women are suffering from terrible violence during this pandemic, and this was a missed opportunity.

Passing amendments by Senators KENNEDY, CRUZ, LEE, and BLACKBURN

would guarantee even more support for marginalized communities, by ensuring Asian Americans are not discriminated against by institutions of higher learning and that religious Americans are free to worship in peace during the pandemic.

But I hope nonetheless that this is a moment where the Senate speaks together about the importance of fighting hate crimes. We all believe that, even though we have different ideas about the best way to do it. This bill is the product of that collaboration. I will be voting for it, and I hope my colleagues will do the same.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, the Senate's passage of this legislation affirms our commitment to stand with the Asian-American and Pacific Islander community against hate crimes. I urge a ''yes'' vote.

I thank my colleague from Hawaii for working with me to improve the Asian-Americans Hate Crimes Act. Crimes motivated by bias against race, national origin, and other characteristics cannot be tolerated.

The Center for the Study of Hate & Extremism found that reporting of anti-Asian hate crimes increased by 145 percent in 16 major cities, even though hate crimes declined in those cities overall.

The amendment we adopted today and the bill we are about to pass denounces those acts and marshals additional resources toward stopping these despicable crimes. The bill directs the Department of Justice to expedite its review of hate crimes and to issue guidance that will both help prevent them from occurring and improve their reporting.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, in just a few moments, the Senate will take a strong stand against anti-Asian hate in our country.

Passing the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act sends a clear and unmistakable message of solidarity to the AAPI community, and this moment would not be possible without the collective efforts of so many people, including, of course, my Republican colleagues—one person in particular who just spoke before me.

But I want to especially thank Majority Leader SCHUMER for making this bill a priority for the Senate and working closely with us to shepherd its passage.

I also want to thank my colleagues in the House, especially Congresswoman GRACE MENG for being the dogged advocate for our community during this process, as well as Members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, led by Congresswoman JUDY CHU.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote for this legislation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. I thank my colleague from Maine and my colleague from Hawaii, as well as my colleague from Illinois, and so many others who have led on this issue.

In a moment, the Senate will vote on final passage of the anti-Asian hate crimes bill.

This long overdue bill sends two messages to our Asian-American friends: We will not tolerate bigotry against you; and to those perpetrating anti-Asian bigotry, we will pursue you to the fullest extent of the law.

We cannot—we cannot—allow this recent tide of bigotry, intolerance, and prejudice against Asian Americans go unchecked. A bedrock value of our multicultural society is that an attack on any one group is an attack on all of us.

By passing this bill, we tell our law enforcement agencies to prioritize anti-Asian violence and wield the sword to detect, deter, and prosecute hate crimes of all varieties. We send a clear message, a unified message, that hate has no place in America. And so, by passing this bill, we recommit ourselves to the most American of creeds, ''e pluribus unum,'' out of many one.

I urge a unanimous ''yes'' vote on this legislation, and 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.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN), the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL).

The result was announced—yeas 94, nays 1, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 165 Leg.]

YEAS—94

Baldwin	Gillibrand	Ossoff
Barrasso	Graham	Padilla
Bennet	Grassley	Peters
Blumenthal	Hagerty	Portman
Blunt	Hassan	Reed
Booker	Heinrich	Risch
Boozman	Hickenlooper	Romney
Braun	Hirono	Rosen
Brown	Hoeven	Rounds
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Cantwell	Inhofe	Sanders
Capito	Johnson	Sasse
Cardin	Kaine	Schatz
Carper	Kelly	Schumer
Casey	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	King	Scott (SC)
Collins	Lankford	Shaheen
Coons	Leahy	Shelby
Cornyn	Luján	Sinema
Cortez Masto	Lummis	Stabenow
Cotton	Manchin	Sullivan
Cramer	Markey	Tester
Crapo	Marshall	Thune
Cruz	McConnell	Tillis
Daines	Menendez	Toomey
Duckworth	Merkley	Tuberville
Durbin	Moran	Van Hollen
Ernst	Murkowski	Warner
Feinstein	Murphy	Warnock
Fischer	Murray	Warren
		Whitehouse
		Wicker
		Wyden
		Young

NAYS—1

Hawley

NOT VOTING—5

Blackburn	Lee	Smith
Klobuchar	Paul	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. VAN HOLLEN). On this vote, the yeas are 94, the nays are 1.

The 60-vote threshold having been achieved, the bill, as amended, is passed.

The bill (S. 937), as amended, was passed, as follows:

S. 937

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 ''COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Following the spread of COVID–19 in 2020, there has been a dramatic increase in hate crimes and violence against Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders.

(2) According to a recent report, there were nearly 3,800 reported cases of anti-Asian discrimination and incidents related to COVID–19 between March 19, 2020, and February 28, 2021, in all 50 States and the District of Columbia.

(3) During this time frame, race has been cited as the primary reason for discrimination, making up over 90 percent of incidents, and the United States condemns and denounces any and all anti-Asian and Pacific Islander sentiment in any form.

(4) Roughly 36 percent of these incidents took place at a business and more than 2,000,000 Asian-American businesses have contributed to the diverse fabric of American life.

(5) More than 1,900,000 Asian-American and Pacific Islander older adults, particularly those older adults who are recent immigrants or have limited English proficiency, may face even greater challenges in dealing with the COVID–19 pandemic, including discrimination, economic insecurity, and language isolation.

(6) In the midst of this alarming surge in anti-Asian hate crimes and incidents, a shooter murdered the following 8 people in the Atlanta, Georgia region, 7 of whom were women and 6 of whom were women of Asian descent:

(A) Xiaojie Tan.

(B) Daoyou Feng.

(C) Delaina Ashley Yaun González.

(D) Paul Andre Michels.

(E) Soon Chung Park.

(F) Hyun Jung Grant.

(G) Suncha Kim.

(H) Yong Ae Yue.

(7) The people of the United States will always remember the victims of these shootings and stand in solidarity with those affected by this senseless tragedy and incidents of hate that have affected the Asian and Pacific Islander communities.

SEC. 3. REVIEW OF HATE CRIMES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 7 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall designate an officer or employee of the Department of Justice whose responsibility during the applicable period shall be to facilitate the expedited review of hate crimes (as described in section 249 of title 18, United States Code) and reports of any such crime to Federal, State, local, or Tribal law enforcement agencies.

(b) APPLICABLE PERIOD DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''applicable period'' means the period beginning on the date on which the officer or employee is designated under subsection (a), and ending on the date that is 1 year after the date on which the emergency period described in subparagraph (B) of section 1135(g)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320b–5(g)(1)) ends, except that the Attorney General may extend such period as appropriate.

SEC. 4. GUIDANCE.

(a) GUIDANCE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.—The Attorney General shall issue guidance for State, local, and Tribal law enforcement agencies, pursuant to this Act and other applicable law, on how to—

(1) establish online reporting of hate crimes or incidents, and to have online reporting that is equally effective for people with disabilities as for people without disabilities available in multiple languages as determined by the Attorney General;

(2) collect data disaggregated by the protected characteristics described in section 249 of title 18, United States Code; and

(3) expand public education campaigns aimed at raising awareness of hate crimes and reaching victims, that are equally effective for people with disabilities as for people without disabilities.

(b) GUIDANCE RELATING TO COVID–19 PANDEMIC.—The Attorney General and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in coordination with the COVID–19 Health Equity Task Force and community-based organizations, shall issue guidance aimed at raising awareness of hate crimes during the COVID–19 pandemic.

SEC. 5. JABARA-HEYER NO HATE ACT.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''Khalid Jabara and Heather Heyer National Opposition to Hate, Assault, and Threats to Equality Act of 2021'' or the ''Jabara-Heyer NO HATE Act''.

(b) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The incidence of violence known as hate crimes, or crimes motivated by bias, poses a serious national problem.

(2) According to data obtained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the incidence of such violence increased in 2019, the most recent year for which data is available.

(3) In 1990, Congress enacted the Hate Crime Statistics Act (Public Law 101–275; 28 U.S.C. 534 note) to provide the Federal Government, law enforcement agencies, and the public with data regarding the incidence of hate crime. The Hate Crime Statistics Act and the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act (division E of Public Law 111–84; 123 Stat. 2835) have enabled Federal authorities to understand and, where appropriate, investigate and prosecute hate crimes.

(4) A more complete understanding of the national problem posed by hate crime is in the public interest and supports the Federal interest in eradicating bias-motivated violence referenced in section 249(b)(1)(C) of title 18, United States Code.

(5) However, a complete understanding of the national problem posed by hate crimes is hindered by incomplete data from Federal, State, and local jurisdictions through the Uniform Crime Reports program authorized under section 534 of title 28, United States Code, and administered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(6) Multiple factors contribute to the provision of inaccurate and incomplete data regarding the incidence of hate crime through the Uniform Crime Reports program. A significant contributing factor is the quality and quantity of training that State and local law enforcement agencies receive on the identification and reporting of suspected bias-motivated crimes.

(7) The problem of crimes motivated by bias is sufficiently serious, widespread, and interstate in nature as to warrant Federal financial assistance to States and local jurisdictions.

(8) Federal financial assistance with regard to certain violent crimes motivated by bias enables Federal, State, and local authorities to work together as partners in the investigation and prosecution of such crimes.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) HATE CRIME.—The term ''hate crime'' means an act described in section 245, 247, or 249 of title 18, United States Code, or in section 901 of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3631).

(2) PRIORITY AGENCY.—The term ''priority agency'' means—

(A) a law enforcement agency of a unit of local government that serves a population of not less than 100,000, as computed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation; or

(B) a law enforcement agency of a unit of local government that—

(i) serves a population of not less than 50,000 and less than 100,000, as computed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and

(ii) has reported no hate crimes through the Uniform Crime Reports program in each of the 3 most recent calendar years for which such data is available.

(3) STATE.—The term ''State'' has the meaning given the term in section 901 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10251).

(4) UNIFORM CRIME REPORTS.—The term ''Uniform Crime Reports'' means the reports authorized under section 534 of title 28, United States Code, and administered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation that compile nationwide criminal statistics for use—

(A) in law enforcement administration, operation, and management; and

(B) to assess the nature and type of crime in the United States.

(5) UNIT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The term ''unit of local government'' has the meaning given the term in section 901 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10251).

(d) REPORTING OF HATE CRIMES.—

(1) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General may make grants to States and units of local government to assist the State or unit of local government in implementing the National Incident-Based Reporting System, including to train employees in identifying and classifying hate crimes in the National Incident-Based Reporting System.

(B) PRIORITY.—In making grants under subparagraph (A), the Attorney General shall give priority to States and units of local government that develop and implement the programs and activities described in subsection (f)(2)(A).

(2) REPORTING.—

(A) COMPLIANCE.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), in each fiscal year beginning after the date that is 3 years after the date on which a State or unit of local government first receives a grant under paragraph (1), the State or unit of local government shall provide to the Attorney General, through the Uniform Crime Reporting system, information pertaining to hate crimes committed in that jurisdiction during the preceding fiscal year.

(ii) EXTENSIONS; WAIVER.—The Attorney General—

(I) may provide a 120-day extension to a State or unit of local government that is making good faith efforts to comply with clause (i); and

(II) shall waive the requirements of clause (i) if compliance with that subparagraph by a State or unit of local government would be unconstitutional under the constitution of the State or of the State in which the unit of local government is located, respectively.

(B) FAILURE TO COMPLY.—If a State or unit of local government that receives a grant under paragraph (1) fails to substantially comply with subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, the State or unit of local government shall repay the grant in full, plus reasonable interest and penalty charges allowable by law or established by the Attorney General.

(e) GRANTS FOR STATE-RUN HATE CRIME HOTLINES.—

(1) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall make grants to States to create State-run hate crime reporting hotlines.

(B) GRANT PERIOD.—A grant made under subparagraph (A) shall be for a period of not more than 5 years.

(2) HOTLINE REQUIREMENTS.—A State shall ensure, with respect to a hotline funded by a grant under paragraph (1), that—

(A) the hotline directs individuals to—

(i) law enforcement if appropriate; and

(ii) local support services;

(B) any personally identifiable information that an individual provides to an agency of the State through the hotline is not directly or indirectly disclosed, without the consent of the individual, to—

(i) any other agency of that State;

(ii) any other State;

(iii) the Federal Government; or

(iv) any other person or entity;

(C) the staff members who operate the hotline are trained to be knowledgeable about—

(i) applicable Federal, State, and local hate crime laws; and

(ii) local law enforcement resources and applicable local support services; and

(D) the hotline is accessible to—

(i) individuals with limited English proficiency, where appropriate; and

(ii) individuals with disabilities.

(3) BEST PRACTICES.—The Attorney General shall issue guidance to States on best practices for implementing the requirements of paragraph (2).

(f) INFORMATION COLLECTION BY STATES AND UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

(A) COVERED AGENCY.—The term ''covered agency'' means—

(i) a State law enforcement agency; and

(ii) a priority agency.

(B) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ''eligible entity'' means—

(i) a State; or

(ii) a unit of local government that has a priority agency.

(2) GRANTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General may make grants to eligible entities to assist covered agencies within the jurisdiction of the eligible entity in conducting law enforcement activities or crime reduction programs to prevent, address, or otherwise respond to hate crime, particularly as those activities or programs relate to reporting hate crimes through the Uniform Crime Reports program, including—

(i) adopting a policy on identifying, investigating, and reporting hate crimes;

(ii) developing a standardized system of collecting, analyzing, and reporting the incidence of hate crime;

(iii) establishing a unit specialized in identifying, investigating, and reporting hate crimes;

(iv) engaging in community relations functions related to hate crime prevention and education such as—

(I) establishing a liaison with formal community-based organizations or leaders; and

(II) conducting public meetings or educational forums on the impact of hate crimes, services available to hate crime victims, and the relevant Federal, State, and local laws pertaining to hate crimes; and

(v) providing hate crime trainings for agency personnel.

(B) SUBGRANTS.—A State that receives a grant under subparagraph (A) may award a subgrant to a unit of local government within the State for the purposes under that subparagraph, except that a unit of local government may provide funding from such a subgrant to any law enforcement agency of the unit of local government.

(3) INFORMATION REQUIRED OF STATES AND UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—For each fiscal year in which a State or unit of local government receives a grant or subgrant under paragraph (2), the State or unit of local government shall—

(i) collect information from each law enforcement agency that receives funding from the grant or subgrant summarizing the law enforcement activities or crime reduction programs conducted by the agency to prevent, address, or otherwise respond to hate crime, particularly as those activities or programs relate to reporting hate crimes through the Uniform Crime Reports program; and

(ii) submit to the Attorney General a report containing the information collected under clause (i).

(B) SEMIANNUAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY REPORT.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—In collecting the information required under subparagraph (A)(i), a State or unit of local government shall require each law enforcement agency that receives funding from a grant or subgrant awarded to the State or unit of local government under paragraph (2) to submit a semiannual report to the State or unit of local government that includes a summary of the law enforcement activities or crime reduction programs conducted by the agency during the reporting period to prevent, address, or otherwise respond to hate crime, particularly as those activities or programs relate to reporting hate crimes through the Uniform Crime Reports program.

(ii) CONTENTS.—In a report submitted under clause (i), a law enforcement agency shall, at a minimum, disclose—

(I) whether the agency has adopted a policy on identifying, investigating, and reporting hate crimes;

(II) whether the agency has developed a standardized system of collecting, analyzing, and reporting the incidence of hate crime;

(III) whether the agency has established a unit specialized in identifying, investigating, and reporting hate crimes;

(IV) whether the agency engages in community relations functions related to hate crime, such as—

(aa) establishing a liaison with formal community-based organizations or leaders; and

(bb) conducting public meetings or educational forums on the impact of hate crime, services available to hate crime victims, and the relevant Federal, State, and local laws pertaining to hate crime; and

(V) the number of hate crime trainings for agency personnel, including the duration of the trainings, conducted by the agency during the reporting period.

(4) COMPLIANCE AND REDIRECTION OF FUNDS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), beginning not later than 1 year after the date of this Act, a State or unit of local government receiving a grant or subgrant under paragraph (2) shall comply with paragraph (3).

(B) EXTENSIONS; WAIVER.—The Attorney General—

(i) may provide a 120-day extension to a State or unit of local government that is making good faith efforts to collect the information required under paragraph (3); and

(ii) shall waive the requirements of paragraph (3) for a State or unit of local government if compliance with that subsection by the State or unit of local government would be unconstitutional under the constitution of the State or of the State in which the unit of local government is located, respectively.

(g) REQUIREMENTS OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.—

(1) INFORMATION COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS; REPORT.—In order to improve the accuracy of data regarding the incidence of hate crime provided through the Uniform Crime Reports program, and promote a more complete understanding of the national problem posed by hate crime, the Attorney General shall—

(A) collect and analyze the information provided by States and units of local government under subsection (f) for the purpose of developing policies related to the provision of accurate data obtained under the Hate Crime Statistics Act (Public Law 101–275; 28 U.S.C. 534 note) by the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and

(B) for each calendar year beginning after the date of enactment of this Act, publish and submit to Congress a report based on the information collected and analyzed under subparagraph (A).

(2) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—A report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) a qualitative analysis of the relationship between—

(i) the number of hate crimes reported by State law enforcement agencies or other law enforcement agencies that received funding from a grant or subgrant awarded under paragraph (2) through the Uniform Crime Reports program; and

(ii) the nature and extent of law enforcement activities or crime reduction programs conducted by those agencies to prevent, address, or otherwise respond to hate crime; and

(B) a quantitative analysis of the number of State law enforcement agencies and other law enforcement agencies that received funding from a grant or subgrant awarded under paragraph (2) that have—

(i) adopted a policy on identifying, investigating, and reporting hate crimes;

(ii) developed a standardized system of collecting, analyzing, and reporting the incidence of hate crime;

(iii) established a unit specialized in identifying, investigating, and reporting hate crimes;

(iv) engaged in community relations functions related to hate crime, such as—

(I) establishing a liaison with formal community-based organizations or leaders; and

(II) conducting public meetings or educational forums on the impact of hate crime, services available to hate crime victims, and the relevant Federal, State, and local laws pertaining to hate crime; and

(v) conducted hate crime trainings for agency personnel during the reporting period, including—

(I) the total number of trainings conducted by each agency; and

(II) the duration of the trainings described in subclause (I).

(h) ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING.—Section 249 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) SUPERVISED RELEASE.—If a court includes, as a part of a sentence of imprisonment imposed for a violation of subsection (a), a requirement that the defendant be placed on a term of supervised release after imprisonment under section 3583, the court may order, as an explicit condition of supervised release, that the defendant undertake educational classes or community service directly related to the community harmed by the defendant's offense.''.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 59.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read nomination of Deanne Bennett Criswell, of New York, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 59, Deanne Bennett Criswell, of New York, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

Charles E. Schumer, Gary C. Peters, Ron Wyden, Jack Reed, Benjamin L. Cardin, Patrick J. Leahy, Michael F. Bennet, Tim Kaine, Christopher Murphy, Richard J. Durbin, Christopher A. Coons, Cory A. Booker, Martin Heinrich, Chris Van Hollen, Edward J. Markey, Sherrod Brown, Bernard Sanders, Robert P. Casey, Jr.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 54.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Janet Garvin

McCabe, of Indiana, to be Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 54, Janet Garvin McCabe, of Indiana, to be Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Charles E. Schumer, Thomas R. Carper, Ron Wyden, Jack Reed, Benjamin L. Cardin, Patrick J. Leahy, Michael F. Bennet, Tim Kaine, Christopher Murphy, Richard J. Durbin, Cory A. Booker, Martin Heinrich, Chris Van Hollen, Edward J. Markey, Sherrod Brown, Bernard Sanders, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Richard Blumenthal.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

Mr. SCHUMER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 68.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Colin Hackett Kahl, of California, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 68, Colin Hackett Kahl, of California, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

Charles E. Schumer, Patrick J. Leahy, Richard J. Durbin, Christopher A. Coons, Ron Wyden, Jack Reed, Benjamin L. Cardin, Michael F. Bennet, Tim Kaine, Christopher Murphy, Richard Blumenthal, Edward J. Markey, Cory A. Booker, Sherrod Brown, Bernard Sanders, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Martin Heinrich.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 58.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Jason Scott Miller, of Maryland, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 58, Jason Scott Miller, of Maryland, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget.

Charles E. Schumer, Gary C. Peters, Ron Wyden, Jack Reed, Benjamin L. Cardin, Patrick J. Leahy, Michael F. Bennet, Tim Kaine, Christopher Murphy, Richard J. Durbin, Christopher A. Coons, Cory A. Booker, Chris Van Hollen, Edward J. Markey, Sherrod Brown, Bernard Sanders, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Martin Heinrich.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

DRINKING WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE ACT OF 2021—Motion to Proceed

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 34, S. 914.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 34, S. 914, a bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize programs under those Acts, and for other purposes.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 34, S. 914, a bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize programs under those Acts, and for other purposes.

Charles E. Schumer, Thomas R. Carper, Tammy Duckworth, Jeff Merkley, Debbie Stabenow, Richard Blumenthal, Jacky Rosen, Michael F. Bennet, Amy Klobuchar, Mazie K. Hirono, Richard J. Durbin, Tammy Baldwin, Alex Padilla, Maria Cantwell, Sheldon Whitehouse, Cory A. Booker, Patty Murray, Elizabeth Warren.

Mr. SCHUMER. Finally, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, April 22, be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

COVID–19 HATE CRIMES ACT

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I come to the floor to talk about the rise in hate crimes in the Pacific Northwest and to thank my colleague the Senator from Hawaii for her tremendous leadership in guiding us through this process to get this legislation passed in the U.S. Senate.

I want to thank her for her incredible work as a member of the Judiciary Committee and for getting this out and moved to the floor and to thank Senator SCHUMER and Senator MCCONNELL for both helping us to get to this point today and our colleagues for passing this incredible legislation. But, again, thanks to Senator HIRONO for knowing—knowing and understanding and being a great member of the Judiciary Committee—that we needed to get this legislation done now.

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have a long history in our country. And their contributions have been significant, both in cultural vibrancy to our economy and to our way of life.

But, unfortunately, that has also been marked by periods in our history of hate and damaging stereotypes and xenophobia, and we saw this again with COVID–19. That is why we needed to act today, to pass hate crimes legislation to protect Asian Americans in the United States of America and to make sure that they have tools to protect them.

Our AAPI communities are facing the same challenges we face in the pandemic. And trust me, we have lost

some incredible Asian Americans, who ran markets, who ran restaurants, who were small business leaders and continued to work during this crisis and ultimately paid the price with their lives. But they also, in addition to facing the pandemic, have had to face a range of hate and racism against them during this time period.

According to Stop AAPI Hate, nearly 3,800 incidents of violence and hate against AAPI individuals were reported nationwide over a year since the pandemic. And sadly—sadly—women made up over half of this. Nearly 68 percent of the reported incidents of violence against Asian Americans were against Asian-American women. This must stop.

And it is very important that we think about how a fraction of these statistics that are the reported information—how many more are out there that go unreported.

My State, the State of Washington, has the seventh largest Asian-American population and the third largest Pacific Islander population in the Nation. And like the rest of the United States, we have seen an increase in these incidents.

In fact, in 2020, the State had the third highest rate of hate crimes targeted against AAPI community members. That is why I am for getting a full slate of people over at the Department of Justice, including Kristen Clarke, to deal with hate crimes. Why? Because my State is plagued by these issues, and we are not going to tolerate it. We are going to fight back and make sure that we have the infrastructure in place to recognize these things.

Just this past February, a teacher driving in the Seattle International District was assaulted with a sock containing a rock. The attacker was charged with felony assault but not a hate crime.

We have been told that there are widespread reports of AAPI elders and women throughout Western Washington who have been verbally harassed and randomly physically assaulted. The King County Coalition Against Hate and Bias is collecting information about these attacks. But we know that there have been many throughout many communities in our State.

Just a few months ago, a woman in King County and her two children were accosted with a man yelling, screaming at them just to get out—''Get out! Get out!'' And a man was captured on video in downtown Seattle attacking an Asian couple, spitting on them, slapping the man's face, and yelling at them: ''It's your fault.'' So we know these incidents are happening.

In fact, just a week or so ago, I participated in a roundtable of the Asian American-Pacific Islander community from my State to talk about the need for this national legislation and why it is so important we have community-based solutions, which include more cultural education to teach our children the history of the Asian-American community in the United States, mental health support in multiple languages, investing in community groups, and this legislation that was passed today that will give us better tools to prosecute those individuals who participate in hate crimes.

This bill would designate a point person within the U.S. Department of Justice to expedite the review of hate crimes and continue to work with all of us.

It requires the Attorney General to issue guidance to State, local, and Tribal law enforcement to establish an online hate crime reporting and data collection system. These are all important tools.

So I, again, want to thank our colleagues, and I want to also thank Senator BLUMENTHAL. His bipartisan amendment would authorize the Attorney General to provide grants to States and localities to better train law enforcement on identifying, investigating, and reporting hate crimes and to operate State-run hate crime reporting hotlines.

So this legislation will help us in shining a very bright light on an alarming rise in violence against the Asian American-Pacific Islander community and help us with new tools to combat that crime.

I, again, thank my colleagues. We all must work together to stop this kind of violence.

I thank the President.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I want to join my colleague Senator CANTWELL in congratulating Senator HIRONO and all of us for almost unanimously passing this bill that would try to stop discrimination against Asian Americans. I am happy that passed. There was only one vote against it.

I just don't think it goes far enough. I think it is ludicrous, it is odious to me, that in the year 2021, we have major universities in the United States of America that are setting quotas on their admissions for Asian Americans—not quotas to have enough Asian Americans, quotas to keep Asian Americans out. They are, and everybody in this body knows they are doing that.

Harvard is in litigation over it. Harvard officials have already stated that but for their quotas, there would be twice as many Asian Americans at Harvard as there are now if they base the decision solely on academic achievement. And that is wrong.

There is no way to discriminate in the right way. Discrimination is discrimination. Judge people on the basis of their academic achievements.

President Biden has talked an awful lot about the error of discriminating against Asian Americans, and he is absolutely right. What is the first thing he did? He pulled his Justice Department off of filing litigation to try to stop these quotas on Asian Americans and universities. I mean, if there weren't double standards around here, there would be no standards at all.

So I strongly encourage—Senator CRUZ and I offered an amendment to Senator HIRONO's bill to try to fix this. Unfortunately, we couldn't get 60 votes. In fact, I don't think a single—maybe I am wrong in saying this, but not very many of my Democratic friends voted for it.

But I would say to President Biden, now, if you are serious about ending discrimination against Asian Americans, tell your Justice Department to get off its ice cold, lazy rear end and do something about it. Stop the quotas in higher education.

Anyway, that is not, really, what I came up to talk about.

DISPOSE UNUSED MEDICATIONS AND PRESCRIPTION OPIOIDS ACT

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, you are aware, as we all are, of the scourge of opioid abuse in this country. It is horrible. It is terrible. We sometimes lose as many as 50,000 of our people a year.

And as you also know, many people who become addicted to opioids don't necessarily buy the opioids on the street. They get the opioids from family and friends. So one of the best things you can do to try to stop the scourge of opioid abuse is to clear out your medicine cabinet so that people aren't tempted to use the drugs. Turn them in, if they have been prescribed to you, and you don't need them any longer.

To make this easier, our DEA, as you know, Mr. President, holds pretty regularly what we call Take Back Days. On a Take Back Day, any person can go into his or her medicine cabinet, find drugs, including opioids, that they are not using anymore, that could be dangerous if abused, and they can take those unused medications and drop them off at a previously announced DEA drop site.

Take Back Day is this Saturday, April 24. I want to encourage all Americans and Louisianans to do this. Go through your medicine cabinet. If you have opioids that have been prescribed to you—legally, of course—and you don't need them any longer, don't just leave them hanging around. Turn them in, please.

But not every day is Take Back Day, and last year Congress, in its wisdom, passed a law, a very good law, instructing the Department of Veterans Affairs to ask—well, actually to require—VA medical centers to have these drop boxes permanently so that American veterans can throw away medications, including but not limited to opioids, that they don't need. And it has worked out really well.

The question that occurred to me after we passed the bill was why limit that kind of access only to our veterans. So I have a bill to basically open up the Veterans Administration drop

boxes for unused drugs, including but not limited to opioids, at VA medical centers to anybody who wants to go get rid of these unused drugs at any time. You don't have to wait until Take Back Day. This would be a permanent program.

The name of the bill is the Dispose Unused Medications and Prescription Opioids Act. And before I offer this bill up, let me just give one more plug. I would remind everyone that this Saturday, April 24, is Take Back Day. If you have unused medications, including opioids, that you want to get rid of, it will have been publicized in your community by the DEA. You can go drop them off, and I hope people will do that.

Mr. President, toward that end, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be discharged from further consideration of my bill, S. 957, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 957) to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that certain medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs have physical locations for the disposal of controlled substances medications.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I further ask that the Kennedy substitute amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to, that the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed, and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 1459) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to, as follows:

[Purpose: In the nature of a substitute]

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF PERIODS DURING WHICH ANY INDIVIDUAL MAY DISPOSE OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES MEDICATIONS AT FACILITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

Section 3009 of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–315; 38 U.S.C. 8110 note) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) and (c) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsection (b):

''(b) DESIGNATION OF PERIODS FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL TO DISPOSE OF MEDICATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall designate periods during which any individual may dispose of controlled substances medications at a covered Department medical facility.

''(2) PUBLIC INFORMATION CAMPAIGNS.—The Secretary may carry out public information campaigns regarding the periods designated under paragraph (1).''.

The bill (S. 957), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

Mr. KENNEDY. 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. CASSIDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DRINKING WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTRE ACT OF 2021—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

SEACOR POWER LIFT BOAT

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, the year 2020 was a year filled with sadness and grief for me, but, unfortunately, that sadness and grief struck again in the year 2021.

Last Tuesday, 100-mile-per-hour winds capsized a lift boat with a crew of 19 off the coast of Grand Isle, LA, just south of Port Fourchon. The U.S. Coast Guard and a group of Good Samaritan boats rescued six crew members as winds continued between 80 to 90 miles per hour and waves were 7 to 9 feet high.

The Coast Guard credits those Good Samaritans with saving four of the six rescued crew members. So, fortunately, in the midst of a terrible tragedy, it turns out a crew of Coast Guard men and women were on a boat doing a trial run when the SOS went out. And although technically not Coast Guard, they were coastguardsmen, and they went out and aided in the rescue. We are eternally grateful for their efforts, their hard work, and for the risk they took to themselves to bring those crew members back to shore safely, who returned safely.

In this tragedy, which affects us in Louisiana but, in a sense, affects us all, any loss of life is heartbreaking. But there are some who may not be found, and we pray their families find closure. To date, six have been confirmed dead, including Anthony Hartford of New Orleans, James ''Tracy'' Wallingsford of Gilbert, Captain David Ledet of Thibodaux, Ernest Williams of Arnaudville, Lawrence Warren of Terrytown, and Quinon Pitre of Franklin.

Seven are still missing. Each day that passes, the prognosis—the chance of finding them—obviously decreases. I would like to take a moment to recognize those still missing:

Jay Guevara, Dylan Daspit, Gregory Walcott, Chaz Morales, Jason Krell, Darren Encalade, and Chris Rozands.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the crew members of the capsized vessel, their loved ones, and their communities.

While we mourn this loss, we also rise to recognize the heroic efforts of the Coast Guard, the Good Samaritans, and all involved in the search-and-rescue efforts that continued for 6 straight days.

In just 40 hours, the Coast Guard covered more than 1,440 square miles of the Gulf of Mexico, searching for missing crew members. To put that in perspective, that is an area larger than the State of Rhode Island. By Friday, this area grew to a size larger than Hawaii, searching through sea and air.

Late last week, the National Transportation Safety Board announced they will open an investigation. The team arrived in New Orleans on Thursday, and a preliminary report will be released within the next 2 weeks.

We deeply appreciate the volunteers who assisted the men and women from the Coast Guard and many others in the search and rescue, particularly during the terrible weather. In the light of this tragedy, this team effort demonstrates the best of humanity.

We grieve with the families. We shall always remember the lives of those we lost.

May God watch over their souls. May they find eternal peace.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I bring news back from Oklahoma to this body and a request for dialogue. The COVID bill that was passed a little over a month ago—that bill provided all kinds of relief. As this body knows, we were deeply divided on that bill and some of the issues within it.

One of the issues stretched out the debate all the way to the last moment, and it was the additional unemployment assistance. The conversation about the additional unemployment assistance is this: The economy is reopening. Is this the time to extend additional money above and beyond State unemployment assistance, what we normally do? With unemployment rates going down, should we add more money on top of it?

No one really knew what would happen when that occurred, but we had some suspicions. The 2 weeks I spent traveling around the State, the week before Easter and after Easter, in town after town after town after town, I heard the same thing from employees and employers.

Employees would tell me that somebody who used to work next to them is now at home because they are making as much money at home on unemployment assistance as they would when working. So the person standing there working at the factory, the person standing there working at the restaurant is ticked off at the person who is at home watching TV, making as much money as they are.

The employer is just as frustrated or more because they have all kinds of orders coming into their business, saying: Can you send us more of this? And they could, except they don't have enough labor.

An additional $300 a week was added on top of the unemployment assistance and extended out all the way to the first week of September. At the same time, checks were sent out to every individual. Then they were told they would get a $10,000 tax break. The combination of those three things together has caused some folks to do what people do in a free market: They look to see where they are going to work based on where they can make the most money at that moment. That is what a free market is like. That is why employers continue to pay a little more to get good employees. But the problem is, in Oklahoma, where there is a low cost of living, many of our employers are struggling to find workers because they are competing against this body.

The employees are ticked because they are at work working, paying taxes, and the person who used to work next to them and probably will return this October got several months off and is making the same, except for the person working is paying for the person not working, and they are a little ticked off about it.

I bring this to you because this is not hypothetical. In Oklahoma, our unemployment rate dropped again to 4.2, but we still have 100,000 people. Our rates continue to rise for people filing first-time claims, but I promise there is not a town you can go to in Oklahoma that doesn't have ''help wanted'' signs all over town. I heard it from every single town that I went to, from employers in every single place that they cannot compete with what the government is just mailing to people for staying at home.

The very first day I was out a couple of weeks ago, I was in Tulsa at a business there that does manufacturing. He told me that for the first time ever—and he has owned the business a long time—for the first time ever, one of his managers came to him and said: You are not going to believe what just happened.

They had an employee who came up to them and said: I would like for you to fire me.

He said: Well, why in the world would I do that?

He said: Well, I just figured out, with the tax break and what I would get on unemployment assistance, I could make as much staying at home as I could working. But I need you to fire me so I can go file for unemployment.

He literally said to him: I am not going do that. Go back to work.

So the next day, the guy showed up 30 minutes late to work, and at lunchtime, he took an hour and a half off. He did the same thing the next day. The third day, according to protocol in their company, they called him in, talked to him, and wrote it all up. The fourth day, they did the same thing again—called him in, wrote it up. By the fifth day, they fired him.

His exact words to his manager on the floor: What took you so long?

There is a restaurant in Oklahoma City that told us they were preparing to reopen. Finally, the pandemic is over. We have a very high percentage of folks in Oklahoma who have received the vaccine. We are one of the top 10 States in the country for distributing the vaccines.

Our State, our county, our local offices, our hospitals, and our Tribal areas have done a fantastic job getting the vaccine out. We are open.

One of the restaurants trying to reopen in the Plaza District of Oklahoma City, a beautiful cultural district, couldn't reopen because they couldn't hire people because they got larger unemployment benefits, and they remain closed.

The mayor of Muskogee told me that most employers in their town are struggling to be able to get employees to get back to work.

In Northern Oklahoma, in Perry, there is a restaurant that was talking to one of my staff this week that said they are having to close early because they can't get enough business.

I would tell you, a couple of Sundays ago, my wife and I drove to go eat lunch after church, and we went to two restaurants before we had to go to a third to find a restaurant that was open. The second restaurant literally had a sign on their door: ''Closed Due to Labor Shortage.''

This is a real issue that was created in this room that is impacting my State trying to reopen. I have no idea if my Democratic colleagues will acknowledge this as a real problem or will just say: That is a hypothetical issue; it is not real. But this is going to continue all the way through September, and my State is not going to be able to reopen. This will get even worse in the days ahead when additional money will start being shipped out to families in the change in the child tax credit, when people will literally start getting checks in August on top of the other checks they are receiving.

I bring this to this body because I would like for us to have a conversation about it and for somebody in this body to acknowledge that a mistake was made and we need to fix this.

We all agreed last year to be able to help during the time of the pandemic. People needed help. Everyone was out of work, and there were no options for work. That is not true anymore; yet these larger benefits are still coming out.

This needs to be addressed. For the sake of getting our economy going again, this needs to be addressed. I would hope we could have a reasonable, rational, fact-based conversation about it.

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Madam President, for most of the history of the United States, we have had nine Supreme Court Justices—nine. Now, we started out originally with six, and then it dropped for just a little while to five and then went right back to six again.

When we added a seventh circuit court in 1807, it popped from six to seven, and there was some discussion about whether it would just continue based on the number of circuit courts. It was determined that, no, that was a bad idea.

Then it went to nine in 1837. Lincoln actually added 1 to make it 10, and they determined that was really too many and brought it back down to 7, actually.

In 1869, we went back to nine again, where we were most of the time before that and where we have remained, nine Supreme Court Justices. That is not just a random number; it seems to be a pretty good number—nine—to be able to open up debate.

I don't just think it is a pretty good number. There is a rather famous and some would say ''notorious'' Justice named Ruth Bader Ginsburg. She made this statement in 2019 when asked about Court-packing and asked about increasing the size of the Court. In 2019, Ruth Bader Ginsburg said:

> Nine seems to be a good number. It's been that way for a long time. . . . I think it was a bad idea when President Franklin Roosevelt tried to pack the court. . . . If anything [it] would make the court look partisan.

That is not just one Justice. Early in April this year, Justice Breyer was speaking at the Harvard Law School, and he addressed this issue of Court-packing while this body is in the middle of a conversation about Court-packing—extremely rare for that to occur. Justice Breyer stated:

> I'm an optimist. The rule of law has weathered many threats, but it remains sturdy. I hope and expect that the Court will retain its authority, an authority that my stories have shown 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. . . . Structural alteration motivated by the perception of political influence can only feed that latter perception, further eroding that trust . . . There is no shortcut. Trust in the courts, without which our system cannot function, requires knowledge, it requires understanding, it requires engagement. In a word, it requires work. Work on the part of all citizens. And we must undertake that work together. . . . What I'm trying to do is to make those whose initial instincts may favor important structural change or other similar institutional changes—such as forms of court-packing—think long and hard before they embody those changes in law.

That was so well received, by Justice Breyer, that progressive activists started calling for him to take early retirement.

Court-packing is not a new conversation in this body, but it has not been well received in the past.

The Court has always ebbed and flowed in its liberal or conservative bents. President Obama spoke openly when he was President about the Court

in the 1960s. That was a very progressive Court in the 1960s that drove conservatives crazy with some of the decisions they made, but there was no packing of the Court to try to change the direction of the Court in the 1960s and 1970s. There was a frustration but a realization that nine was the right number.

Over time, the Court, as it does, as it ebbs and flows over the decades, has flowed to be more conservative. In the days ahead, at some point, it will flow to be more liberal. It just will. But the rule of law is important. It is not a new concept that is being addressed, but it is one this body should think long and hard about.

Quite frankly, I agree with Joe Biden on this concept, but not the President Joe Biden, the Senator Joe Biden.

With this body's permission, let me read Joe Biden's speeches when he was in the U.S. Senate and he stood right over there and spoke on this floor or spoke in committee hearings when he was in the Judiciary Committee, speaking often about this issue.

Joe Biden, once speaking, made this statement. He said:

> President Roosevelt clearly had the right to send to the U.S. Senate and the U.S. Congress a proposal to pack the Court. It was totally within his right to do that. He violated no law; he was legalistically absolutely correct. But it was a bonehead idea. It was a terrible, terrible mistake to make. And it put in question, for an entire decade, the independence of the most significant body—including the Congress, in my view—

The most significant body in this country—

> —the Supreme Court of the United States of America.
>
> The President had the right to do that. He was totally within his power, and his objective was seen clearly.
>
> Well, the President clearly has the right to do what he is doing, in my view.

But he also called it ''bonehead.''

Joe Biden, as Senator, also continued with this statement. He was discussing the same issue. He said: ''The Senate again stood''—by the way, this was two decades later, after Joe Biden made that statement I just read. Two decades later, Joe Biden still has the same passion. He stated this:

> The Senate again stood firm in the 1937 court-packing plan by President Franklin Roosevelt. This particular example of Senate resolve is instructive for today's debates, so let me describe it in some detail. It was the summer of 1937. President Roosevelt had just come off a landslide victory over Alf Landon, and he had a Congress made up of solid New Dealers. But the ''nine old men'' of the Supreme Court were thwarting his economic agenda, overturning law after law overwhelmingly passed by the Congress and from statehouses across the country.
>
> In this environment, President Roosevelt unveiled his court-packing plan—he wanted to increase the number of Justices on the Court to 15, allowing himself to nominate these additional judges. In an act of great courage, Roosevelt's own party stood up against his institutional power grab. They did not agree with the judicial activism of the Supreme Court, but they believed that Roosevelt was wrong to seek to defy established traditions as a way of stopping that activism.
>
> In May 1937, the Senate Judiciary Committee—a committee controlled by the Democrats and supportive of his political ends—issued a stinging rebuke. They put out a report condemning Roosevelt's plan, arguing it was an effort ''to punish the Justices'' and that executive branch attempts to dominate the Judiciary lead inevitably to an autocratic dominance, ''the very thing against which the American Colonies revolted, and to prevent which the Constitution was in every particular framed.''
>
> Our predecessors in the Senate showed courage that day and stood up to their President as a coequal institution. And they did so not to thwart the agenda of the President, which in fact many agreed with; they did it to preserve our system's checks and balances; they did it to ensure the integrity of the system. When the Founders created a ''different kind of legislative body'' in the Senate, they envisioned a bulwark against unilateral power—it worked back then and I hope it works now.

Said Joe Biden during that time.

> The noted historian Arthur Schlesinger, Jr.—

Joe Biden, continuing as Senator—

> has argued that in a parliamentary system President Roosevelt's efforts to pack the Court would have succeeded. Schlesinger writes: ''The Court bill couldn't have failed if we had a parliamentary system in 1937.'' A parliamentary legislature would have gone ahead with their President, that's what they do, but the Founders envisioned a different kind of legislature, an independent institution that would think for itself. In the end, Roosevelt's plan failed because Democrats in Congress thought court-packing was dangerous, even if they would have supported the newly-constituted Court rulings. The institution acted as an institution.
>
> In summary, then, what do the Senate's action of 1795, 1805, and 1937 share in common? I believe they are examples of this body acting at its finest, demonstrating its constitutional role as an independent check on the President, even popularly elected Presidents of the same party.

That was from Senator Joe Biden. His challenge to this body was to think long and hard before they destroyed an institution of our government. It was right then; it is right now.

In a final statement from Joe Biden, he spoke about the filibuster—often, actually, about the filibuster. Senator Biden stated this:

> The Framers created the Senate as a unique legislative body designed to protect against the excesses of temporary majority, including with respect to judicial nominations; and they left us all the responsibility of guaranteeing an independent Federal judiciary, one price of which is that it sometimes reaches results Senators don't like.
>
> It is up to us to preserve these precious guarantees. Our history, our American sense of fair play, and our Constitution demand it.

Joe Biden continued. As Senator, he said:

> I would ask my colleagues who are considering supporting the ''nuclear option''—those who propose to ''jump off the precipice''—whether they believe that history will judge them favorably. In so many instances throughout this esteemed body's past, our forefathers . . . stepped back from the cliff. In each case, the actions of those statesmen preserved and strengthened the Senate, to the betterment of the health of our constitutional republic and to all of our advantage.
>
> Our careers in the Senate will one day end—as we are only the Senate's temporary officeholders—but the Senate itself will go on. Will historians studying the actions taken in the spring of 2005—

When Joe Biden stated this in the Senate—

> [Will they] look upon the current Members of this Senate as statesmen who placed the institution of the United States Senate above party and politics? Or will historians see us as politicians bending to the will of the Executive and to political exigency? I, for one, am comfortable with the role I will play in this upcoming historic moment.

Then he stated this, from Senator Joe Biden:

> I hope . . . my colleagues [will] feel the same.

So do I. Less than the days ahead, history will look at the unwinding of the judiciary based on a season in the Supreme Court, as we have had seasons and cycles before. Don't unwind the judiciary for a season.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

OPIOID EPIDEMIC

Mr. PORTMAN. Madam President, I appreciate the thoughtful comments from my colleague from Oklahoma of the need for us to have an independent judiciary.

I am on the floor to talk about a different issue, and it is the latest, very troubling information that we are receiving regarding the addiction epidemic and specifically drug overdose deaths in the United States. I am also going to talk about some of the steps we can take right now to address that reality.

One of the top priorities I have had in this body and in the House has been this drug addiction issue. Frankly, this is a moment of frustration because we were making progress, and then COVID–19 hit. Unfortunately, the drug epidemic has hit my State of Ohio particularly hard. The latest data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the CDC, show that it is a pretty grim picture right now, and it should be a wake-up call to all of us. Overdose deaths rose nearly 30 percent nationwide from September 2019 to September 2020. During this time period, you can see the overdose deaths numbers going up dramatically.

This is heartbreaking for me because we were making progress. After literally decades of increases in drug overdose deaths every single year—decades—going back to the 1990s, we finally here in the 2017, 2018, 2019 periods began to make progress in reducing overdose deaths. In fact, in Ohio, we had a 24-percent decrease in overdose deaths during 1 year, 2018, but, right now, the numbers are getting higher and higher, and it is everywhere.

As you can see from this chart, if something is in any of these colors, this means that there is an increase in overdose deaths. If it is in blue, it means there is a decrease, and this was just during this period of September

2019 to September 2020, the latest data for which we have good information. It doesn't even include all of 2020, and as we know, the pandemic, unfortunately, went all the way through 2020 and into 2021. All of the data show that, as you got further into the pandemic, we had higher rates, so we expect, when the final data come out for 2020, it will be even higher.

Here is where we are now. Look at this. Other than the State of South Dakota, every single State has seen an increase—and a substantial increase in many cases—in overdose deaths. This is in 49 of 50 States. In my own State of Ohio, there has been about a 25-percent increase in overdose deaths during this period.

Only a few years ago, again, we were making progress. One reason that we had begun to turn the tide was because of work that had been done here in the U.S. Congress. Right around this time period, we passed legislation called the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act. We also passed legislation called the 21st Century Cures Act. Both were signed into law in 2016. So it would have been in this period. It became effective in this period and actually helped to reduce overdose deaths for the first time in decades.

I commend my colleagues for that legislation. It was the first time we had ever funded recovery, as an example. We also funded prevention and treatment and provided our law enforcement with more naloxone, this miracle drug that reverses the effects of an overdose. Many of my colleagues have had the opportunity to speak with their local addiction boards or have been with law enforcement or other first responders—firefighters—who have used this naloxone effectively to save lives.

So things were getting better until we saw this big increase in connection with the coronavirus pandemic. The stresses of this unprecedented time, clearly, have contributed to the spike in drug abuse. People have felt lonelier. People have felt more isolated. Specifically, people have not been able to get access to recovery programs. Being in person with a recovery coach is a whole lot different than being on a Zoom call. That is what I hear from recovering addicts, and it makes sense.

I will say that people have turned to drugs to cope during this tough period, but also, many of those who are in recovery have been stalled in their progress because of their inability to be with other recovering addicts. So part of the best practices and best scientific evidence we have is that an effective way to help people overcome their addictions is to be with other people who also have those addictions. We have known this for years in terms of alcohol treatment programs—AA and so on—but this has been one of the problems.

Another issue I am going to raise, which apparently is somewhat controversial, but I hear it from the experts—and those are the people on the ground, in the field, who are dealing with this issue—is that, when we here in Congress provided lump sums to all Americans under a certain income—and you will remember the individual payments—they didn't go out right away because our State offices couldn't process them quickly enough, particularly with regard to unemployment insurance, wherein our workers' comp and our unemployment offices could not get the money out the door on a weekly basis but could retroactively provide those funds.

We had individuals getting—instead of $300 a week or $600 a week—$10,000 a week because it was an accumulation of many weeks. People were owed that, but getting these big lump sums was not helpful in the context of many people who were in recovery because it led to their purchasing drugs and it led to what we are finding out—again, back home—in talking to the experts, were some of the reasons you had this spike. So there are a lot of reasons here.

I guess what we need to focus on now is, How do we get beyond this?

These deaths are happening away from the national headlines because the coronavirus is taking the national headlines, understandably. A story just last week, from a news station in Dayton, OH, summed it up perfectly with a quote from Lori Erion, who is the founding president of Families of Addicts.

She said:

> During the pandemic, addiction and families struggling with it haven't gone anywhere. We have been here the whole time.

But they have not gotten much notice. There were 87,000 people who died from overdoses in the September 2019 to the September 2020 period we talked about. There were 87,000 Americans who died. If not for the COVID–19 pandemic, I don't think we would have seen this increase—from everything we are hearing if the correlation is almost precise—but also we would be hearing a lot more about the addiction crisis and doing more about it here.

We did put some funding into the CARES Act and into the two most recent COVID–19 packages to help with behavioral health, people's mental health, and also with addiction. That has been helpful, but we need to go much broader and do something much more comprehensive to take this moment to recommit ourselves to fighting addiction and ensuring that more Americans don't continue to lose their lives to overdoses. We have bipartisan legislation that has been introduced that we have been working on with a lot of people on the outside to try to come up with some new ideas, some ways to address this problem.

In the 5 years since this Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery legislation has become law, which was in part the reason we saw this reduction—also, a lot of great work was done at the local level and the State level—the substantial, several billion-dollar commitment we made here in this Chamber for more prevention, treatment, and longer term recovery with naloxone and so on, made a difference, but it has been 5 years.

During that time, I have visited with literally hundreds of different organizations in my home State. I have also just talked to a lot of experts about this. I have been to a lot of nonprofits, from Cleveland to Cincinnati and from Portsmouth to Toledo. I have talked to literally hundreds of recovering addicts about what works and what doesn't work for them.

There is legislation that we are introducing now, which we call CARA 3.0. We had the first Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act, and we had a second one back in 2018, a smaller one. Now we have this new, bipartisan CARA 3.0 legislation. Senator SHELDON WHITEHOUSE is my coauthor, but we have a number of Members who have joined up to help, and it addresses three major areas.

One is research and education. We still need to find out more, and we still need to get better research and better alternatives to opioids to deal with pain because much of this is being driven, as you know, from opioids—both heroin and prescription drugs but also these new synthetic opioids, which are the deadliest of all.

Second, we focus on education. Getting the prevention message out there is incredibly important to keep people from coming into the funnel of addiction in the first place, which is incredibly powerful and effective.

Third, of course, are treatment programs.

The fourth is recovery. Again, Congress had never funded recovery before; yet all of the best science shows that these recovery programs, when done properly, can be incredibly helpful, and longer term recovery, unfortunately, is needed, which is costly, but the alternative is worse.

Finally, there is criminal justice reform, which I will talk about in a moment.

It will bolster our work to prevent drug abuse before it happens through funding for research and education. A new national drug awareness campaign is part of this legislation, and the research and development of alternative pain treatment methods that don't lead to addiction is part of it.

CARA 3.0 will also take the important step of addressing the disproportionate effect the addiction crisis has had on people in poverty and communities of color. Unfortunately, during this increase, we have seen a higher percentage of overdoses in communities of color. A national commission has been formed to look at this issue to better develop treatments and best practices to avoid overdoses.

Second, our bill will build on what works and how we treat addiction. It will double down on proven, evidence-based addiction treatment methods

while expanding treatment options for groups that are particularly vulnerable to addiction, including young people, new and expecting mothers, rural community residents, and communities of color—individuals who live in those communities. One of the things that we have learned through, again, evidence-based research into what works and what doesn't work is that medication-assisted treatment, when done properly, can be very effective.

It will also make permanent the current expanded telehealth options for addiction treatment that were created temporarily in response to the social distancing required by the COVID–19 pandemic. This is really important. Telehealth is one of the few silver linings in an otherwise very dark cloud of the coronavirus pandemic. Yet, for many individuals, telehealth was effective, particularly with regard to behavioral health and addiction services. So we want to be sure that the temporary ability to pay for those telehealth visits, as an example, through Medicaid as an example or Medicare, can continue past the pandemic.

CARA 3.0 will also bolster the recovery options for individuals who are working to put addiction behind them through funding to support recovery support services and networks. It will enable physicians to provide medication-assisted addiction treatments, like methadone, to a greater number of patients and change the law to allow these drugs to be prescribed via telehealth for a greater ease of access. This will require a change in legislation to allow people to provide these kinds of treatments.

Our bill will also destigmatize addiction recovery in the workplace by ensuring that taking one of these medications—again, medications to get people over their addictions—will not count as a drug-free workplace violation. This may seem like an obvious change, but, unfortunately, it will take a change of law to be able to make that happen.

Finally, CARA 3.0 reforms our criminal justice system to ensure that those who are struggling with addiction, including our veterans, are treated with fairness and compassion by the law, putting them on a path to recovery instead of into a downward spiral of drug abuse.

Importantly, CARA 3.0 funds a Department of Justice grant program to help incarcerated individuals who are struggling with addiction to receive medication-assisted treatment while they are still in the criminal justice system. Again, that may seem like a pretty obvious solution, but there are people who go into the system addicted, and they come out addicted. They are not given the treatment options when they are incarcerated, and they simply go back to lives of addiction. Those people have high rates of recidivism, clearly. Most are rearrested and are back in the system within a relatively short period of time.

So this will reduce recidivism, repeat offenses. It makes sense for the person addicted, and it certainly makes sense for the community, with fewer crimes being committed. It also makes a lot of sense for the taxpayer because that treatment, although there is an additional expense while in the criminal justice system, will have a much better chance of getting those people back to lives wherein they can go back to work, back to their families, be in recovery, and not be back in the expensive criminal justice system. So it is a win-win-win.

CARA and CARA 2.0 gave States and local communities new resources and authorities to make a real difference in my State and others. CARA 3.0 renews and strengthens those programs, and given the recent spike in addiction we see here, it provides a significant boost in funding as well. When added with the existing CARA programs that were authorized through 2023, we will be investing well over $1 billion per year to address this longstanding epidemic, putting us on the path toward a brighter future free from addiction.

Another important part of CARA 3.0 is our bipartisan legislation to build on this expanded telehealth option for addiction services.

It was necessary during the pandemic to have it because of social distancing. We found out that, although there is no substitute for face-to-face interaction, telehealth has kept patients in touch with their doctors and allowed physicians to prescribe medication-assisted treatment remotely.

It doesn't make sense to get rid of these options once the pandemic goes away, so again, CARA 3.0 included legislation we had previously introduced separately called the Telehealth Response for E-Prescribing Addiction Therapy, or the TREATS Act, to make permanent a number of temporary waivers for telehealth services and bolster telehealth options for addiction treatment services.

Specifically, it does a couple things. First, it allows for a patient to be prescribed these lower scheduled drugs, like SUBOXONE, through telehealth on their first visit. You can't do that now. Current law requires you to go in person for a visit when needing an initial prescription for controlled substances, but this has been a deterrent to patients in crisis and in urgent need of treatments from schedule III or schedule IV drugs, like SUBOXONE or certain other drugs for a co-occurring mental health condition.

It also limits abusive practices by both audio and visual capabilities to be able to interact with the treatment providers to reduce fraud and abuse when it is your first visit, and it would also keep the existing requirements for in-person visits when prescribing schedule II drugs—these are the harder drugs, like opioids and stimulants—which are much more prone to being abused through these telehealth visits.

So we have a provision in there to avoid abuse, but it is also important to continue this telehealth when other options aren't there. I think it is a balanced approach that makes sense.

Second, our bill will allow for Medicare to bill for audio only or telephone telehealth visits for mental health and substance abuse if it is not the patient's first visit. Due to access to the broadband or distance, in-person or even video appointments aren't always possible, particularly for our seniors.

We need to focus on safety and robust treatment options, but in order to balance the needs of patients, we have proposed to allow our Nation's seniors under Medicare to use phones for subsequent mental health or behavioral health visits when they don't have access to the internet and where fact-to-face interaction isn't possible and isn't as necessary.

I believe the TREATS Act will make a difference in the addiction treatment space and will help us prevent more untimely overdoses.

So the legislation I have laid out so far—CARA 3.0 and the TREATS Act—cover an important aspect of the addiction crisis: the addiction treatment efforts that help lessen the demand for drugs, which is the single most important thing, reducing that demand.

But there is also more we have to do on the supply side because as drugs are pouring into our country, they are at a lower price on the streets of Cincinnati or Columbus or Cleveland or Dayton or Toledo. So we do need to do more to curb the supply of these dangerous substances. This is especially true right now because there is such a critical crisis ongoing, and there is a looming deadline to keep one class of very dangerous drugs illegal and off the streets.

I am talking about the kinds of opioids that are—like fentanyl, that are synthetic opioids but have a slight molecular change. So unless we act here in Congress, they will no longer be scheduled, no longer be illegal.

Data from the CDC, again, shows that the biggest driver to this surge in overdose deaths that we see here comes from fentanyl, comes from these synthetic opioids. They are often far more deadly than traditional opioids, like heroin. In fact, fentanyl is 50 times more powerful than heroin. A pound of fentanyl is lethal enough to kill a half a million people. And fentanyl, as you will find out talking to your law enforcement folks and others in the treatment space, it is often now being laced with other drugs, like cocaine, like crystal meth or heroin.

Most of this synthetic opioid is being illegally manufactured in China and then smuggled across our borders, either coming in through the mail system or going to Mexico and then being smuggled across.

There is also evidence now that it is also being produced in Mexico, which is a change and a major concern.

In order to avoid prosecution, prior to 2018, scientists in China—evil scientists in China—and drug traffickers started making slight modifications to fentanyl, sometimes adjusting a single

molecule and creating what are essentially fentanyl copycats.

While these fentanyl-related substances have the same narcotic properties as fentanyl, their tiny variations allowed them to evade prosecution. But oftentimes, these similar substances, like carfentanil, which some of you are aware of, are even deadlier than fentanyl itself.

To address this, the Drug Enforcement Agency in 2018 used its authority to temporarily classify all fentanyl-related drugs as schedule I substances, which allows law enforcement to aggressively intercept and destroy these substances. Unfortunately, this designation was only temporary. That is all DEA could do.

So, in 2019, Congress extended that designation until May 6, 2021, so a 2-year extension until 14 days from now.

If that deadline lapses 14 days from now, criminals who run labs in China and Mexico will be able to avoid law enforcement as they flood the United States with unlimited slight variants of fentanyl that are just as deadly. We can't let that happen.

Let me say that again. At a time when we are experiencing an alarming rise in overdose deaths that we see here, and fentanyl is the major culprit, the No. 1 killer, we may face a situation where law enforcement will lose the ability to aggressively stop these fentanyl copycats in the United States unless Congress acts in the next 14 days.

Fortunately, we have legislation to do that. Our bipartisan FIGHT Fentanyl Act, which I introduced with Senator JOE MANCHIN, will fix this problem by permanently classifying fentanyl-related drugs as schedule I drugs. It would give our law enforcement certainty to go after synthetic opioids in all their forms and show we are committed to addressing the threat posed by this dangerous class of drugs.

Our proposal is the one bipartisan approach to this in the Senate. We structured it to address concerns from the criminal justice community and made sure it does not impose mandatory minimum sentencing under criminal charges brought under our bill. That has been one of the concerns expressed, particularly by some on the other side of the aisle. So we took that out.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to come to the table and support this urgent legislation.

The House just passed a 5-month extension this week. That is, to me, very sad. Let's make this permanent. There is no reason to do a short-term extension and to create the uncertainty with law enforcement, and, frankly, to tell these evil scientists in places like China, in 5 months, you are going to be able, potentially—to be able to sell this substance again without worrying about the law. This makes no sense. Let's make it permanent. Let's give the DEA the authority to do what they need to do. And by doing so, let's reduce the amount coming in, which increases the cost on the street, which is an important step toward rededicating our efforts to stop these drugs from stealing thousands of lives and causing so much pain.

In conclusion, I urge my colleagues—our Nation faces a crisis. It is the coronavirus pandemic that is finally winding down, but it is also the addiction crisis. It has been happening underneath the coronavirus. As was said by my constituent—this woman who unfortunately has faced addiction in her own family—we have been here the whole time, and it hasn't gotten better; it has gotten worse.

Many of its victims are suffering in silence. We know a lot about what is going on with COVID. We don't know a lot about what is going on with this pandemic, this epidemic of drugs.

So let's act now, without delay. We have 14 days until DEA loses the authority to go after dangerous fentanyl copycats, but we can do something about it. We can pass legislation right now that will help people at their point of pain, as well as provide law enforcement the tools to cut off the source of their suffering—both the CARA 3.0 legislation to deal with the demand side and the legislation to be sure this poison can't come into our communities freely.

As the CDC data shows, this is an issue that affects every single one of us. Forty-nine States have seen a big increase. We know we need to do it. Let's not wait any longer to get to work once again turning the tide on our addiction crisis.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

TRIBUTE TO BETH TROWBRIDGE

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, it is Thursday, and by now many know—particularly our members of our press corps—that it is time for what I feel is probably one of the best moments in the Senate each week. It is time for the ''Alaskan of the Week.''

We get to talk about Alaska, talk about somebody who is doing extraordinary things for our State, for our country a lot of times, and I like to give an update when I do my ''Alaskan of the Week'' speech on what is going on in Alaska.

It is spring, of course. The Sun is high in most parts of the State—actually, in all parts of the State. Spring—we call it breakup, actually, relating to the ice on the rivers—it is upon us.

Now, of course, it can still snow, and it still gets pretty cold in a lot of places in Alaska, but winter is on the run. The promise of summer is in the air, and what a glorious summer it is going to be.

We aren't out of the woods yet on the pandemic in Alaska, but we have managed—we are proud of it, I am proud of my fellow Alaskans—the pandemic, the virus, as well as possible.

One of the things that is happening right now, our vaccination rates have been, almost from the beginning when we got the vaccine, the highest per capita in the country. Despite our huge challenges in terms of size, limited population, it is really kind of a minimiracle—No. 1 vaccination rates in America in Alaska. We did it by dog sled, snow machine, small airplanes to make that happen.

So if you are watching, America, please come on up to Alaska. It is safe. It is open for tourism. This summer we want you to come on up.

By the way, not only will you have an amazing experience, our State just announced a few days ago you will get a vaccine if you come to Alaska. If your State is too inefficient or bureaucratic to actually get a vaccine, come on up to Alaska. You can have the trip of a lifetime, and you and your family can get vaccinated. We want you up there. We are open for business. We want to see Americans come on up and enjoy our great State as we are getting through this pandemic.

It is a naturally beautiful place, you will see, but the people in my State work hard to keep it pristine and are really what makes it such a great place.

So, today, in honor of Earth Day, I wanted to honor Homer, AK, resident Beth Trowbridge, who has spent her career—about 40 years, four decades—working to keep our waters in Alaska and our beaches clean and pristine.

So let me tell you a little bit about Beth. Originally from St. Louis, Beth first came to Alaska in 1981 as a college student to work on the Youth Conservation Corps in Fairbanks, AK, the interior.

She only intended to stay a year or so—by the way, this is a very common story—only intended to stay a year or so, but as so many do, she got to Alaska and fell in love with the State so she transferred to the University of Alaska in Fairbanks where she got her degree in Northern and Alaska Native studies.

Now, Beth loves the wilderness. She loves living off the land, studying the plants, studying the animals. She said: ''There are beautiful and amazing people and amazing resources'' in Alaska. She said she always loved the sense that, while we can all live there, nature in Alaska is always in control—the earthquakes, the volcanoes, the extreme weather, the coldness. They are a constant reminder that, in her words, in Alaska ''there are the bigger forces out there''—a lot bigger, and she wants to keep it that way.

So she became a steward of her environment and dedicated her life to educating others so that they, too, could become stewards.

With all the talk about climate change, I fear that not nearly enough attention is given to those outside of politics, like in this town, who work day in and day out to care for the environment in the place they call home—in their communities, in their States, every day on the ground at home, making a difference.

That is what Beth has done. After college, she got a job as the education coordinator for the Prince William Sound Science Center, where she authored the ''Alaska Oil Spill Curriculum.''

Then, in 2000, she began her work—in many ways, her life's work—for the Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies, or CACS, in the drop-dead gorgeous community of Homer, AK, surrounded by the beautiful Kachemak Bay. Some people call Homer ''the place where the land ends and the sea begins''; others, ''the cosmic hamlet by the sea''; and others, ''the halibut capital of the world.''

If you haven't visited Homer, America, you have got to go to Homer. My goodness, it is beautiful. In Alaska, we just call it awesome, in part because of people like Beth and organizations like hers that keep it that way.

In 2012, Beth became the organization's executive director and helped expand the good work that CACS has been doing since 1982.

Now, this organization is primarily an educational organization and offers people of all ages, really from across the globe—not just Alaska, not just America, everywhere—opportunities to connect with the outdoors, learn about coastal environments through guided walks, tours, educational programs, overnight school programs, and so much more.

So think about this impact. Homer, where CACS is located, is a town of about 6,000 people. CACS educates roughly 16,000 people through these science-based programs every year. That is a big impact. They have camps for everyone, and I would encourage anyone who is listening who is going to go to Homer to sign up for one of these camps to explore the unique marine ecology, the tidal pools, and the abundant sea life; to watch whales, seals, and sea lions; to swim against the backdrop of the Kenai Mountains; and to go into the forest and learn about the forest, wildlife, and adaptation in the forest. There is so much to do.

One of the big initiatives of this important organization is to deal with marine debris. So today, on Earth Day, let me put a plug in for the marine debris programs in my State and across the country. This is an issue that I have been very focused on since my time as a U.S. Senator, working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle. We have gotten a lot done.

We passed the Save Our Seas Act a couple of Congresses ago, and we passed the Save Our Seas Act 2.0, which the Congressional Research Service called the most comprehensive ocean cleanup legislation ever in the history of the Senate. It was just passed and signed into law in December. So we are making progress.

I do want to give a shout-out to one of my good friends, Senator SHELDON WHITEHOUSE. You know, some of us miss his weekly ''Wake Up'' speeches. I think mine is the only weekly speech anymore. Senator WHITEHOUSE, I am not sure what happened. But Senator WHITEHOUSE and I have worked closely on this kind of legislation—ocean debris, ocean cleanup, and to help organizations like CACS with marine debris cleanup and to call attention to this issue that is solvable. We can solve this—marine debris, ocean plastics—and it is bringing a lot of people in America and across the world together.

One of CACS's biggest annual events is the annual Kachemak Bay Coast Walk. It involves more than 200 volunteers who adopt a section of Kachemak Bay shoreline. And, again, you have got to visit Kachemak Bay, one of the most beautiful places on the planet Earth. Trust me. Surveying changes, collecting data on marine life and human impact and cleaning up beach litter and marine debris is what people do every year with the Kachemak Bay Coast Walk. It is the kind of great local work that really makes a difference. It brings people from all across Alaska together—people who know how special and beautiful Kachemak Bay is—and it creates community. It creates community, and that is so important, not just for our State but for our oceans and the coastline.

So that is one of the many things Beth has done.

Beth and her husband, Charlie, who is a retired shellfish biologist with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game have four children. The youngest is finishing eighth grade, and the oldest is 33.

Beth develops environmental curriculums for schools. She is a Rotarian, a Girl Scout leader, and keeps CACS running seamlessly. She says she does all of this because she has a passion for sharing the outdoors with people—Alaskans, Americans, people from all over the world, but especially the next generation—and she hopes that her work not only will have an immediate impact on the environment but helps people to understand the challenges of our oceans and to focus more on cleanup, because who doesn't want to clean up our oceans?

Local businesses, she is noticing, are using more recyclable material. People are leaving less trash behind. People are talking more about cleanup and ownership, and that is how you make a difference at the local level, and it spreads out all over the State and the country.

Beth said:

> I hope that, through my work, we can provide the opportunities to understand and appreciate nature. I am proud of where I live. I love Homer. I want to take care of it. I hope that others [in the community] feel that way too.

Beth, that is a great sentiment, and it is also one of the many reasons we are proud to honor you today with this very prestigious award, being our Alaskan of the Week. Congratulations.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas is recognized.

(The remarks of Mr. CORNYN, pertaining to the introduction of S. 1358, are printed in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

Mr. CORNYN. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WARNOCK). The Senator from Maine.

(The remarks of Ms. COLLINS pertaining to the introduction of S. 1345 are printed in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

Ms. COLLINS. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EARTH DAY

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, today is a special day. It is Earth Day. I had the privilege of actually being at the first Earth Day, at Golden Gate Park, a million years ago. The speaker there that day was Ralph Nader, and there was a huge crowd. Hundreds of thousands of people were there.

Ralph Nader made a lot of fame and fortune writing a book called ''Unsafe at Any Speed,'' about the Corvair Monza. That was my first car, a Corvair Monza. And as he was there speaking that day, I couldn't help but think about how much I loved my Corvair Monza and couldn't believe he wrote that book about it.

He actually made a lot of sense and, certainly, it was a rallying point for people in this country who realized that we were going the wrong way in terms of the cleanliness of our air and the cleanliness of our water.

I had gone to Ohio State and was a Navy ROTC midshipman there, and I ended up in Southeast Asia. I remember being over in Southeast Asia on one of our deployments, and the Cuyahoga River, up the road from Ohio State, in Cleveland, OH, caught on fire. They had too many people drinking the dirty water.

I liked to run outside. I know our Presiding Officer is a big athlete as well. I know there were days that I would run outside, in the 1960s and 1970s—and in some places, even now, around the world—and I was doing more damage than good by breathing the air in those places.

But some amazing things happened in 1970, right around 1970. We saw the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency. I don't think it was done initially as a bill. I think it was actually done sort of as an Executive order. Richard Nixon was the President then.

I think the Congress came along a few years later and sort of passed legislation to implement the Executive order. The Clean Air Act was signed into law. The Clean Water Act was passed. I think Richard Nixon initially

vetoed the Clean Water Act. But they had huge support—overwhelming support, Democrat and Republican—for both measures.

We didn't give a whole lot of concern in those days to climate change. Nobody really talked, in the 1960s and the 1970s or the 1980s, about climate change. But something started happening on our planet. People said: I think it is getting warmer. The weather seems to be a bit more extreme as time goes by.

Then scientists reported that a hole was being formed in the ozone layer over the North Pole, and it started off small and got bigger and bigger and bigger. And people a lot smarter than me said: This is not good. We have to figure out what is going on here.

They finally figured out that it was something called CFCs, or chlorofluorocarbons, which were actually found in our air-conditioners, our freezers, and refrigerators. They did a really good job in keeping things cool, including us, but, unfortunately, it led to the hole in the ozone.

So some really smart scientists got to work, and they came up with something called HFCs, hydrofluorocarbons. HFCs did a really good job keeping us cool. They also did a good job in terms of the hole in the ozone going away. But the bad thing about HFCs, or hydrofluorocarbons, is that they are a thousand times worse for climate change, the warming of our climate, than carbon, carbon dioxide. So some good but some bad as well.

We passed the legislation, and it was signed—I think unbeknownst to him—last December, by the President. It is legislation that phases down HFCs, or hydrofluorocarbons. So now we are going to have American-made products that will keep us cool and will be good and positive with respect to climate change, and will create a lot of jobs—tens of thousands, maybe hundreds of thousands of jobs, American jobs with American technology—and strengthen our economy in a variety of different ways.

So on this Earth Day, there is a lot to be concerned about, but the HFC phase-down that I just talked about was signed into law and was part of a much bigger package in December, that is worth a half a degree Celsius.

Scientists will tell you that what we want is to be careful to not see the Earth temperature go up by more than 2 or 3 degrees Celsius, and if we do, it becomes sort of irreversible and we are in real trouble then on this planet.

But this one thing that we did, voted on here in this Chamber, phasing down HFCs, is worth about a half a degree Celsius. There is still more to do, but that is a good start.

The greatest source of carbon dioxide on our planet is not HFCs, but it is the emissions from our cars, trucks, and vans—our mobile fleet. About 28 percent of carbon emissions come from our cars, trucks, and vans. About another 25 percent comes from utilities, powerplants that provide electricity for us, a lot of them powered by coal or natural gas—mostly coal. And another large source of carbon emissions is from industries. Think of cement plants, if you will. If you add those three together, it is about 75 percent of the carbon emissions in our country—just those three sources.

There used to be a guy, a bank robber, whose name was Willie Sutton. You may or may not have heard of him. He lived during the Depression, before either of us. But he robbed a lot of banks. He finally got caught and ended up in trial before the judge.

And the judge said: Mr. Sutton, why do you rob all those banks?

And Willie Sutton replied, famously: That is where the money is, your Honor. That is where the money is.

Well, one of the reasons why we focus on carbon emissions and global warming emissions coming from mobile sources is that that is 28 percent of the emissions. That is not where the money is, but that is where the emissions are, where a lot of them are coming from.

And we are getting really exciting announcements from American companies, auto companies. GM has announced this year that starting in 2035, they will not be manufacturing cars, trucks, or vans that are burning gasoline or diesel fuel. They are just going to be electric. They will be using hydrogen and fuel cells. That is huge—by 2035. That is only like 14 years away.

Ford has made similar kinds of pledges. I think Volkswagen and a number of other companies have made similar pledges. And they are not pledges for things that will take place in like 40 or 50 years. We are talking about right down the road, right down the road. That is great news because the threat of climate change is imminent, and we don't have a lot of time to meet it.

I was in a hearing this morning. One of the committees I serve on is Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. One of the issues that we have that we are responsible for is the Postal Service. I think, maybe for reasons that go back to my time in the Vietnam war, of being overseas in the war and how, every week, when we would get the mail over there, it was the best part of the week. You would hear from your families, loved ones, friends, newspapers, magazines, care packages. It was a great day.

So I have great affection for the Postal Service, even today. I love the idea of mail-in voting, and I know my friend from Georgia has some affection for people being able to participate and exercise their constitutional rights through the mail. And, hopefully, we will do more of that in smart ways like that in the future.

But the Postal Service still provides a valuable service. We were reminded of that during the election last year. But the Postal Service, the men and women who drive around and deliver our mail, they drive around in vehicles that are, on average, 25 years and older. Almost all of them are diesel or gasoline powered.

The Postal Service realizes that they need to upgrade their fleet, and they need to do that sooner than later. It is not cheap. It is not a cheap thing to do—165,000 mail trucks that need to be replaced in the next several years.

There is a 10-year plan that the Postal Service has put out—how they plan to, sort of, and return to, if not to profitability, at least to improve over time to a break-even situation. One of the things that is in their plan is to buy and replace their existing fleet of cars, trucks, and vans—mostly trucks and vans.

They are apparently in a contract with a company up in Oshkosh, WI, called Oshkosh, and the idea is to build a bunch of vehicles, tens of thousands of them, over the next decade or so.

We had three nominees today before us who have been nominated to be members of the Board of Governors of the Postal Service. In all, there are nine members of the Board of Governors, nominated by the President, confirmed by the Senate. They have three vacancies, and we had three nominees to fill those vacancies before us.

I wished them all a happy Earth Day, and then I talked to them about what lies ahead in terms of replacing 165,000 vehicles. And, apparently, originally, the first couple of thousand vehicles that will be produced will be gas and diesel, and then, after that, the vehicles could be gas, diesel, or electric—or hydrogen, for that matter.

There is an extra cost when we switch to electric, extra costs when we switch over to, say, hydrogen, if that is the technology that is chosen, because you need electric charging stations and you need the hydrogen fueling stations.

It is easy to take your gasoline-powered vehicle or your diesel-powered vehicle to a gas station. It is on the corner. It is in your town. But if you need to get the electric charger for your battery or you need the hydrogen for your fuel cell vehicle, then that costs some money. And it can't all be on the Postal Service. It can't all be on the Postal Service.

As we put together this next infrastructure package for our country—and we are going to be debating here legislation that Senator CAPITO and I on the Environment and Public Works Committee have been working on with our bipartisan team next week, a big package on wastewater treatment and on drinking water, clean drinking water. That will be the first big infrastructure bill that we pass, I think, in the Senate—hopefully, next week. But there will be, hopefully, a lot more. And part of that will be roads, highways, and bridges coming down the road. And part of that will be charging stations in densely populated corridors all over the country—charging stations for electric vehicles and fueling stations

for hydrogen vehicles, which have a lot of potential, too.

I just want us to keep in mind, when that day comes—I want the Postal Service to keep in mind that we need for them to set an example—for the Postal Service to set an example. If they go out and two-thirds of the new vehicles they buy are gasoline- and diesel-powered, shame on them, and, frankly, shame on us in this body for allowing that to happen.

But we have to remember that the Postal Service is fighting for its life, and we need to be there and be helpful in terms of helping to pay for the infrastructure that they will need when they buy these new vehicles.

I will close with this. Mr. President, I am not sure where Home Depot is headquartered. Are they not headquartered in Georgia? If they are, nod your head. I think they are. I love to talk about Home Depot.

Whenever I go down to Central America, to places like Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador—we call them the Northern Triangle countries—we have something in place called the Alliance for Prosperity program. It is designed to help fight corruption, their crime, their violence, and their lack of economic opportunity there.

And we provide money—taxpayer money—to help these countries down there, so people will stop feeling like they have to come up here to escape the violence, the corruption, the crime, and the lack of economic opportunity. So we provide some money, and then we expect them, for every dollar we provide, to provide four or five dollars on their own. We want foundations to put up money. We want businesses to put up money to help produce this as well.

I say to the people of Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador, who live in some really terrible situations, when I talk to them about the Alliance for Prosperity, which has been in place now for several years: You can do it. You, those three countries—Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador—you can do it. We can help, and I think we have a moral obligation to help.

I think at the Postal Service, they can do it. They can update their fleet. They can do so in a way that is sustainable and is actually good for this planet. This is the only planet we are going to have. We have to take care of it or, otherwise, face huge, huge challenges.

So I would, on this Earth Day, say to my colleagues that the anniversary provides opportunity. The Postal Service is going through its share of adversity, as well, but there is real opportunity, as well, to help the Postal Service and the men and women who work there to do a better and a more reliable job of delivering the mail to all of us but, also, to do so in a way that is good for our planet.

That would be a very, very good thing and make this Earth Day especially memorable.

Mr. President, with that, I am going to bid you adieu. Great weekend to you and the staff. God bless you. Thank you so much.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Wisconsin.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination: Calendar No. 59, Deanne Bennett Criswell, of New York, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security; that the cloture motion be withdrawn, the nomination be confirmed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, as if in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture motions presented earlier be considered to have been presented in the following order: Miller, McCabe, and Kahl.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the following statement was ordered to be printed, in the RECORD.)

COVID–19 HATE CRIMES ACT

• Mr. LEE. Mr. President, over the past 13 months, Americans have endured extraordinary constraints on one of the most precious rights guaranteed by our Constitution: the right to freely exercise their religion. There is, perhaps, no freedom more intertwined with our nation's history. It was religious freedom that drove persecuted settlers from England to America just over 400 years ago. And they were not the last. Over the centuries, countless religious minorities from across the world have come to America, seeking refuge from religious warfare and bigotry.

To be clear, we haven't always lived up to this ideal. Members of the church to which I belong were forced to flee across the country due to religious persecution, to name just one example. Despite these aberrations, however, no nation in the history of the world has protected and preserved the rights of religion and conscience like the United States.And that's not an accident. The First Congress recognized the profound importance of religious freedom by protecting it in the very first sentence of the Bill of Rights. That provision—called the First Amendment—states that ''Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.'' The Supreme Court has applied this prohibition to State and local governments through the 14th Amendment.

So what does this mean, practically? First, governments cannot discriminate against religion or single it out for worse treatment than similar nonreligious activities. But, second, if a government does treat religion differently than other similar activities, it must 'pass'' the ''strict scrutiny'' test. That means that the government must show that there was absolutely no other way to achieve an extremely important goal than restricting the religious activity in question.

The First Amendment is clear. Religious exercise must be protected. Nevertheless, over the course of the pandemic, governments throughout the country have placed heavy-handed restrictions on this fundamental freedom, restricting Americans' freedom to gather for worship, to meet in smaller groups for religious purposes, or even to sing.

At first, Americans accepted these restrictions. We understood the extraordinary difficulties facing our leaders as they struggled to grapple with a new and deadly virus. And we were assured that these restrictions would be temporary, lasting no longer than necessary. But as the weeks and months dragged on and the prohibitions on religious exercise continued, we began to see a startling trend. As restrictions on restaurants, casinos, and museums began to thaw, in many states, synagogues, churches, temples, mosques, and other religious gatherings were left out in the cold.

In May 2020, the Governor of California allowed some restaurants and retail businesses to operate indoors with up to 50 Percent capacity. Meanwhile, all indoor religious services—of

any size, and even with identical precautions—were outright banned.

California was not alone. In Nevada, the Governor allowed gambling establishments to reopen in June, 2020. As thousands flooded into casinos along the Las Vegas strip, religious gatherings in Nevada remained strictly limited to 50 people. Likewise, in New York, houses of worship were explicitly singled out for worse treatment. In some areas, religious gatherings were restricted to only 10 people, while train stations, acupuncture facilities, and factories in that same area could allow entry to as many as they wished.

And I could go on. Again, and again, COVID lookdown rules left religious Americans on the outside looking in.

Despite several opportunities to overturn these clear, discriminatory restrictions, for most of 2020, the Supreme Court failed to intervene. In South Bay v. Newsom, five Justices—without explanation-declined to halt California's ban on all religious services. Likewise, in Calvary Chapel v. Sisolak, the Supreme Court left Nevada's discriminatory ban on houses of worship in place. And again, they did so without explanation.

The pandemic stretched on. Some States eased restrictions, allowing worshippers to gather. Others did not. During that time, countless weddings, baptisms, holy days, and, perhaps most heartbreakingly—funerals—were observed in isolation from family, friends, and community. Or not at all.

Finally, in November of last year—after over 8 months of lockdowns—a ray of light broke through. In Roman Catholic Diocese v. Cuomo, the Court held that ''even in a pandemic, the Constitution cannot be put away and forgotten. [New York's] restrictions . . . strike at the very heart of the First Amendment's guarantee of religious liberty.'' Subsequent decisions earlier this year resurrected the First Amendment's robust protections of religious liberty. Just a few weeks ago, in Tandon v. Newsom, the Supreme Court resoundingly affirmed religious freedom, summarily rejecting California's discriminatory restrictions. Thanks to God, the First Amendment lives.

It's been a long road to get here. But we can't ignore the lessons of the past 13 months. That's why I offered an amendment to S.937, the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act, which would require the Attorney General to create a report detailing the restrictions imposed on religious exercise imposed during the pandemic.

This amendment directs the Department of Justice to look into: first, whether governments applied the same rules to religious groups that they applied to similar nonreligious organizations and businesses, and, second, whether those restrictions complied with the First Amendment. The goal here is simple-we need to understand and remember how Americans in 2020 lost their religious freedoms in order to ensure that it never happens again.

NOTICE OF THE VOTE UNDER S. RES. 27

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to print the following letter in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

To the Secretary of the Senate:

PN 124, the nomination of Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services having been referred to the Committee on Finance, the Committee, with a quorum present, has voted on the nomination as follows—

(1) on the question of reporting the nomination favorably with the recommendation that the nomination be confirmed, 14 ayes to 14 noes; and

In accordance with section 3, paragraph (1)(A) of S. Res. 27 of the 117th Congress, I hereby give notice that the Committee has not reported the nomination because of a tie vote, and ask that this notice be printed in the Record pursuant to the resolution.''

EARTH DAY

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I rise to join my friends in celebrating Earth Day. Senator Gaylord Nelson began the tradition in 1970, making today the 51st celebration of Earth Day. While it is always important to set aside a day to pause and reflect on our relationship with the natural world, I consider this Earth Day one of the most important yet. As we begin to emerge from the chaos of the COVID–19 pandemic and reset our new ''business as usual,'' we are stepping into a new world, ripe with opportunity for progress on climate change with a more meaningful understanding of what it means to live in a global community. Our Nation and planet are at a crossroads in determining the future of our climate. With a new administration that understands the threat of climate change and the role of the United States as a global leader, we are at the precipice of bold action.

The scientific consensus is that climate change will have devastating and far-reaching impacts on the environment, public health, and national security, and we must mitigate and adapt. In 2018, the United Nations U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, IPCC found that if a concerted multilateral effort is not made to keep global temperatures from rising 1.5 degrees Celsius 2.7 degrees Fahrenheit by 2100, we will cross a tipping point and cause the worst damage by climate change. The scientific community has been sounding the alarm for years, which too many of our colleagues have chosen to ignore.

The ongoing COVID–19 pandemic highlighted the challenges and opportunities of our increasingly globalized world. More than ever, we are understanding how decisions governments, corporations, and individuals make have real-world impacts and consequences. Actions that affect our climate are no different. An understanding of our impact in determining our collective future will only help us in our pursuit of a healthier planet.

Fortunately, our communities have proven resilient and adaptable. Over the past year. Americans have been burdened with collective grief, fear, and uncertainty. Through it all, our Nation has demonstrated a grit and ingenuity unlike anything we have seen in generations. We saw parents step up as teachers, corporations pivot their business models to keep people safe, and an entire population of office workers transition to working from home. In terms of action on climate change, this flexibility proves that a departure from the status quo is not as unrealistic as we may have thought previously. In fact, a change from ''business as usual'' can have unforeseen benefits for our quality of life and our planet.

Equipped with the lessoned learned from the COVID–19 pandemic, I am more confident than ever that our Nation in ready to commit to action on climate change in earnest. Additionally, the Biden administration is already pursuing an aggressive climate agenda by reversing President Trump's shortsighted decisions and doubling down on President Obama's environmental regulations. The Build Back Better agenda recognizes both the need to mitigate emissions and prepare for the impacts of climate change that are already harming our communities. A great and overdue need to update our Nation's infrastructure provides an opportunity to address some of our society's most insidious sources of pollution.

Emissions from passenger and freight transport makes up the largest proportion of our Nation's total greenhouse gas emissions—nearly 30 percent. The Federal Government can and must work quickly to address climate change through transportation and infrastructure policy. As chair of the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, I am committed to ensuring that any legislation the committee considers addresses greenhouse gas emissions reductions in a meaningful way. In 2019, the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works unanimously reported an innovative surface transportation reauthorization that indicates a genuine bipartisan interest in action on climate change. I am confident the newest iteration of this bill will be even more ambitious.

The imperative to address climate change through transportation and infrastructure is particularly important to Maryland, a highly developed, low-lying coastal State with aging public works systems, which makes it particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. My constituents and future generations have a right to good air quality, water quality, and the resilience of infrastructure assets like

roads, bridges, and storm and wastewater systems.

In recent years, Marylanders have seen firsthand the effects of climate change in my State. Intense rainstorms have caused unprecedented flood damage to homes and businesses in Prince George's County, Southwest Baltimore, Ellicott City, and Hagerstown. The cost of rebuilding our infrastructure after these storms is significant. Unless we change the way we think about infrastructure in the future, taxpayer investments will be washed away with the next big storm. I requested a Government Accountability Office GAO report on the Federal Government's fiscal exposure to the effects of climate change. GAO found that in 2018, 14 separate natural and weather disasters occurred, costing the Federal Government a total of $91 billion. Unsurprisingly, GAO determined that this amount will rise as climate change causes more frequent and more severe weather events. Inaction on this issue amounts to a gross negligence by Congress in our management of taxpayers' funds. I consider it my duty to ensure that the Federal Government takes full advantage of the opportunity before us to make long-sighted upgrades to our systems.

In addition to building back physical infrastructure better, the Nation is in the process of rebuilding its reputation on the international stage as a leader on climate change. By rejoining the Paris Agreement, the United States is signaling its commitment to the global community. As I speak, the President is hosting the Leaders Summit on Climate, where world leaders will outline how their countries will commit to their own ambitious goals. The United States is committing to a bold 2030 emissions target as its new nationally determined contribution under the Paris Agreement. This summit represents the formal return of the United States to its leadership position and an opportunity to regain the trust from our international partners that President Trump decimated.

When President Trump withdrew the United States from the Paris Agreement, I helped to maintain relationships with our partner-members by introducing a bipartisan resolution that expressed support for the Paris Agreement and assuring the international community that, despite President Trump's abdication of his duties, leaders on climate change in the U.S. Senate remained. I previously led the U.S. congressional delegation to the conference where the Paris Agreement was adopted and will continue to position our Nation as a strong partner in the international fight against warming global temperatures.

Domestically. this Earth Day, I will recommit to my long-term endeavor to preserve and restore the Chesapeake Bay. The Chesapeake Bay is the lifeblood of the State of Maryland, and the communities that depend on it are seeing their livelihood threatened as the climate changes. Saltwater intrusion on agricultural lands and fragile fisheries make it harder for Maryland farmers and fishers to earn a living. In some cases, Marylanders are seeing their communities disappear before their eyes from the dual threat of sea level rise and subsidence. A healthy Chesapeake Bay watershed is essential to a thriving economy. Additionally, the Chesapeake Bay's wetlands are Maryland's best defense against climate change-induced flooding, as they act as natural buffers to storm surge during severe weather.

The good news is that action on climate change, through international commitments, domestic infrastructure improvements, and restoring regional natural resources like the Chesapeake Bay, will stimulate our economy. Stewardship of our environmental can and should go hand in hand with economic development. Our Nation will be grappling with the economic fallout of the COVID–19 pandemic for years to come, and bold Federal action is a time-tested practice for economic recovery. A truly bold investment in action on climate change will pay dividends for generations to come, but it must meet the size and urgency of the challenge before us.

I am certain that our Nation can honor our planet and our future generations with urgent, thoughtful decision-making. Earth Day is one of the most celebrated secular holidays in the world and for good reason. We are all stewards of our planet and now more than ever understand that we are on a journey together. I will embrace this Earth Day and the opportunities for progress that lie ahead. I hope my Senate colleagues and all Americans will join me honoring our planet through diligent work, today and every day.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MARY LILLY SMITH

• Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a Springfield, MO, resident who has dedicated 38 years of her life in service to the city of Springfield by helping facilitate economic development, creating and retaining thousands of jobs, and bringing life to the downtown area. Mary Lilly Smith started her career in 1983 as a city planner for downtown Springfield, where she helped create the city's initial neighborhood conservation office. During the next 38 years, Mary played an instrumental role in nearly 100 key economic initiatives.

Mary is best known for her 17 years as the economic development director. Along with her commitment to the downtown area, she created the Economic Development Incentives Policy Manual, which became a template for other towns and cities across the State to implement development policies. In addition to her economic development initiatives, Mary made sure to preserve the city of Springfield's incredible history. Throughout her nearly four decades of service, Mary has developed many different approaches to preserving and honoring the history of the area. She also developed the city's first capital improvement program, which facilitated a change in the review process for protecting architecturally significant historical properties.

Mary leaves behind a legacy for the city of Springfield to be enjoyed by all for years to come. For her many years of service, she has earned her retirement. As she enters this new chapter of her life, I offer Mary best wishes.•

TRIBUTE TO ROD OSTERMILLER

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week I have the honor of recognizing Rod Ostermiller of Yellowstone County for nearly 30 years of service in law enforcement in Montana.

Rod first entered law enforcement in 1991 at the age of 21 and moved up the ranks swiftly. In 2004, he became Chief Deputy Marshal and later served as acting U.S. Marshal when his predecessor retired.

In 2018, I had the distinct honor of nominating Rod to become the U.S. Marshal for Montana, which received unanimous approval in the U.S. Senate. He was then officially appointed by President Trump.

Rod is a Montana native from the south side of Billings. He later attended Montana State University to earn his bachelor's degree in criminal justice.

Since his retirement from law enforcement, Rod went on to become the executive director of the Mental Health Center in Billings, where he continues to help combat the meth crisis we have in Montana in a different capacity. He exemplifies what it means to make one's community better.

It is my honor to recognize Rod for his decades of service to Montana's law enforcement and for his continued efforts to make Montana a safer and better place for all.•

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 10:32 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by

Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 422. An act to allow Senators, Senators-elect, committees of the Senate, leadership offices, and other offices of the Senate to share employees, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

At 11:07 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. 1333. An act to transfer and limit Executive Branch authority to suspend or restrict the entry of a class of aliens.

H.R. 1392. An act to protect Saudi dissidents in the United States, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1573. An act to clarify the rights of certain persons who are held or detained at a port of entry or at any facility overseen by U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

H.R. 2630. An act to amend the Temporary Reauthorization and Study of the Emergency Scheduling of Fentanyl Analogues Act to extend under October 2021, a temporary order for fentanyl-related substances.

At 1:09 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 51. An act to provide for the admission of the State of Washington, D.C. into the Union.

H.R. 367. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish an acquisition professional career program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 370. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make technical corrections to the requirement that the Secretary of Homeland Security submit quadrennial homeland security reviews, and for other purposes.

H.R. 396. An act to amend the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 to clarify certain allowable uses of funds for public transportation security assistance grants and establish periods of performance for such grants, and for other purposes.

H.R. 397. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear intelligence and information sharing functions of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security and to require dissemination of information analyzed by the Department to entities with responsibilities relating to homeland security, and for other purposes.

H.R. 408. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a mentor-protégé program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 490. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to improve morale within the Department of Homeland Security workforce by conferring new responsibilities to the Chief Human Capital Officer, establishing an employee engagement steering committee, requiring action plans, and authorizing an annual employee award program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 965. An act to establish a comprehensive United States Government initiative to build the capacity of young leaders and entrepreneurs in Africa, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1251. An act to support United States international cyber diplomacy, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1395. An act to require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to discount FHA single-family mortgage insurance premium payments for first-time homebuyers who complete a financial literacy housing counseling program.

H.R. 1491. An act to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to provide enhanced protection against debt collector harassment of members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1528. An act to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to carry out a study of Rule 10b5–1 trading plans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1532. An act to require a review of the effects of FHA mortgage insurance policies, practices, and products on small-dollar mortgage lending, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1565. An act to create an interdivisional taskforce at the Securities and Exchange Commission for senior investors.

H.R. 1602. An act to direct the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission to jointly establish a digital asset working group, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2523. An act to amend the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to improve the COVID–19 Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance program, to make certain technical corrections to the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 367. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish an acquisition professional career program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 370. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make technical corrections to the requirement that the Secretary of Homeland Security submit quadrennial homeland security reviews, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 396. An act to amend the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 to clarify certain allowable uses of funds for public transportation security assistance grants and establish periods of performance for such grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 397. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear intelligence and information sharing functions of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security and to require dissemination of information analyzed by the Department to entities with responsibilities relating to homeland security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 408. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a mentor-protégé program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 490. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to improve morale within the Department of Homeland Security workforce by conferring new responsibilities to the Chief Human Capital Officer, establishing an employee engagement steering committee, requiring action plans, and authorizing an annual employee award program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 965. An act to establish a comprehensive United States Government initiative to build the capacity of young leaders and entrepreneurs in Africa, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 1251. An act to support United States international cyber diplomacy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 1333. An act to transfer and limit Executive Branch authority to suspend or restrict the entry of a class of aliens; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 1392. An act to protect Saudi dissidents in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 1395. An act to require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to discount FHA single-family mortgage insurance premium payments for first-time homebuyers who complete a financial literacy housing counseling program; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1491. An act to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to provide enhanced protection against debt collector harassment of members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1528. An act to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to carry out a study of Rule 10b5–1 trading plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1532. An act to require a review of the effects of FHA mortgage insurance policies, practices, and products on small-dollar mortgage lending, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1565. An act to create an interdivisional taskforce at the Securities and Exchange Commission for senior investors; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1573. An act to clarify the rights of certain persons who are held or detained at a port of entry or at any facility overseen by U.S. Customs and Border Protection; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 1602. An act to direct the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission to jointly establish a digital asset working group, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 2523. An act to amend the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to improve the COVID–19 Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance program, to make certain technical corrections to the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, April 22, 2021, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 422. An act to allow Senators, Senators-elect, committees of the Senate, leadership offices, and other offices of the Senate to share employees, 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–824. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Metaflumizone; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 10018–60–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–825. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Debt Collection Practices in Connection with the Global COVID–19 Pandemic (Regulation F)'' (RIN3170–AA41) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–826. A communication from the Executive Director, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''WECC Regional Reliability Standard BAL–002-WECC–3 (Contingency Reserve)'' ((RIN1902–AF75) (Docket No. RM19–20–000)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2021; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–827. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.105 Rev 4, Setpoints for Safety-Related Instrumentation'' received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–828. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Regulatory Guides (RG) 5.75, 'Training and Qualification of Security Personnel at Nuclear Power Reactor Facilities'' received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–829. A communication from the Senior Wildlife Inspector, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''2021 Inflation Adjustments for Civil Monetary Penalties'' (RIN1018–BF11) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–830. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of State, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Cuban Compliance with the Migration Accords (October 2020 through April 2021)''; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–831. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Medical Devices; Amendments to Medical Device Classification Regulations to Conform to Medical Software Provisions in the 21st Century Cures Act'' (RIN0910–AI45) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2021; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–832. A communication from the Director, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Post-Employment Conflict of Interest Restrictions; Revision of Department Component Designations'' (RIN3209–AA58) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2021; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–833. A communication from the Comptroller General of the United States, Government Accountability Office, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Office's audit of the United States government's fiscal years 2020 and 2019 consolidated financial statements; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–834. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Television Broadcasting Services; Corpus Christi, Texas'' (MB Docket No. 21–396) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–835. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Television Broadcasting Services; Jefferson City, Missouri'' (MB Docket No. 21–10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–836. A communication from the Deputy Division Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Auction of AM and FM Broadcast Construction Permits Scheduled for July 27, 2021: Notice of Filing Requirements, Minimum Opening Bids, Upfront Payments, and Other Procedures for Auction 109'' (AU Docket No. 21–39) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petition or memorial was laid before the Senate and was referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM–12. A petition from a citizen of the State of Texas relative to private prisons; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. WYDEN for the Committee on Finance.

*Andrea Joan Palm, of Wisconsin, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services.

By Mr. TESTER for the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

*Richard A. Sauber, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. KAINE, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. KING, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 1298. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for increased investment in clean energy; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. BENNET, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 1299. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax-exempt financing of certain government-owned buildings; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. DAINES, Mr. BROWN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CASEY, Mr. RISCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. FISCHER, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. ERNST, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. TESTER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. KING, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. PETERS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 1300. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Small Business Act to expand the availability of employee stock ownership plans in S corporations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. WICKER, and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 1301. A bill to provide for the publication by the Secretary of Health and Human Services of physical activity recommendations for Americans; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. SMITH, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. REED, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CASEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 1302. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 1303. A bill to ensure that certain Federal infrastructure programs require the use of materials produced in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 1304. A bill to establish jobs programs for long-term unemployed workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 1305. A bill to promote equity in advanced coursework and programs at elementary and secondary schools; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 1306. A bill to provide for domestic sourcing of personal protective equipment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MORAN:

S. 1307. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enforce licensure and related requirements for health care professionals of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. KAINE, and Ms. LUMMIS):

S. 1308. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit to issuers of American infrastructure bonds; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 1309. A bill to provide payments for home health services furnished via visual or audio telecommunications systems during an emergency period; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 1310. A bill to oppose violations of religious freedom in Ukraine by Russia and armed groups commanded by Russia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. TUBERVILLE):

S. 1311. A bill to secure the research enterprise of the United States from the Chinese Communist Party, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Ms. ERNST, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. TESTER):

S. 1312. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the waiting periods for disability insurance benefits and Medicare coverage for individuals with metastatic breast cancer and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 1313. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a mission statement of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BROWN, Mr. REED, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 1314. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax rate parity among all tobacco products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. WICKER, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. ERNST, Ms. SMITH, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. REED, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BROWN, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. DAINES, Mr. CASEY, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. COONS, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. CARPER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. KING, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. TESTER, Mr. WARNER, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. KELLY):

S. 1315. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of certain lymphedema compression treatment items under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. 1316. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to make a declaration of a significant incident, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 1317. A bill to modify the boundary of the Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument in the State of Arizona, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 1318. A bill to reauthorize the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 1319. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make certain information publicly available on one internet website of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 1320. A bill to establish the Chiricahua National Park in the State of Arizona as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 1321. A bill to modify the boundary of the Casa Grande Ruins National Monument, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MERKLEY:

S. 1322. A bill to establish the Financing Energy Efficient Manufacturing Program at the Department of Energy to provide financial assistance to promote energy efficiency and onsite renewable technologies in manufacturing facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MERKLEY:

S. 1323. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish reference prices for prescription drugs for purposes of Federal health programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 1324. A bill to establish a Civilian Cyber Security Reserve as a pilot project to address the cyber security needs for the United States with respect to national security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. DAINES, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. ERNST, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. INHOFE):

S. 1325. A bill to ensure that women seeking an abortion are informed of the medical risks associated with the abortion procedure and the major developmental characteristics of the unborn child, before giving their informed consent to receive an abortion; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 1326. A bill to prohibit the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from issuing greenhouse gas emissions rules or regulations until China, India, and Russia adhere to the same emissions reduction targets as the United States under the Paris Agreement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. REED, Mr. SANDERS, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 1327. A bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to add additional demographic reporting requirements, to modify the goals of the Federal Reserve System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BROWN, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1328. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to reauthorize the farm to school program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Mr. BROWN):

S. 1329. A bill to amend the National Aviation Heritage Area Act to reauthorize the National Aviation Heritage Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 1330. A bill to facilitate the reskilling of Federal employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. LUJÁN (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 1331. A bill to require the Secretary of Transportation, acting through the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, to prescribe a Federal motor vehicle safety standard for advanced drunk and impaired driving prevention technology, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LUJÁN (for himself and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 1332. A bill to amend title V of the Public Health Service Act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 1333. A bill to address maternal mortality and morbidity; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 1334. A bill to amend the Toxic Substance Control Act to codify a Federal cause of action and a type of remedy available for individuals significantly exposed to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, to encourage research and accountability for irresponsible discharge of those substances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. MARKEY:

S. 1335. A bill to establish a Global Climate Change Resilience Strategy, to authorize the admission of climate-displaced persons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 1336. A bill to discontinue a Federal program that authorizes State and local law enforcement officers to investigate, apprehend, and detain aliens in accordance with a written agreement with the Director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and to clarify that immigration enforcement is solely a function of the Federal Government; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 1337. A bill to address the impact of climate change on agriculture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. WARREN, Mr. REED, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. KAINE, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 1338. A bill to repeal the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act, and provide for the discoverability and admissibility of gun trace information in civil proceedings; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. TOOMEY):

S. 1339. A bill to amend the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 to ensure crime victims are not denied compensation because of rape kit backlogs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Mr. BURR):

S. 1340. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to redefine the eastern and middle judicial districts of North Carolina; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. INHOFE):

S. 1341. A bill to amend the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 to reauthorize grants for and require applied water supply research regarding the water resources research and technology institutes established under that Act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Ms. ERNST):

S. 1342. A bill to establish an interagency committee on the development of green alert systems that would be activated when a veteran goes missing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 1343. A bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to require that a consumer authorize the release of certain information; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 1344. A bill to redesignate the Pullman National Monument in the State of Illinois as the Pullman National Historical Park, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. CARPER):

S. 1345. A bill to establish a national mercury monitoring program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. RISCH, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. KING, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. SMITH, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 1346. A bill to require enforcement against misbranded milk alternatives; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. CARPER):

S. 1347. A bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to continue to carry out certain programs relating to environmental justice, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. HAWLEY (for himself and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 1348. A bill to require the Director of National Intelligence to declassify information relating to the origin of COVID–19, and for other purposes; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. ROUNDS, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 1349. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize concurrent use of Department of Defense Tuition Assistance and Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr. SASSE):

S. 1350. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a national risk management cycle, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Mr. CARPER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. COONS, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 1351. A bill to strengthen the security and integrity of the United States scientific and research enterprise; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. RISCH, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 1352. A bill to improve the quality and timeliness of Federal permitting and review processes with respect to critical mineral production on Federal land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. PETERS:

S. 1353. A bill to promote United States values and fulfill agency missions through the use of innovative applied artificial intelligence technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 1354. A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Chilkoot National Historic Trail and to provide for a study of the Alaska Long Trail, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL:

S. 1355. A bill to amend the Consumer Product Safety Act to strike provisions that limit the disclosure of certain information by the Consumer Product Safety Commission; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 1356. A bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to create permanent payments within the environmental quality incentives program for soil health practices and carbon sequestration monitoring, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself, Mr. COONS, Mr. CASEY, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. BENNET):

S. 1357. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Director of the National Institutes of Health to make awards to outstanding scientists, including physician-scientists, to support researchers focusing on pediatric research, including basic, clinical, translational, or pediatric pharmacological research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 1358. A bill to establish regional processing centers, to improve the asylum and credible fear processes to promote fairness and efficiency, to require immigration court docketing priorities during irregular migration influx events, and to improve the capability of the Department of Homeland Security to manage migration flows, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 1359. A bill to establish the Foundation for Energy Security and Innovation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. CASEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 1360. A bill to amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 and the Head Start Act to promote child care and early learning, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MARSHALL:

S. 1361. A bill to reduce the size of the seat of the Government of the United States to the area comprised of the principal Federal monuments, the White House, the United States Capitol, the United States Supreme Court Building, and the Federal executive, legislative, and judicial office buildings located adjacent to the Mall and the United States Capitol, to provide for the retrocession of the remaining area of the District of Columbia to the State of Maryland, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MARSHALL:

S.J. Res. 18. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to repeal the twenty-third article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. Res. 171. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the International Olympic Committee should correct the Olympic records for Jim Thorpe for his unprecedented accomplishments during the 1912 Olympic Games; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MARKEY,

Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. KAINE, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WARNER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. BENNET, Ms. WARREN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CARPER, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. Res. 172. A resolution declaring racism a public health crisis; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. Res. 173. A resolution commending the actions of Cuban democracy and human rights activist Jose Daniel Ferrer Garcia and the pro-democracy and human rights group, the Patriotic Union of Cuba (UNPACU), to uphold fundamental freedoms in Cuba and condemning Cuba's brutal authoritarian Communist regime; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. THUNE):

S. Res. 174. A resolution designating April 2021 as ''Parkinson's Awareness Month'' ; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LUJÁN:

S. Res. 175. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Public Health Week; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. RISCH):

S. Res. 176. A resolution urging all parties in Georgia to seek prompt implementation of the agreement signed on April 19, 2021, and reaffirming the support of the Senate for Georgia, the territorial integrity of Georgia, and the aspirations of Georgians to join the Euro-Atlantic community; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. ERNST, Mr. WICKER, Mr. COONS, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. DAINES, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. PETERS):

S. Res. 177. A resolution designating April 2021 as ''Financial Literacy Month'' ; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. Res. 178. A resolution honoring the life and legacy of award-winning children's author Beverly Cleary; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. Res. 179. A resolution to make temporary appointments to the Select Committee on Ethics; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. Con. Res. 8. A concurrent resolution recognizing that the climate crisis is disproportionately affecting the health, economic opportunity, and fundamental rights of children, expressing the sense of Congress that renewed leadership by the United States is needed to address the climate crisis, and recognizing the need of the United States to develop a national, comprehensive, and science-based climate recovery plan to phase out fossil fuel emissions, protect and enhance natural sequestration, and put the United States on a path toward stabilizing the climate system; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 40

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) 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. 168

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 168, a bill to provide temporary licensing reciprocity for telehealth and interstate health care treatment.

S. 204

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 204, a bill to establish the Office of Press Freedom, to create press freedom curriculum at the National Foreign Affairs Training Center, and for other purposes.

S. 231

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 231, a bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to develop guidance for firefighters and other emergency response personnel on best practices to protect them from exposure to PFAS and to limit and prevent the release of PFAS into the environment, and for other purposes.

S. 306

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 306, a bill to provide a process for granting lawful permanent resident status to aliens from certain countries who meet specified eligibility requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 386

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 386, a bill to establish a public health plan.

S. 444

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 444, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide or assist in providing an additional vehicle adapted for operation by disabled individuals to certain eligible persons.

S. 558

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 558, a bill to establish a national integrated flood information system within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 617

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 617, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the estate and generation-skipping transfer taxes, and for other purposes.

S. 657

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) were added as cosponsors of S. 657, a bill to modify the presumption of service connection for veterans who were exposed to herbicide agents while serving in the Armed Forces in Thailand during the Vietnam era, and for other purposes.

S. 659

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 659, a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to promulgate regulations relating to commercial motor vehicle drivers under the age of 21, and for other purposes.

S. 789

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 789, a bill to repeal certain obsolete laws relating to Indians.

S. 792

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 792, a bill to amend the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999 to modify certain agricultural exemptions for hours of service requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 810

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 810, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the list of diseases associated with exposure to certain herbicide agents for which there is a presumption of service connection for veterans who served in the Republic of Vietnam to include hypertension, and for other purposes.

S. 828

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 828, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coverage of marriage and family therapist services and mental health counselor services under part B of the

Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 839

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY), the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH), the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 839, a bill to establish a postsecondary student data system.

S. 919

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 919, a bill to establish duties for online service providers with respect to end user data that such providers collect and use.

S. 926

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 926, a bill to plan, develop, and make recommendations to increase access to sexual assault examinations for survivors by holding hospitals accountable and supporting the providers that serve them.

S. 927

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 927, a bill to improve the provision of health care and other benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs for veterans who were exposed to toxic substances, and for other purposes.

S. 951

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 951, 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. 1039

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1039, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve compensation for disabilities occurring in Persian Gulf War veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 1086

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1086, a bill to provide incentives for hate crime reporting, provide grants for State-run hate crime hotlines, and establish alternative sentencing for individuals convicted under the Matthew Shephard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act.

S. 1106

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1106, a bill to prohibit the sale of shark fins, and for other purposes.

S. 1123

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1123, a bill to preserve non-interference under the Medicare part D Prescription Drug Benefit program.

S. 1135

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1135, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to require the President to set a minimum annual goal for the number of refugees to be admitted, and for other purposes.

S. 1180

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1180, a bill to provide for the establishment of Medicare part E public health plans, and for other purposes.

S. 1205

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1205, a bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds relating to rejoining the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action with Iran unless the President commits to submitting any successor agreement to the Senate for its advice and consent as a treaty.

S. 1238

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1238, a bill to amend title 10, 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.

S. 1251

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) were added as cosponsors of 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 markets, and for other purposes.

S. 1255

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1255, a bill to require the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce to promote and administer programs in the public and private 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.

S. 1279

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1279, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an option for any citizen or permanent resident of the United States age 50 to 64 to buy into Medicare.

S. RES. 97

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) 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. 148

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 148, a resolution recognizing the importance of paying tribute to those individuals who have faithfully served and retired from the Armed Forces of the United States, designating April 18, 2021, as ''Military Retiree Appreciation Day'', and encouraging the people of the United

States to honor the past and continued service of military retirees to their local communities and the United States.

AMENDMENT NO. 1456

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1456 proposed to S. 937, a bill to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1456 proposed to S. 937, supra.

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1456 proposed to S. 937, supra.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 1309. A bill to provide payments for home health services furnished via visual or audio telecommunications systems during an emergency period; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today, along with my colleagues Senator CARDIN, Senator MARSHALL, and Senator SHAHEEN, to introduce the Home Health Emergency Access to Telehealth (HEAT) Act. This bipartisan bill would help ensure that seniors who rely on home health care have the choice to receive these critical services through telehealth during the COVID–19 pandemic and future public health emergencies.

COVID–19 is the greatest public health challenge since the flu pandemic of 1918 and has claimed the lives of more than 565,000 Americans. This public health emergency has underscored the need for older adults and other at-risk populations to have access to health care in the home setting. Home-based care is crucial to ensuring that this pandemic does not create devastating long-term health consequences due to delayed care. The highly skilled and compassionate care that home health agencies provide is an important component of this in-home care.

I have been a strong supporter of home care since my very first home visit, which took place in my hometown in Aroostook County early in my Senate service. This experience gave me the opportunity to meet and visit with home health patients, where I saw first-hand what a difference highly skilled and caring visiting nurses and other health care professionals make to the lives of patients and their families. I have been a passionate advocate for home care ever since.

Last year, my bipartisan home health legislation, the Home Health Care Planning Improvement Act, became law as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. This law, which I championed for 13 years, will improve the access Medicare beneficiaries have to home health care by allowing physician assistants, nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, and certified nurse midwives to order home health services. Far too often seniors experience unnecessary delays in accessing home health care. To avoid these needless delays, it is common sense that other medical professionals who are familiar with a patient's case should be able to order these services.

Home health professionals have continued to provide face-to-face services during the COVID–19 public health emergency, but this crisis has created additional challenges, including the need to maintain an adequate supply of personal protective equipment to protect themselves, their patients, and their patients' families. The use of telehealth and virtual visits can help address these challenges. Unlike other Medicare providers, however, home health agencies are not eligible to receive Medicare reimbursement for telehealth services during the COVID–19 emergency.

Last May, I chaired Congress' first hearing examining COVID–19's devastating impact on seniors. During the hearing, Dr. Steven Landers, President and CEO of the Visiting Nurse Association Health Group, testified that, despite this lack of Medicare reimbursement, his organization has found telehealth to be an essential part of providing high quality home health care during the COVID–19 public health emergency. He urged action to ensure that home health providers can continue offering these critical services remotely.

Maine home health care providers have also shared their stories about how telehealth is helping them to continue caring for their patients during COVID–19. Through a combination of video visits and care calls, one provider has been able to care for a woman with severe heart and lung disease and keep this patient out of the hospital. The nurse would speak with the woman by phone a couple of times per week to assess any symptoms that needed follow up. If the nurse identified an issue during the call, she would schedule a video visit and also work with the patient's physician to modify medications as needed.

The bill we are introducing today would authorize Medicare reimbursement for home health services provided through telehealth during an emergency period. The services would not be reimbursed unless the beneficiary consents to receiving the services via telehealth. To ensure that the Medicare home health benefit does not become a telehealth-only benefit, Medicare reimbursement would only be provided if the telehealth services constitute no more than half of the billable visits made during the 30-day payment period. The Secretary of Health and Human Services would be required to issue guidance on the authorization of and payment for home health services provided via telehealth.

Home health serves a vital role in helping our Nation's seniors avoid more costly hospital visits and nursing home stays. The COVID–19 emergencyhas further underscored the critical importance of home health services and highlighted how these agencies are able to use telehealth to provide skilled care to their patients. The Home Health Emergency Access to Telehealth (HEAT) Act would ensure that seniors in Maine and across the country retain access to remote home health services during the COVID–19 emergency and future public health emergencies.

Thank you, Mr. President.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BROWN, Mr. REED, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 1314. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax rate parity among all tobacco products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. DURBIN. 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. 1314

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 ''Tobacco Tax Equity Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. INCREASING EXCISE TAXES ON CIGARETTES AND ESTABLISHING EXCISE TAX EQUITY AMONG ALL TOBACCO PRODUCT TAX RATES.

(a) TAX PARITY FOR ROLL-YOUR-OWN TOBACCO.—Section 5701(g) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''$24.78'' and inserting ''$49.56''.

(b) TAX PARITY FOR PIPE TOBACCO.—Section 5701(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''$2.8311 cents'' and inserting ''$49.56''.

(c) TAX PARITY FOR SMOKELESS TOBACCO.—

(1) Section 5701(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''$1.51'' and inserting ''$26.84'';

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''50.33 cents'' and inserting ''$10.74''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) SMOKELESS TOBACCO SOLD IN DISCRETE SINGLE-USE UNITS.—On discrete single-use units, $100.66 per thousand.''.

(2) Section 5702(m) of such Code is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''or chewing tobacco'' and inserting '', chewing tobacco, or discrete single-use unit'';

(B) in paragraphs (2) and (3), by inserting ''that is not a discrete single-use unit'' before the period in each such paragraph; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(4) DISCRETE SINGLE-USE UNIT.—The term 'discrete single-use unit' means any product containing, made from, or derived from tobacco or nicotine that—

''(A) is not intended to be smoked; and

''(B) is in the form of a lozenge, tablet, pill, pouch, dissolvable strip, or other discrete single-use or single-dose unit.''.

(d) TAX PARITY FOR SMALL CIGARS.—Paragraph (1) of section 5701(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''$50.33'' and inserting ''$100.66''.

(e) TAX PARITY FOR LARGE CIGARS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 5701(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''52.75 percent'' and all that follows through the period and inserting the following: ''$49.56 per pound and a proportionate tax at the like rate on all fractional parts of a pound but not less than 10.066 cents per cigar.''.

(2) GUIDANCE.—The Secretary of the Treasury, or the Secretary's delegate, may issue guidance regarding the appropriate method for determining the weight of large cigars for purposes of calculating the applicable tax under section 5701(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(f) TAX PARITY FOR ROLL-YOUR-OWN TOBACCO AND CERTAIN PROCESSED TOBACCO.—Subsection (o) of section 5702 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting '', and includes processed tobacco that is removed for delivery or delivered to a person other than a person with a permit provided under section 5713, but does not include removals of processed tobacco for exportation'' after ''wrappers thereof''.

(g) CLARIFYING TAX RATE FOR OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 5701 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(i) OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS.—Any product not otherwise described under this section that has been determined to be a tobacco product by the Food and Drug Administration through its authorities under the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act shall be taxed at a level of tax equivalent to the tax rate for cigarettes on an estimated per use basis as determined by the Secretary.''.

(2) ESTABLISHING PER USE BASIS.—For purposes of section 5701(i) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, not later than 12 months after the later of the date of the enactment of this Act or the date that a product has been determined to be a tobacco product by the Food and Drug Administration, the Secretary of the Treasury (or the Secretary of the Treasury's delegate) shall issue final regulations establishing the level of tax for such product that is equivalent to the tax rate for cigarettes on an estimated per use basis.

(h) CLARIFYING DEFINITION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 5702 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

''(c) TOBACCO PRODUCTS.—The term 'tobacco products' means—

''(1) cigars, cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, pipe tobacco, and roll-your-own tobacco, and

''(2) any other product subject to tax pursuant to section 5701(i).''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Subsection (d) of section 5702 of such Code is amended by striking ''cigars, cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, pipe tobacco, or roll-your-own tobacco'' each place it appears and inserting ''tobacco products''.

(i) INCREASING TAX ON CIGARETTES.—

(1) SMALL CIGARETTES.—Section 5701(b)(1) of such Code is amended by striking ''$50.33'' and inserting ''$100.66''.

(2) LARGE CIGARETTES.—Section 5701(b)(2) of such Code is amended by striking ''$105.69'' and inserting ''$211.38''.

(j) TAX RATES ADJUSTED FOR INFLATION.—Section 5701 of such Code, as amended by subsection (g), is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(j) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any calendar year beginning after 2021, the dollar amounts provided under this chapter shall each be increased by an amount equal to—

''(A) such dollar amount, multiplied by

''(B) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year, determined by substituting 'calendar year 2020' for 'calendar year 2016' in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

''(2) ROUNDING.—If any amount as adjusted under paragraph (1) is not a multiple of $0.01, such amount shall be rounded to the next highest multiple of $0.01.''.

(k) FLOOR STOCKS TAXES.—

(1) IMPOSITION OF TAX.—On tobacco products manufactured in or imported into the United States which are removed before any tax increase date and held on such date for sale by any person, there is hereby imposed a tax in an amount equal to the excess of—

(A) the tax which would be imposed under section 5701 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 on the article if the article had been removed on such date, over

(B) the prior tax (if any) imposed under section 5701 of such Code on such article.

(2) CREDIT AGAINST TAX.—Each person shall be allowed as a credit against the taxes imposed by paragraph (1) an amount equal to $500. Such credit shall not exceed the amount of taxes imposed by paragraph (1) on such date for which such person is liable.

(3) LIABILITY FOR TAX AND METHOD OF PAYMENT.—

(A) LIABILITY FOR TAX.—A person holding tobacco products on any tax increase date to which any tax imposed by paragraph (1) applies shall be liable for such tax.

(B) METHOD OF PAYMENT.—The tax imposed by paragraph (1) shall be paid in such manner as the Secretary shall prescribe by regulations.

(C) TIME FOR PAYMENT.—The tax imposed by paragraph (1) shall be paid on or before the date that is 120 days after the effective date of the tax rate increase.

(4) ARTICLES IN FOREIGN TRADE ZONES.—Notwithstanding the Act of June 18, 1934 (commonly known as the Foreign Trade Zone Act, 48 Stat. 998, 19 U.S.C. 81a et seq.), or any other provision of law, any article which is located in a foreign trade zone on any tax increase date shall be subject to the tax imposed by paragraph (1) if—

(A) internal revenue taxes have been determined, or customs duties liquidated, with respect to such article before such date pursuant to a request made under the first proviso of section 3(a) of such Act, or

(B) such article is held on such date under the supervision of an officer of the United States Customs and Border Protection of the Department of Homeland Security pursuant to the second proviso of such section 3(a).

(5) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Any term used in this subsection which is also used in section 5702 of such Code shall have the same meaning as such term has in such section.

(B) TAX INCREASE DATE.—The term ''tax increase date'' means the effective date of any increase in any tobacco product excise tax rate pursuant to the amendments made by this section (other than subsection (j) thereof).

(C) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary's delegate.

(6) CONTROLLED GROUPS.—Rules similar to the rules of section 5061(e)(3) of such Code shall apply for purposes of this subsection.

(7) OTHER LAWS APPLICABLE.—All provisions of law, including penalties, applicable with respect to the taxes imposed by section 5701 of such Code shall, insofar as applicable and not inconsistent with the provisions of this subsection, apply to the floor stocks taxes imposed by paragraph (1), to the same extent as if such taxes were imposed by such section 5701. The Secretary may treat any person who bore the ultimate burden of the tax imposed by paragraph (1) as the person to whom a credit or refund under such provisions may be allowed or made.

(l) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2) through (4), the amendments made by this section shall apply to articles removed (as defined in section 5702(j) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) after the last day of the month which includes the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) DISCRETE SINGLE-USE UNITS AND PROCESSED TOBACCO.—The amendments made by subsections (c)(1)(C), (c)(2), and (f) shall apply to articles removed (as defined in section 5702(j) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) after the date that is 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(3) LARGE CIGARS.—The amendments made by subsection (e) shall apply to articles removed after December 31, 2021.

(4) OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS.—The amendments made by subsection (g)(1) shall apply to products removed after the last day of the month which includes the date that the Secretary of the Treasury (or the Secretary of the Treasury's delegate) issues final regulations establishing the level of tax for such product.

By Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 1343. A bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to require that a consumer authorize the release of certain information; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. REED. I am joined by Senator VAN HOLLEN in reintroducing the Consumer Credit Control Act, which gives consumers greater control over when and how their consumer reports are shared by consumer reporting agencies.

Our current consumer reporting system is backwards. Consumer reporting agencies collect massive amounts of personal information on consumers, often without their knowledge, in order to compile consumer reports. These reports are then shared with financial institutions and others, often without consent.

Following Equifax's failure in 2017 to secure troves of valuable personally identifiable information it collected on approximately 147 million Americans, it remains clear that this system needs to change. Indeed, the National Consumer Law Center's Chi Chi Wu stated in her October 2017 testimony before the House Financial Services Committee that the Equifax breach ''means half of the US population and nearly three-quarters of the consumers with active credit reports are now at risk of identity theft due to one of the worst—if not the worst—breaches of consumer data in American history. These Americans are at risk of having false new credit accounts, phony tax returns, and even spurious medical bills incurred in their good names.'' To make matters worse, the risks of identity fraud may only increase with time. As Ed Mierzwinski, U.S. PIRG's federal Consumer Program Director, explains ''unlike credit card numbers, your Social Security Number and Date of Birth don't change and may even grow more

valuable over time, like gold in a bank vault. Much worse, they are the keys to 'new account identity theft.' ''

The Consumer Credit Control Act aims to address these concerns and fix the current upside down system. Our legislation, at no cost to the consumer, seeks to give Americans greater control over when and how their consumer reports are released when applying for new credit, a loan, or insurance. It also requires consumer reporting agencies to verify a consumer's identity and secure the consumer's permission before releasing consumer reports in instances that are particularly susceptible to identity theft and fraud. Additionally, our legislation requires every consumer reporting agency to take appropriate steps to prevent unauthorized access to the consumer reports and personal information they maintain. These changes are intended to make it tougher for criminals to open new fraudulent credit or insurance accounts in other people's names.

I urge our colleagues to cosponsor the Consumer Credit Control Act, and I thank Senator VAN HOLLEN, the National Consumer Law Center (on behalf of its low-income clients), U.S. PIRG, Americans for Financial Reform, the Center for Digital Democracy, Consumer Action, the Consumer Federation of America, Consumer Reports, Demos, the NAACP, the National Association of Consumer Advocates, the National Fair Housing Alliance, Public Citizen, Tennessee Citizen Action, and the Woodstock Institute for their support.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 1344. A bill to redesignate the Pullman National Monument in the State of Illinois as the Pullman National Historical Park, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. DURBIN. 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. 1344

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 ''Pullman National Historical Park Act''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) HISTORICAL PARK.—The term ''historical park'' means the Pullman National Historical Park.

(2) MAP.—The term ''map'' means the map entitled ''Pullman National Historical Park, Chicago, Illinois, Boundary'', numbered _____, and dated _____.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 3. REDESIGNATION OF PULLMAN NATIONAL MONUMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Pullman National Monument, established by Proclamation Number 9233, dated February 19, 2015, is redesignated as the ''Pullman National Historical Park.''.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Any funds available for purposes of the Pullman National Monument shall be available for purposes of the historical park.

(c) REFERENCES.—Any references in a law, regulation, document, record, map, or other paper of the United States to the Pullman National Monument shall be considered to be a reference to the historical park.

(d) PROCLAMATION.—Proclamation Number 9233, dated February 19, 2015, shall have no force or effect.

SEC. 4. PURPOSES.

The purposes of the historical park are to preserve, protect, and interpret Pullman's nationally significant cultural and historical resources associated with—

(1) the Nation's labor history and creation of a national Labor Day holiday;

(2) the first planned industrial community in the United States;

(3) the architecture and landscape design of the planned community;

(4) the pivotal role of the Pullman porter in the rise of the African-American middle class; and

(5) the entirety of history, culture, and historic figures embodied in Presidential Proclamation Number 9233.

SEC. 5. ADMINISTRATION.

The Secretary shall administer the land within the boundary of the historical park in accordance with—

(1) this Act; and

(2) the laws generally applicable to units of the National Park System, including—

(A) section 100101(a), chapter 1003, and sections 100751(a), 100752, 100753 and 102101 of title 54, United States Code; and

(B) chapter 3201 of title 54, United States Code.

SEC. 6. COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.

To further the purposes of this subsection and notwithstanding chapter 63 of title 31, United States Code, the Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements with the State, other public and non-profit entities, and other interested parties—

(1) to support collaborative interpretive and educational programs at non-Federal historic properties within the boundaries of the historical park; and

(2) to identify, interpret, and provide assistance for the preservation of non-Federal land within the boundaries of the historical park and at sites in close proximity to the historical park, but located outside the boundaries of the historical park, including providing for placement of directional and interpretive signage, exhibits, and technology-based interpretive devices; and

SEC. 7. USE OF FUNDS.

The Secretary may use appropriated funds to mark, interpret, improve, restore, and provide technical assistance with respect to the preservation and interpretation of the properties. Any payment made by the Secretary under this clause shall be subject to an agreement that the conversion, use, or disposal of the project for purposes that are inconsistent with the purposes of this subsection, as determined by the Secretary, shall result in a right of the United States to reimbursement of the greater of—

(1) the amount provided by the Secretary to the project; or

(2) an amount equal to the increase in the value of the project that is attributable to the funds, as determined by the Secretary at the time of the conversion, use, or disposal. Any cooperative agreement entered into under this subparagraph shall provide for reasonable public access to the resources covered by the cooperative agreement.

SEC. 8. ACQUISITION OF LAND.

The Secretary may acquire for inclusion in the historical park any land (including interests in land), buildings, or structures owned by the State, or any other political, private, or nonprofit entity by donation, transfer, exchange, or purchase from a willing seller.

SEC. 9. MANAGEMENT PLAN.

Not later than 3 fiscal years after the date on which funds are first made available to carry out this Act, the Secretary shall complete a general management plan for the historical park.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. CARPER):

S. 1345. A bill to establish a national mercury monitoring program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, today is Earth Day, and there are many issues, environmental challenges, that each of us could be discussing here on the Senate floor.

I have chosen to speak on a bill that I am introducing today that is called the Comprehensive National Mercury Monitoring Act. I am pleased to be partnering, once again, with my colleague from Delaware, Senator CARPER, who serves as the chairman of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. Our bipartisan bill would help ensure that we have accurate information about the extent of mercury pollution in our country.

Mercury is a potent neurotoxin. It poses significant ecological and public health concerns, especially for children and pregnant women. Mercury exposure has gone down as U.S. mercury emissions have declined. However, the levels remain unacceptably high.

It is estimated that nearly 200,000 children born in the United States have been exposed to levels of mercury in the womb that are high enough to impair their neurological development. This exposure can impose a lifelong disability.

In addition, the societal costs of neurocognitive deficits associated with mercury exposure are estimated to be approximately $4.8 billion per year.

In Maine, some of our lands and bodies of water face higher mercury pollution compared to the national average. Maine has been called the tailpipe of the Nation, as the winds carrying pollution, including mercury, from the West drift into the State of Maine.

A system for collecting information, such as we have for acid rain and other forms of pollution, does not currently exist for mercury, which, ironically, is a more toxic pollutant. A comprehensive mercury monitoring network is needed to protect human health, safeguard our fisheries, and track the effect of emission reductions. This monitoring network would also help policymakers, scientists, and the public better understand the sources, consequences, and trends of mercury pollution in our country.

Specifically, our legislation would do the following:

First, it would direct the EPA, in conjunction with the Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Geological Survey, the National Park Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association, and other Federal Agencies, to

establish a national mercury monitoring program to measure and monitor mercury levels in the air and watersheds, water and soil chemistry, and in marine, freshwater, and terrestrial organisms at multiple sites across the Nation.

Second, it would establish a scientific advisory committee to advise on the establishment, site selection, measurement, recording protocols, and operations of this monitoring program.

Third, our bill would establish a centralized database for existing and newly collected environmental mercury data that can be freely accessed on the internet and that is compatible with similar international efforts.

Fourth, our bill would require a report to Congress every 2 years on the program, including trend data, and an assessment every 4 years of the reduction in mercury deposition rates that needs to be achieved in order to prevent adverse human and ecological effects on our environment.

Fifth, our bill would authorize $95 million over 3 years for these purposes.

We must establish a comprehensive, robust national mercury monitoring network. Otherwise, we will lack the data we need to help make informed decisions that can help protect the people of Maine and the Nation, particularly our children and pregnant women.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bipartisan bill, the Comprehensive National Mercury Monitoring Act.

Thank you.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 1358. A bill to establish regional processing centers, to improve the asylum and credible fear processes to promote fairness and efficiency, to require immigration court docketing priorities during irregular migration influx events, and to improve the capability of the Department of Homeland Security to manage migration flows, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, over the last few months, we have been spending a lot of time talking about the surge of migrants at our southern border and, as the Presiding Officer knows, we are having bipartisan meetings here to try to figure out how to address that and other challenges of our broken immigration system.

We know the spike in migration is not a new phenomenon, and sadly, neither is the increase in the number of unaccompanied children. But the current surge is unlike anything we have experienced in the past. We are breaking all the wrong kinds of records, including the numbers of unaccompanied children, total monthly border crossings, and capacity levels at care facilities. And, of course, all of this is happening during a pandemic which creates serious risks for our law enforcement and for those caring for these migrants and for the migrants themselves.

Unfortunately, the administration has not yet figured out how to stop this flow of illegal immigration. The President and his team are telling migrants: Don't come. But when it comes to his policies, all of his policies say: Come while you can.

They haven't figured out how to replace Trump-era policies, and so what they have done is left a void that is being exploited by everybody from the coyotes, the human smugglers, the people who smuggle in drugs into the United States, as well as the people who understandably want a better life. Maybe they are fleeing poverty or violence. We all understand why people want to come to the United States, but we also believe the safest and fairest sort of immigration policy is legal immigration into our country.

We are the most generous country in the world. We have naturalized about a million people a year. It is one of our comparative advantages compared to the rest of the world that restricts migration. Over the last few months, like many of us, I have spent a lot of time listening and learning from the folks on the ground in Texas who know the ins and outs of this topic better than anybody else.

I have visited border communities and heard from Border Patrol officers, mayors, county judges, and nongovernmental organizations that try to help these migrants once they make their way to the United States, and whose experience precedes this current surge.

I visited five of the facilities in Texas that are helping take care of the record number of migrant children in Carrizo Springs, Donna, Houston, Midland, and Dallas. I have heard about the heartbreaking circumstances under which many of these children have arrived on our doorsteps. I have seen the incredible ways that our nongovernmental organizations, like Catholic Charities, are trying to ease the burden of this crisis, even after a year of supporting their communities through a global pandemic.

The reality of this situation is that we are quickly nearing a breaking point. We lack the facilities, the personnel, the resources, and the policies needed to manage this crisis. Law enforcement in border communities are being overwhelmed by the sharp increase in migration, and unless something changes, the entire system could collapse.

The light is flashing red, and the time for action is now. That is why today I am proud to introduce the bipartisan Border Solutions Act, along with Senator SINEMA, to address this crisis.

It is no accident that both of us represent border States and that both of us have heard from our communities and stakeholders on the ground about how important it is for Congress to step up and provide some way to mitigate the current crisis.

On the House side, we have two of my friends in the Texas delegation—Congressmen HENRY CUELLAR, from Laredo, and TONY GONZALES, who represents one of the largest border districts in the country. So we truly have a bipartisan, bicameral piece of legislation.

Our knowledge of this crisis doesn't just come from the news or political talking points but, as I suggested, from real conversations with the real people who are dealing with this and have dealt with previous surges. We have heard from State and local leaders, law enforcement, NGOs, as I said, and a range of property owners whose property is being overrun by the coyotes and those who are involved in this illegal immigration process. So their input has been the driving force behind the bill, which includes, I believe, commonsense measures to address this crisis.

It is not, admittedly, a comprehensive immigration bill, but we need to put the fire out first and then build on our success, once we have passed that legislation, to do the other things that I think we can probably agree on, on a consensus basis, such as we discussed with the majority leader and others last evening.

The Bipartisan Border Solutions Act is not about scoring political points. It is about solving a problem, and that problem is getting bigger every day. The most immediate problem is our inability to properly process the sheer number of people crossing our border.

Our Border Patrol and Health and Human Services, and the Office of Refugee Resettlement are simply overwhelmed. In March, we saw the highest number of border crossings on record: 172,000 individuals. That was a dramatic increase from the eye-popping numbers in February, which totaled 100,000.

As I said, we have seen these surges before but never a surge like this magnitude. Now, the busiest months for people to cross the border typically are April, May, and June but not February and not March. So we know that this is only going to get worse based on our historical experience.

If our facilities and people are already overwhelmed, imagine how the strain will intensify if we do nothing. We already know that, in processing these migrants, important steps are being skipped in an effort to expedite the process.

Normally, if someone comes across the border seeking asylum, for example, they will be processed and released with a notice to appear for a future court hearing. That document includes important information like when and where their first court date is set. In many cases, right now, it just isn't happening.

Many migrants are being released in the interior of the United States with incomplete paperwork, and they are not given any notice to appear for a future immigration court date. And, you know, if they don't show up in court, a

default order of deportation will be entered even if they have a meritorious claim for asylum. So it has real consequences.

But what else can our government officials and our local communities do? Unfortunately, they do not want us to continue releasing people to the interior without a court date or information on what is needed in order to assert your claim. And as I said, without appearing in court, a migrant with a valid asylum claim won't be able to receive the relief that U.S. law provides for them.

At one point, the situation was so bad, the Biden administration considered flying migrants to less busy locations on the northern border to be processed. So there is really no question we need to improve our capacity and our process to handle these migrants more thoroughly and efficiently.

Our bipartisan bill here in the Senate and in the House will establish four regional processing centers in high-traffic areas along the border to streamline the intake of migrants. One reason that is so important, just beyond capacity issues, is that the smugglers who smuggle people into the United States for a price—part of transnational criminal organizations—they make a lot of money doing this, and they are smart. They know if they flood the zone with unaccompanied children, that the Border Patrol will go offline in order to take care of those children, which we want those children taken care of. But what the smugglers know and what the transnational criminal organizations know is once those Border Patrol come off the frontline, they are going to exploit that loophole by running drugs into the United States or more migrants.

Last year alone—or the last 12 months alone, 88,000 Americans have died from drug overdoses. And 92 percent of the heroin that comes into the United States comes from Mexico, together with a lot of methamphetamine, fentanyl, cocaine, and you name it. So we are dealing with incredibly shrewd and crafty people who understand the border perhaps better than most of us do.

One of the worst parts of the current crisis is the tens of thousands of unaccompanied children who are making the dangerous trip from Central America or Mexico without their parents. Many of us have seen the heartbreaking video of a young boy, abandoned by smugglers in the Rio Grande Valley, and he was asking for directions because he was lost. Smugglers left him behind. I don't know why. Maybe he was injured or ill or slowing them down, but these smugglers don't care about this young boy or any other human being. All they care about is the money.

And we have also read the story about a young girl who drowned trying to cross the river. And who can forget the young girls, ages 3 and 5, who literally were dropped over the border wall by human smugglers?

The truth is, migrant children endure unimaginable abuse and trauma in the hands of these criminal organizations. We need to try better, and we need to do better to provide protections to these children and ensure that they will not continue to be traumatized or abused once they cross our borders.

For example, our bill also provides that children cannot be released into the custody of a relative or sponsor who could potentially inflict even more harm upon them. No sex offender, no child abuser, and no other dangerous criminal should be given the responsibility to care for one of these children.

We also need to remove some of the pull factors that encourage migrants to make this dangerous journey to our border in the first place. Many smugglers, known colloquially as coyotes, know our immigration laws better than most Americans, and they know how to exploit them, as I said.

There is no doubt our backlogged legal system is one of the pull factors for these migrants. One of the biggest selling points for the smugglers is the immigration court backlog, which is currently 1.3 million cases. On average, it takes 2½ years to get from the border to an immigration judge.

A person or family can come here illegally and present weak or virtually nonexistent asylum claims with an almost certain guarantee that they will be able to stay in the United States for years while their claims are being adjudicated. That needs to change. Our legislation takes a number of steps to reduce the wait times and eliminate the backlog as a draw for even more illegal immigration and ensure that meritorious claims are recognized in a timely manner.

The first part of this is, we need to hire more people. We need more immigration judges. We need more asylum officials. We need litigation teams and other staff who play a role in these legal proceedings. The only way to eliminate this backlog is to work through it, and this bill allows us to hire hundreds of people to do just that.

Our legislation includes another important change to remove this backlog as a pull factor. During surge events like we are experiencing now, the cases of those arriving will be prioritized. In other words, we will put them at the front of line, not the back of the line where we will never get to them. For those with legitimate asylum claims, that should be good news. About 10 or 12 percent of the people who show up on our front doormat have legitimate asylum claims that are upheld by immigration judges, and we should provide them a timely hearing in front of a judge so they can receive the benefit of U.S. law.

But this will also serve as a deterrent for those who know their asylum claims are weak. Why pay smugglers thousands of dollars to reach the United States if your case will quickly be heard and dismissed for lack of merit resulting in your return? That is one of the pull factors that we can establish and we can improve to deter people from wasting their hard-earned money with nonexistent or weak asylum claims.

And, finally, the bill will ensure that migrants are treated fairly and humanely so we can be confident that our asylum system is working as we intended. This legislation includes a large number of other commonsense measures to alleviate staffing shortages, improve coordination between Federal, State, and local officials, expand language translation and legal orientation services for migrants, and the list goes on.

Former Border Patrol Chief Carla Provost once described this surge in migration as like holding a bucket under the faucet. It doesn't matter how many buckets you have if you can't turn off the water. In the short term, we do need a bigger bucket. That includes facilities to process these migrants and personnel to adjudicate their asylum claims. But it won't matter how big that bucket is if we don't stop the flow or at least reduce it.

We need to eliminate the pull factors that encourage migrants who do not qualify under our law for asylum from even attempting the dangerous journey to our border in the first place. That is exactly why the Bipartisan Border Solutions Act is the answer or an answer to the crisis at hand.

This bill will deter illegal immigration without interfering with legitimate claims. It will ensure that migrants' claims are processed efficiently, without skipping important steps, and it will provide critical protections for children who come here alone.

The fact that we have a bill that is bipartisan and bicameral is a testament to the commonsense reforms included in this legislation, and I have been proud to work with Senator SINEMA, Congressman CUELLAR, and Congressman GONZALES on this bill, and we would invite our colleagues to look at the bill and join us in cosponsoring it on a bipartisan basis.

Now, one thing I can guarantee is this is not the end-all, be-all. This is not some silver bullet that is going to solve all of our problems, but what I think it will do is help restore public confidence that we are serious about enforcing our laws, while remaining generous in providing legal claims the benefit of a hearing and validation.

We are, in fact, the most generous Nation in the world when it comes to legal immigration—naturalizing, roughly, a million people a year. But the truth is, my State and all our States, those of us on this bill currently, have borne the brunt of this crisis because of the failures of the Federal Government to deal with them.

So we have developed a list of bipartisan cosponsors, and I hope the chairman of the Judiciary Committee and

the minority leader will commit to working with us to solve this crisis in a fair and humane way.

And the last thing I will say is, we are all ears if somebody has a better idea, but so far we haven't seen anybody step up and say: I have got an answer or at least a partial answer or response that has bipartisan and bicameral support.

So I hope our colleagues will take a look at this, will work with us, and if they have got a better idea, as I said, we are all ears.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 171—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE SHOULD CORRECT THE OLYMPIC RECORDS FOR JIM THORPE FOR HIS UNPRECEDENTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING THE 1912 OLYMPIC GAMES

Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. LANKFORD) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 171

Whereas Wa-Tho-Huk or ''Bright Path'', known as James Francis Thorpe or ''Jim Thorpe'' of the Thunder Clan of the Sac and Fox Nation, was born May 22, 1887 on the Reservation of the Sac and Fox Nation in Prague, Oklahoma, and died March 28, 1953 in Lomita, California;

Whereas Jim Thorpe attended the Carlisle Indian School in Pennsylvania and established his amateur football record playing halfback, defender, punter, and place-kicker while a student and was subsequently chosen as Walter Camp's First Team All-American Half-Back in 1911 and 1912;

Whereas prior to the 1912 Olympic Games, Jim Thorpe placed second in the pentathlon at the Amateur Athletic Union National Championship Trials in Boston, Massachusetts;

Whereas Jim Thorpe represented the United States as an enrolled member of the Sac and Fox Nation, the largest of 3 federally recognized Tribes of Sauk and Meskwaki (Fox), in the 1912 Olympic Games in Stockholm, Sweden;

Whereas at the 1912 Olympic Games, he won a Gold Medal in the pentathlon, became the first athlete from the United States to win a gold medal in the decathlon, in which he set a world record, and became the only athlete in Olympic history to win both the pentathlon and the decathlon during the same year;

Whereas at the time Jim Thorpe won 2 Gold Medals in the 1912 Olympic Games, and not until 1924 under the Indian Citizenship Act, Native Americans were not recognized as citizens of the United States;

Whereas Native Americans were not granted the right to vote in every State until 1957;

Whereas Jim Thorpe was a founding father of professional football, playing with the Canton Bulldogs, which was the team recognized as world champion in 1916, 1917, and 1919, the Cleveland Indians, the Oorang Indians, the Rock Island Independent, the New York Giants, and the Chicago Cardinals;

Whereas, in 1920, Jim Thorpe was named the first president of the American Professional Football Association, now known as the National Football League;

Whereas Jim Thorpe was voted America's Greatest All- Around Male Athlete and chosen as the greatest football player of the half-century in 1950 by an Associated Press poll of sportswriters;

Whereas Jim Thorpe was named the Greatest American Football Player in history in a 1977 national poll conducted by Sport Magazine;

Whereas because of his outstanding athletic achievements, Jim Thorpe was the first Native American inducted into the National Track and Field Hall of Fame, the Professional Football Hall of Fame, the Helms Professional Football Hall of Fame, the National Native American Hall of Fame, the Pennsylvania Hall of Fame, and the Oklahoma Hall of Fame;

Whereas the Amateur Athletic Union of 1973 restored the amateur status of Jim Thorpe for the years 1909 through 1912;

Whereas the International Olympic Committee returned duplicates of gold medals won by Jim Thorpe to his family in 1982, but did not list him as the sole gold medal winner for his achievements during the 1912 Olympic Games; and

Whereas the failure of the International Olympic Committee to update the records regarding Jim Thorpe disregards the unprecedented achievements of one of the best athletes in the history of the United States, the only athlete in Olympic history to win both the pentathlon and the decathlon during the same year, the first Native American athlete to win Olympic gold medals for the United States, and the contributions of the Sac and Fox Nation in the history of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the International Olympic Committee, through the president of the Committee, should officially recognize the unprecedented athletic achievements of Jim Thorpe as the sole gold medalist in the 1912 pentathlon and decathlon events and correct these inaccuracies in the official Olympic books.

SENATE RESOLUTION 172—DECLARING RACISM A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. KAINE, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WARNER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. BENNET, Ms. WARREN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CARPER, and Mrs. MURRAY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 172

Whereas, since its founding, the United States has had a longstanding history and legacy of racism, mistreatment, and discrimination against African Americans, Latinos, Native Americans, and other people of color;

Whereas the United States ratified over 350 treaties with sovereign indigenous communities, has broken the promises made in such treaties, and has historically failed to carry out its trust responsibilities to Native Americans, including American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians, as made evident by the chronic and pervasive underfunding of the Indian Health Service and Tribal, Urban Indian, and Native Hawaiian health care, the vast health and socioeconomic disparities faced by Native American people, and the inaccessibility of many Federal public health and social programs in Native American communities;

Whereas people of Mexican and Puerto Rican descent, who became Americans through conquest, were subject to, but never full members of the polity of the United States and experienced widespread discrimination in employment, housing, education, and health care;

Whereas the immoral paradox of slavery and freedom is an indelible wrong traced throughout the history of the United States, as African Americans lived under the oppressive institution of slavery from 1619 through 1865, endured the practices and laws of segregation during the Jim Crow Era, and continue to face the ramifications of systemic racism through unjust and discriminatory structures and policies;

Whereas, before the enactment of the Medicare program, the United States health care system was highly segregated, and, as late as the mid-1960s, hospitals, clinics, and doctors' offices throughout Northern and Southern States complied with Jim Crow laws and were completely segregated by race—leaving Black communities with little to no access to health care services;

Whereas, between 1956 and 1967, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Legal Defense and Education Fund litigated a series of court cases to eliminate discrimination in hospitals and professional associations;

Whereas the landmark case Simkins v. Moses H. Cone Memorial Hospital, 323 F.2d 959 (1963), challenged the Federal Government's use of public funds to expand, support, and sustain segregated hospital care, and provided justification for title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the Medicare hospital certification program—establishing Medicare hospital racial integration guidelines that applied to every hospital that participated in the Federal program;

Whereas, in 1967, President Lyndon B. Johnson established the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, which concluded that White racism is responsible for the pervasive discrimination and segregation in employment, education, and housing, resulting in deepened racial division and continued exclusion of Black communities from the benefits of economic progress;

Whereas language minorities, including Latinos, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders, were not assured non-discriminatory access to federally funded services, including health services, until the signing of Executive Order 13166 (42 U.S.C. 2000d-1 note; relating to improving access to services for persons with limited English proficiency) in 2000;

Whereas the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111–148; 124 Stat. 119)—

(1) included provisions to expand the Medicaid program and—for the first time in the United States—established a Federal prohibition against discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in certain health programs, building on other Federal civil rights laws; and

(2) required reporting to Congress on health disparities based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability;

Whereas several Federal programs have been established to address some, but not all, of the health outcomes that are disproportionately experienced by communities of color, including sickle cell disease, tuberculosis, infant mortality, and HIV/AIDS;

Whereas the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion works to raise awareness of health disparities faced by minority populations in the

United States, including Native Americans, Asian Americans, Black Americans, and Latino Americans, aiming to reduce risk factors for groups affected by such health disparities;

Whereas the United States health care system and other economic and social structures remain fraught with racism and racial, ethnic, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), and class biases that lead to health inequity and health disparities;

Whereas life expectancy rates for Black and Native American people in the United States are significantly lower than those of White people in the United States;

Whereas disparities in health outcomes are exacerbated for LGBTQIA+ people of color;

Whereas disparities in health outcomes are worsened for people of color with disabilities due to bias and inequitable access to health care;

Whereas several States with higher percentages of Black, Latino, and Native American populations have not expanded their Medicaid programs—continuing to disenfranchise minority communities from access to health care to this day;

Whereas 16 States have failed to take advantage of the Federal option to expand access to Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program to lawfully residing immigrant children within the first 5 years of lawful status, and 26 States have failed to do so for similarly situated pregnant women;

Whereas, between 2016 and 2018, the child uninsured rate increased from 4.7 percent to 5.5 percent and the Latino child uninsured rate increased from 7.7 percent to 8.1 percent, and children of color are far more likely to be uninsured than White children;

Whereas a climate of fear and confusion for immigrant families due to the public charge rule discourages such families from enrolling eligible children in Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program;

Whereas Pacific Islanders from the Freely Associated States experience unique health disparities resulting from United States nuclear weapons tests on their home islands, but such people have been categorically denied access to Medicaid and other Federal health benefits;

Whereas the United States has historically facilitated outsider status toward Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, such as the authorization of the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II, which resulted in profound economic, social, and psychological burdens for the people impacted;

Whereas the history and persistence of racist and non-scientific medical beliefs are associated with ongoing racial disparities in treatment and health outcomes;

Whereas implicit racial and ethnic biases within the health care system have an impact on the quality of care experienced by communities of color, such as the undertreatment of pain in Black patients;

Whereas the historical context of unethical practices and abuses experienced by Black patients and research participants, such as the Tuskegee Syphilis Study, serve as symbols of the Black community's mistrust of the medical system;

Whereas women of color continue to face attacks, documented throughout history, on their prenatal, maternal, and reproductive health and rights;

Whereas enslaved Black women were forced to endure egregiously unethical and cruel treatment, as subjects of insidious medical experiments, to advance modern gynecology;

Whereas, through the late 1960s and early 1980s, physicians routinely sterilized people of color, performing excessive and medically unnecessary procedures on patients of color without their informed consent;

Whereas Black and Native American women are 2 to 4 times more likely than White women to suffer severe maternal morbidity or die of pregnancy-related complications, and implicit racial biases and lower quality care are contributing factors to the health care disparities that lead to these outcomes;

Whereas Black and Native American infants are twice as likely to die as White infants, and the Black infant mortality rate in the United States is higher than in 97 countries worldwide;

Whereas researchers have developed the analytical framework of ''weathering'' to describe how the constant stress of racism leads to poor health outcomes for Black Americans;

Whereas the daily experience of racism is associated with stress, depression, and anxiety, and may cause physiological reactivity or contribute to chronic health conditions;

Whereas racism is linked to mental health challenges for children and adolescents;

Whereas children of color are overrepresented in the United States child welfare system, and up to 80 percent of children in foster care enter State custody with significant mental health challenges;

Whereas disparities in educational access and attainment, along with racism experienced in the educational setting, affect the trajectory of academic achievement for children and adolescents, and ultimately impact health and racial inequities in school discipline, which has long-term consequences for children;

Whereas racism and segregation in the United States contribute to poor health outcomes by segregating Black, Latino, and Native American communities from opportunity;

Whereas, for decades, discriminatory housing practices, such as redlining, systemically excluded people of color from housing, robbing them of capital in the form of low-cost, stable mortgages and opportunities to build wealth, and the Federal government used its financial power to segregate renters in newly built public housing;

Whereas environmental injustices, such as proximity and exposure to toxic waste or hazardous air pollutants, continue to harm the health of communities of color, low-income communities, and Indigenous communities around the United States;

Whereas social inequities such as differing access to quality health care, healthy food and safe drinking water, safe neighborhoods, education, job security, and reliable transportation affect health risks and outcomes;

Whereas, during the COVID–19 pandemic, the effects of racism and discrimination are seen in COVID–19 infection, hospitalization, and mortality rates—disproportionately high among Black, Latino, and Native American populations compared to the overall population—exacerbating health disparities and highlighting barriers to care for Black, Latino, and Native American patients across the United States;

Whereas discrimination and harassment relating to the COVID–19 pandemic is on the rise, particularly discrimination and harassment directed towards the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community;

Whereas, because of racial and ethnic disparities, people of color are more likely to have pre-existing, preventable, and chronic conditions, which lead to higher COVID–19 morbidity and mortality rates;

Whereas people of color are overrepresented in the number of people in the United States living under poor air quality conditions, which can increase the likelihood of COVID–19 morbidity and mortality;

Whereas the COVID–19 pandemic has worsened barriers for Black, Latino, and Native American households that suffer from disproportionately higher rates of food insecurity;

Whereas Black and Latino workers make up a disproportionate number of frontline workers, are less likely to receive paid sick leave or have the ability to work from home, and have been excluded from many forms of relief readily available to other groups;

Whereas people of color are disproportionately impacted by the criminal justice and immigration enforcement systems and face a higher risk of contracting COVID–19 within prison populations and detention centers due to the over-incarceration of people of color;

Whereas, during the COVID–19 pandemic, an increased use of anti-Asian rhetoric has resulted in Asian Americans being harassed, assaulted, and scapegoated for the pandemic;

Whereas communities of color continue to bear the burdens of inequitable social, economic, and criminal justice policies, practices, and investments that cause deep disparities, hurt, harm, danger, and mistrust;

Whereas over 40 percent of Latinos report being discriminated against or harassed because they are Hispanic;

Whereas approximately 24 percent of the Latino population in the United States identifies as ''Afro-Latino'' and is thus potentially subject to both race and national origin discrimination;

Whereas, because of racism, Black people in the United States share a unique set of challenges and experiences that require heightened levels of awareness and risk while performing everyday tasks—such as jogging in neighborhoods, driving while Black, or playing in a park—that are not experienced by other populations;

Whereas Black people in the United States are 3 times more likely to be killed by police than White people in the United States, and police violence is the 6th leading cause of death for young Black men;

Whereas the police brutality and violence experienced by Black people in the United States adversely impacts mental health among Black communities;

Whereas Black communities led the United States in mourning the killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, Elijah McClain, and countless other Black Americans—calling for justice and long-term changes to dismantle systems of oppression;

Whereas, throughout the history of the United States, people of color have been at the forefront of civil rights movements for essential freedoms, human rights, and equal protection for marginalized groups and continue to fight for racial and economic justice today;

Whereas a public health issue is defined as meeting the following 4 criteria:

(1) The condition affects many people, is seen as a threat to the public, and is continuing to increase.

(2) The condition is distributed unfairly.

(3) Preventive measures could reduce the effects of the condition.

(4) Those preventive measures are not yet in place;

Whereas racism meets the criteria of a public health crisis, and public health experts agree;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—

(1) declared racism a serious threat to public health; and

(2) acknowledged the need for additional research and investments to address this serious issue;

Whereas a Federal public health crisis declaration defines racism as a pervasive health issue and alerts the people of the United States to the need to enact immediate and

effective cross-governmental efforts to address the root causes of institutional racism and their downstream impacts; and

Whereas such declaration requires the response of the Government to engage significant resources to empower those communities that are impacted: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the resolutions drafted, introduced, and adopted by cities and localities across the United States declaring racism a public health crisis;

(2) declares racism a public health crisis in the United States;

(3) commits to—

(A) establishing a nationwide strategy to address health disparities and inequity across all sectors in society;

(B) dismantling systemic practices and policies that perpetuate racism;

(C) advancing reforms to address years of neglectful and apathetic policies that have led to poor health outcomes for communities of color; and

(D) promoting efforts to address the social determinants of health—especially for Black, Latino, and Native American people in the United States, and other people of color; and

(4) places a charge on the people of the United States to move forward with urgency to ensure that the United States stands firmly in honoring its moral purpose of advancing the self-evident truths that all people are created equal, that they are endowed with certain unalienable rights, and that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

SENATE RESOLUTION 173—COMMENDING THE ACTIONS OF CUBAN DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST JOSÉ DANIEL FERRER GARCÍA AND THE PRO-DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP, THE PATRIOTIC UNION OF CUBA (UNPACU), TO UPHOLD FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS IN CUBA AND CONDEMNING CUBA'S BRUTAL AUTHORITARIAN COMMUNIST REGIME

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. RUBIO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 173

Whereas José Daniel Ferrer García is a Cuban democracy and human rights activist who has worked tirelessly to ensure fundamental freedoms for the Cuban people;

Whereas José Daniel Ferrer García was born in Cuba on July 29, 1970, in Santiago de Cuba and has spent most of his adult life fighting for Cubans to have a voice in the matters of their own country and against Cuba's brutal authoritarian Communist dictatorship;

Whereas Cuba's authoritarian Communist regime retaliated against José Daniel Ferrer García over decades by repeatedly imprisoning, beating, and torturing him and constantly threatening and harassing his family and members of the pro-democracy and human rights group that he founded, the Patriotic Union of Cuba (UNPACU);

Whereas, in March 2021, Cuba's brutal authoritarian Communist regime committed the latest human rights violation against José Daniel Ferrer García and members of UNPACU, as Cuban security forces harassed them, kept them from meeting, and blocked their attempts to distribute aid, food, and medical care to fellow desperate residents of Santiago de Cuba;

Whereas, on March 20, 2021, José Daniel Ferrer García and other courageous members of UNPACU began a hunger strike to protest the constant harassment, human rights violations, and the police siege of the headquarters of UNPACU in Santiago de Cuba;

Whereas the hunger strike underscored the importance of defending the right of the members of UNPACU to deliver food and medication to a group of approximately 250 residents of Santiago de Cuba as the need for aid, food, medicine, and basic necessities has risen during the global pandemic; and

Whereas, on April 10, 2021, José Daniel Ferrer García and several activists from UNPACU ended the hunger strike after 21 days after Cuban security forces lifted the police siege on the headquarters of UNPACU in Santiago de Cuba: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the actions of José Daniel Ferrer García and his unyielding resolve to advance democracy and defend freedoms and human rights for the Cuban people;

(2) honors the vital contribution and humanitarian efforts of the Patriotic Union of Cuba (UNPACU) and all of its members for their tireless work to defend fundamental freedoms and human rights in Cuba;

(3) condemns the repression of José Daniel Ferrer García and other brave Cuban activists;

(4) condemns Cuba's brutal authoritarian Communist dictatorship and demands an end to the suffering of the Cuban people and the impunity of the regime's human rights abusers, including Miguel Díaz-Canel and Raúl Castro;

(5) calls for the international community to stand with the Cuban people and against Cuba's authoritarian Communist regime for infringing on the freedom of thought, expression, assembly, association, and prosperity of the Cuban people; and

(6) commends the courage of the pro-democracy movement and activists in Cuba for risking everything to bring freedom to the Cuban people.

SENATE RESOLUTION 174—DESIGNATING APRIL 2021 AS ''PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH''

Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. THUNE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 174

Whereas Parkinson's disease is a chronic, progressive neurological disease and the second most common neurodegenerative disease in the United States;

Whereas, although there is inadequate data on the incidence and prevalence of Parkinson's disease, the disease is estimated to affect between 500,000 and 1,000,000 individuals in the United States, with that number expected to more than double by 2040;

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Parkinson's disease is the 15th leading cause of death in the United States;

Whereas millions of individuals in the United States are greatly impacted by Parkinson's disease, including the caregivers, family members, and friends of individuals living with Parkinson's disease;

Whereas research suggests that the cause of Parkinson's disease is a combination of genetic and environmental factors, but the exact cause of the disease in most individuals is still unknown;

Whereas, as of March 2021, there is no objective test or biomarker with which to diagnose Parkinson's disease;

Whereas there is no known cure or drug to slow or halt the progression of Parkinson's disease, and available treatments are limited in their ability to address the medical needs of patients and remain effective over time;

Whereas the symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person to person and may include—

(1) tremors;

(2) slowness of movement and rigidity;

(3) problems with gait and balance;

(4) disturbances in speech and swallowing;

(5) cognitive impairment and dementia;

(6) mood disorders; and

(7) a variety of other nonmotor symptoms;

Whereas volunteers, researchers, caregivers, and medical professionals are working to improve the quality of life of—

(1) individuals living with Parkinson's disease; and

(2) the families of those individuals; and

Whereas increased research, education, and community support services are needed—

(1) to find more effective treatments; and

(2) to provide access to quality care to individuals living with Parkinson's disease: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 2021 as ''Parkinson's Awareness Month'';

(2) supports the goals and ideals of Parkinson's Awareness Month;

(3) continues to support research to find better treatments and a cure for Parkinson's disease;

(4) recognizes the individuals living with Parkinson's disease who participate in vital clinical trials to advance the knowledge of the disease; and

(5) commends the dedication of the organizations, volunteers, researchers, and millions of individuals across the United States who are working to improve the quality of life of—

(A) individuals living with Parkinson's disease; and

(B) the families of those individuals.

SENATE RESOLUTION 175—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK

Mr. LUJÁN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 175

Whereas the week of April 5, 2021, is National Public Health Week;

Whereas the theme for National Public Health Week in 2021 is ''Building Bridges to Better Health'';

Whereas the goal of National Public Health Week in 2021 is to recognize the contributions of public health in—

(1) improving the health of the people of the United States; and

(2) achieving health equity;

Whereas, as of the date of introduction of this resolution, the United States and the global community are responding to the COVID–19 pandemic, which requires support for—

(1) a robust public health infrastructure and workforce;

(2) State, territorial, local, and Tribal health departments, health care workers, public health laboratories, and first responders;

(3) diagnostic testing of new and potential COVID–19 cases and activities related to epidemiology and public health data;

(4) complying with appropriate social distancing and quarantine recommendations;

(5) relieving financial burdens for individuals in the United States hurt by the COVID–19 pandemic, including through public health emergency leave;

(6) State Medicaid programs and community health centers to ensure care for vulnerable populations;

(7) collaboration among the Federal Government, State and local governments, schools, businesses, and employers to support public health measures to decrease community spread of COVID–19;

(8) investments in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which support infectious disease outbreak preparedness and critical public health infrastructure for State and local health departments and public health laboratories;

(9) a comprehensive effort to ensure a successful COVID–19 vaccination campaign that boosts access to vaccines for vulnerable populations and trust in vaccine safety and effectiveness; and

(10) efforts to address racism as a public health crisis and reduce racial and ethnic health disparities related to COVID–19 deaths, vaccine access and testing, and important health outcomes outside of the pandemic such as maternal mortality;

Whereas, in 2020, the life expectancy for the population of the United States dropped a full year, which is the largest drop in life expectancy since 1943;

Whereas many of the leading causes of death for individuals in the United States result from chronic conditions, which are among the most common, costly, and preventable of all health challenges;

Whereas there are significant differences in the health status of individuals living in the most healthy States and those living in the least healthy States, including differences in obesity rates, the prevalence of chronic disease, and the prevalence of infectious disease;

Whereas racial and ethnic minority populations in the United States continue to experience disparities in the burden of illness and death, as compared with the entire population of the United States;

Whereas violence is a leading cause of premature death and it is estimated that more than 7 individuals per hour die a violent death in the United States;

Whereas deaths from homicides cost the economy of the United States billions of dollars and the violence of homicides can cause social and emotional distress, community trauma, injury, disability, depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder;

Whereas emergency department visits for suicidal thoughts or self-harm increased 25.5 percent between January 2017 and December 2018, with substantial increases occurring in younger age groups;

Whereas an estimated 1 in 7 children in the United States experiences child abuse and neglect, which imposes an annual lifetime economic burden of approximately $428,000,000,000 on the population of the United States;

Whereas, despite significant progress in reducing the infant mortality rate in the United States to a historic low of 5.8 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, in 2017 the infant mortality rate in the United States greatly varies among States;

Whereas women die from pregnancy-related complications in the United States at a higher rate than in many other developed countries and an estimated 60 percent of maternal deaths in the United States are preventable;

Whereas Black mothers experience a maternal mortality rate 3 to 4 times higher than White mothers;

Whereas 81,000 drug overdose deaths occurred in the United States during the 12-month period ending May 2020, the highest level ever recorded during a 12-month period;

Whereas cigarette smoking is the leading cause of preventable disease and death in the United States, accounting for more than 480,000 deaths every year, including more than 41,000 deaths resulting from secondhand smoke;

Whereas the percentage of adults in the United States who smoke cigarettes has decreased from 20.9 percent of the population in 2005 to 13.7 percent of the population in 2018;

Whereas, in 2020, according to data from the National Youth Tobacco Survey 19.6 percent of high school students (3,020,000 students) and 4.7 percent of middle school students (550,000 students) reported current e-cigarette use;

Whereas data from the National Youth Tobacco Survey showed that in 2020 almost 40 percent of high school e-cigarette users were using an e-cigarette on 20 or more days out of the month and almost a quarter of high school e-cigarette users were using e-cigarettes every day, indicating a strong dependence on nicotine among youth;

Whereas in the past 2 decades heat-related mortality for older persons has almost doubled, reaching a record high 19,000 deaths in 2018;

Whereas from 2018 to 2019 the United States spent nearly $13 per person on climate change adaptation in the health sector, far less than what is needed to prevent the growing health impacts of climate change;

Whereas, in 2016, fine particulate air pollution led to more than 64,000 premature deaths in the United States and Black and Hispanic individuals in the United States were disproportionately impacted;

Whereas public health organizations use National Public Health Week to educate public policymakers and public health professionals on issues that are important to improving the health of the people of the United States;

Whereas studies show that small strategic investments in disease prevention can result in significant savings in health care costs;

Whereas vaccination is one of the most significant public health achievements in history and has resulted in substantial decreases in—

(1) the number of cases, hospitalizations, and deaths associated with vaccine-preventable diseases; and

(2) health care costs associated with vaccine-preventable diseases;

Whereas each 10 percent increase in local public health spending contributes to a—

(1) 6.9 percent decrease in infant deaths;

(2) 3.2 percent decrease in deaths related to cardiovascular disease;

(3) 1.4 percent decrease in deaths due to diabetes; and

(4) 1.1 percent decrease in cancer-related deaths;

Whereas public health professionals help communities prevent, prepare for, mitigate, and recover from the impact of a full range of health threats, including—

(1) disease outbreaks, such as the COVID–19 pandemic;

(2) natural disasters, such as wildfires, flooding, and severe storms; and

(3) other disasters, including disasters caused by human activity and public health emergencies;

Whereas public health professionals collaborate with partners outside of the health sector, including city planners, transportation officials, education officials, and private sector businesses, recognizing that other sectors can influence health outcomes;

Whereas in communities across the United States, individuals are changing the way they care for their health by avoiding tobacco use, eating healthier, increasing physical activity, and preventing unintentional injuries at home and in the workplace; and

Whereas efforts to adequately support public health and the prevention of disease and injury can continue to transform a health system focused on treating illness into a health system focused on preventing disease and injury and promoting wellness: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Public Health Week;

(2) recognizes the efforts of public health professionals, the Federal Government, States, Tribes, municipalities, local communities, and individuals in preventing disease and injury;

(3) recognizes the role of public health in—

(A) preventing and responding to infectious disease outbreaks, such as the COVID–19 pandemic;

(B) mitigating short-term and long-term impacts of infectious disease outbreaks on the health and wellness of individuals in the United States;

(C) addressing social and other determinants of health, including health disparities experienced by minority populations; and

(D) improving the overall health of individuals and communities in the United States;

(4) encourages increased efforts and resources to—

(A) improve the health of individuals in the United States; and

(B) make the United States, in 1 generation, the healthiest Nation in the world by—

(i) providing greater opportunities to improve community health and prevent disease and injury; and

(ii) strengthening the public health system and workforce in the United States; and

(5) encourages the people of the United States to learn about the role of the public health system in improving health across the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 176—URGING ALL PARTIES IN GEORGIA TO SEEK PROMPT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT SIGNED ON APRIL 19, 2021, AND REAFFIRMING THE SUPPORT OF THE SENATE FOR GEORGIA, THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF GEORGIA, AND THE ASPIRATIONS OF GEORGIANS TO JOIN THE EURO-ATLANTIC COMMUNITY

Mr. JOHNSON (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. RISCH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 176

Whereas, on April 9, 1991, Georgia declared independence from the Soviet Union, and on March 24, 1992, the United States and Georgia established formal diplomatic relations;

Whereas, since 1993, the territorial integrity of Georgia has been reaffirmed by the international community and numerous United Nations Security Council resolutions;

Whereas, at the 2008 Summit in Bucharest, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) recognized the aspirations of Georgia to join NATO and agreed that Georgia would become a member of the Alliance;

Whereas, on January 9, 2009, the United States and Georgia signed the United States-Georgia Charter on Strategic Partnership, affirming the close relationship between the United States and Georgia based on the

shared principles of democracy, free markets, defense and security cooperation, and cultural exchanges;

Whereas Georgia has made significant contributions to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and remains the largest troop contributor among NATO partners to the NATO-led Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan;

Whereas the United States supports the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia within its internationally recognized borders and condemns the continued occupation by the Russian Federation of the Georgian regions of South Ossetia and Abkhazia;

Whereas, in March 2020, the United States and several embassies of European countries in Georgia brokered an agreement among the major political parties in Georgia, which included changes to the electoral system and called on all sides to address the appearance of political interference in the judicial system;

Whereas, on June 29, 2020, the Parliament of Georgia adopted constitutional amendments, establishing a more proportional electoral system and promoting greater political pluralism in future parliaments;

Whereas the United States Embassy in Tbilisi applauded Georgia's electoral reforms and urged the Parliament of Georgia to pass additional legislation that fully incorporates all of the recommendations of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE/ODIHR) and urged Georgian authorities to effectively implement such legislation;

Whereas, on October 31, 2020, Georgia held its first parliamentary elections since adopting the electoral reforms in June 2020;

Whereas the OSCE/ODIHR limited election observation team detailed a number of flaws and partially or completely unimplemented OSCE/ODIHR recommendations, but also concluded that the first round of the October 2020 parliamentary elections in Georgia was ''competitive and, overall, fundamental freedoms were respected'';

Whereas the United States Embassy in Tbilisi shared the OSCE/ODIHR's assessment of the first round of elections and stressed the importance of fully addressing the deficiencies noted by the OSCE/ODIHR Limited Election Observation Mission Preliminary Report before the second round of elections in November 2020;

Whereas the Georgian opposition refused to recognize the legitimacy of the October 2020 elections, boycotted the second round of elections, called for public voter intimidation of anyone voting in the second round of elections, and declined to take their seats in parliament;

Whereas, on February 23, 2021, Georgian authorities entered the headquarters of United National Movement (UNM) and arrested its leader Nikanor Melia on a bail violation;

Whereas, on March 23, 2021, the Subcommittee on Europe and Regional Security Cooperation of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate held a hearing on Georgia to examine the political situation and to highlight the actions that the Government of Georgia and the opposition could take in order to resolve the impasse and move the country forward;

Whereas, in that hearing, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State George Kent testified that the Russian Federation uses its illegal occupation of Abkhazia and South Ossetia, ''economic leverage, cyber attacks, and disinformation to try to force Georgia to abandon its Euro-Atlantic aspirations and to sow division and distrust'';

Whereas, at the same hearing, Deputy Assistant Secretary Kent testified, ''Georgia has real work to do in strengthening its democracy . . . Georgia's commitment to democracy and the rule of law is a fundamental element of our strategic relationship, as well as the precondition for the country's further progress.''; and

Whereas international mediation efforts to resolve the political impasse in Georgia led to an agreement signed on April 19, 2021, by representatives of several political parties and individual Members of Parliament: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls on Georgian Dream, United National Movement, and the other parties elected to the Parliament of Georgia to fully implement the compromise proposed by European Council President Michel on April 18, 2021, and signed on April 19, 2021;

(2) calls on all elected Members of Parliament to take their seats in parliament and begin work without further delay on the challenges facing Georgia, including consequences of the COVID–19 pandemic, a weakened economy, and challenging regional dynamics;

(3) calls on the Government of Georgia to institute systemic reforms, developed through an inclusive and transparent consultation process with stakeholders, to ensure that the judicial system is impartial and independent and not used for political or partisan ends, including by fully adopting and implementing the recommendations of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (commonly known as the ''Venice Commission'') and other experts;

(4) calls on the Government of Georgia to institute inclusively and transparently developed systemic electoral reforms to address the underlying causes of the political impasse and avoid a recurrence of such a crisis, including by fully adopting and implementing the recommendations of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE/ODIHR);

(5) recognizes that the political situation in Georgia has been exacerbated by the efforts of the Russian Federation to sow chaos throughout Georgia, including the illegally occupied territories of Abkhazia and South Ossetia;

(6) expresses concern that impediments to strengthening Georgia's democratic institutions and processes will slow its progress toward achieving its aspiration of Euro-Atlantic integration and strengthening its economy and could result in conditions placed on United States assistance to Georgia; and

(7) emphasizes that the United States supports a more robust democracy in Georgia, with governing institutions that demonstrate integrity, checks and balances, transparency, the capacity to counter Russian and other malign influence, and the ability to achieve the Euro-Atlantic aspirations of the people of Georgia.

SENATE RESOLUTION 177—DESIGNATING APRIL 2021 AS ''FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH''

Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. ERNST, Mr. WICKER, Mr. COONS, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. DAINES, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 177

Whereas, according to the 2019 report entitled ''Economic Well-Being of U.S. Households'' by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 37 percent of adults in the United States cannot cover an unexpected expense of $400;

Whereas, according to the 2019 report entitled ''How America Banks: Household Use of Banking and Financial Services'' by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, approximately 5.4 percent of households in the United States are unbanked and, therefore, have limited or no access to savings, lending, and other basic financial services;

Whereas, according to the 2020 Consumer Financial Literacy Survey final report of the National Foundation for Credit Counseling that was conducted prior to COVID–19 lockdowns—

(1) a majority (62 percent) of adults in the United States had credit card debt during the 1-year period ending on the date of publication of the report;

(2) over ⅖ (43 percent) of adults in the United States carry credit card debt from month to month; and

(3) approximately 47 percent of adults in the United States maintain a budget;

Whereas, according to the statistical release of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for the fourth quarter of 2020 entitled ''Household Debt and Credit''—

(1) outstanding household debt in the United States has been increasing steadily since 2013 and was $414,000,000,000 higher than at the end of 2019; and

(2) outstanding student loan balances have more than doubled in the last decade to approximately $1,560,000,000,000;

Whereas, according to the 2020 report entitled ''Survey of the States: Economic and Personal Finance Education in Our Nation's Schools'', by the Council for Economic Education—

(1) only 25 States require students to take an economics course as a high school graduation requirement; and

(2) only 21 States require students to take a personal finance course as a high school graduation requirement, either independently or as part of an economics course;

Whereas, according to the Gallup-HOPE Index, in 2016 only 57 percent of students in the United States had money in a bank or credit union account;

Whereas expanding access to the safe, mainstream financial system will provide individuals with less expensive and more secure options for managing finances and building wealth;

Whereas quality personal financial education is essential to ensure that individuals are prepared—

(1) to manage money, credit, and debt; and

(2) to become responsible workers, heads of household, investors, entrepreneurs, business leaders, and citizens;

Whereas increased financial literacy—

(1) empowers individuals to make wise financial decisions; and

(2) reduces the confusion caused by an increasingly complex economy;

Whereas a greater understanding of, and familiarity with, financial markets and institutions will lead to increased economic activity and growth; and

Whereas, in 2003, Congress—

(1) determined that coordinating Federal financial literacy efforts and formulating a national strategy is important; and

(2) in light of that determination, passed the Financial Literacy and Education Improvement Act (20 U.S.C. 9701 et seq.), establishing the Financial Literacy and Education Commission: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 2021 as ''Financial Literacy Month'' to raise public awareness about—

(A) the importance of personal financial education in the United States; and

(B) the serious consequences that may result from a lack of understanding about personal finances; and

(2) calls on the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and the people of the United States to observe Financial Literacy Month with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 178—HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF AWARD-WINNING CHILDREN'S AUTHOR BEVERLY CLEARY

Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 178

Whereas Beverly Atlee Cleary was born Beverly Atlee Bunn to Chester Lloyd Bunn and Mable Atlee Bunn on April 12, 1916, in McMinnville, Oregon;

Whereas Beverly Cleary grew up on her family's farm near Yamhill, Oregon, and titled her 1988 memoir ''A Girl From Yamhill'';

Whereas Beverly Cleary moved north to Portland, Oregon, with her family when she was 6 years old;

Whereas Beverly Cleary attended grade school in Portland and graduated from Grant High School in 1934;

Whereas Beverly Cleary attended Chaffey College in Ontario, California, and then graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, with a bachelor's degree in English in 1938;

Whereas, in 1939, Beverly Cleary earned a master's degree in library science from what was then the School of Librarianship at the University of Washington;

Whereas, in 1940, Beverly Cleary eloped with Clarence Cleary, whom Beverly Cleary met while studying at the University of California, Berkeley;

Whereas Beverly Cleary worked as a children's librarian in Yakima, Washington, and later at an Army hospital in Oakland, California;

Whereas, in 1950, William Morrow published the first book by Beverly Cleary, ''Henry Huggins'', which is about the adventures of a young boy who lived on Klickitat Street in Northeast Portland, Oregon, and was the first book in the Henry Huggins series;

Whereas, in 1955, William Morrow published the first book in the Ramona series, ''Beezus and Ramona'', which is about 9-year-old Beatrice ''Beezus'' Quimby and her 4-year-old sister, who, like Henry Huggins, also lived on Klickitat Street in Northeast Portland, Oregon;

Whereas Beverly Cleary's books earned praise for engaging young readers and capturing the world as children saw and understood it;

Whereas Beverly Cleary wrote more than 40 children's books, which sold more than 85,000,000 copies by enchanting readers of all ages with the adventures of Ramona, Henry, and many other memorable characters;

Whereas Beverly Cleary's books continue to resonate with audiences across the United States, sparking the imagination of countless children and instilling a lifelong love of reading;

Whereas Beverly Cleary won numerous awards and accolades throughout her career, including—

(1) the Laura Ingalls Wilder Medal in 1975 for substantial contributions to children's literature;

(2) a Newbery Honor in 1978 for ''Ramona and Her Father'';

(3) a National Book Award in 1981 for ''Ramona and Her Mother'';

(4) a Newbery Honor in 1982 for ''Ramona Quimby, Age 8'';

(5) a Newbery Medal in 1984 for ''Dear Mr. Henshaw'';

(6) the Library of Congress ''Living Legend'' award in 2000 for her creative contributions to American life; and

(7) the National Medal of Arts in 2003, the highest award given to artists by the United States Government; and

Whereas Beverly Cleary died on March 25, 2021, at the age of 104, leaving a behind a legacy of relatable characters and skillful storytelling: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the life and legacy of award-winning children's author Beverly Cleary, including—

(A) the lifelong commitment of Beverly Cleary to brightening the lives of children; and

(B) the outstanding contributions of Beverly Cleary to children's literature;

(2) expresses its profound regret at the announcement of the passing of beloved author Beverly Cleary;

(3) extends its sympathy to the family of Beverly Cleary;

(4) recognizes Beverly Cleary as one of the most significant and successful authors of the 20th century; and

(5) directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the family of Beverly Cleary.

SENATE RESOLUTION 179—TO MAKE TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 179

Resolved, That (a) for matters before the Select Committee on Ethics involving Preliminary Inquiry Case Numbers 30094 and 30226, and subsequent action by the Committee with respect to these matters, if any, the Senator from Delaware (Mr. Coons) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. Lankford) shall be replaced by the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. Luján) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. Boozman). The Senator from Hawaii (Mr. Schatz) shall act as Chairman and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. Risch) shall act as Vice Chairman for those matters only.

(b) The membership of the Select Committee on Ethics shall be unchanged with respect to all matters before that Committee other than the matters referred to in subsection (a).

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 8—RECOGNIZING THAT THE CLIMATE CRISIS IS DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTING THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, AND FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF CHILDREN, EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT RENEWED LEADERSHIP BY THE UNITED STATES IS NEEDED TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE CRISIS, AND RECOGNIZING THE NEED OF THE UNITED STATES TO DEVELOP A NATIONAL, COMPREHENSIVE, AND SCIENCE-BASED CLIMATE RECOVERY PLAN TO PHASE OUT FOSSIL FUEL EMISSIONS, PROTECT AND ENHANCE NATURAL SEQUESTRATION, AND PUT THE UNITED STATES ON A PATH TOWARD STABILIZING THE CLIMATE SYSTEM

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. SANDERS) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

S. CON. RES. 8

Whereas a stable climate system at the founding of the United States allowed human life and human civilization to flourish;

Whereas the United States was founded on the deeply rooted principle of securing ''the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity'';

Whereas the Constitution of the United States protects the fundamental rights to life, liberty, property, and equal protection of the laws;

Whereas a climate system capable of sustaining human life—

(1) is fundamental to a free and ordered society; and

(2) is preservative of fundamental rights, including the rights to life, liberty, property, personal security, family autonomy, bodily integrity, and the ability to learn, practice, and transmit cultural and religious traditions;

Whereas the Federal Government sets the energy policy of the United States, which has resulted in a national energy system in which approximately 80 percent of the energy in the United States comes from fossil fuels;

Whereas the national fossil fuel-based energy system has led to carbon dioxide emissions from the United States constituting more than ¼ of cumulative global carbon dioxide emissions;

Whereas the United States is the largest producer of oil and gas in the world, due in substantial part to the Federal Government—

(1) opening up Federal public land and water for fossil fuel extraction; and

(2) actively supporting fossil fuel energy;

Whereas there is an overwhelming scientific consensus that—

(1) human-caused climate change is occurring; and

(2) the rate of global heating and ocean acidification as of April 2021 is a result of the buildup of atmospheric greenhouse gas emissions, primarily carbon dioxide emissions, largely from the combustion of fossil fuels;

Whereas atmospheric carbon dioxide levels of over 400 parts per million as of April 2021 have caused a dangerous planetary energy

imbalance, equivalent to the quantity of energy of exploding more than 400,000 atomic bombs of the kind dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, per day, 365 days per year, across the planet;

Whereas the latest climate science and real-world observations of that energy imbalance demonstrate that the approximately 1 degree Celsius of warming that has already occurred as a result of human-caused climate change is already dangerous and negatively affecting all aspects of society and the economy of the United States;

Whereas the last time that atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide were over 400 parts per million—

(1) the seas were 70 to 90 feet higher;

(2) Greenland had no ice; and

(3) coral reefs suffered a major extinction;

Whereas similar conditions will result if the United States does not drastically reduce carbon dioxide emissions and naturally sequester excess concentrations of atmospheric carbon dioxide during the 21st century;

Whereas climate change is a threat to national security, as climate change contributes to and exacerbates global instability and conflict;

Whereas the generation of today's children was born into a climate system made hazardous to their health and well-being because of human-caused climate change;

Whereas children are uniquely vulnerable to human-caused climate change because of their developing bodies, higher exposure to air, food, and water per unit of body weight, unique behavior patterns, dependence on caregivers, and longevity on the planet;

Whereas human-caused climate change is a public health emergency that is adversely impacting the physical and mental health of children through—

(1) extreme weather events;

(2) rising temperatures and increased heat exposure;

(3) decreased air quality;

(4) altered infectious disease patterns;

(5) food and water insecurity; and

(6) other effects;

Whereas the best scientific information available projects a 15- to 30-foot rise in sea level by the year 2100 if current trends continue, with ever greater rises and acceleration in subsequent centuries, resulting in increased erosion and the loss of land, causing the loss of communities, homes, infrastructure, agriculture, and coastal ecosystems for children affected, until such time as levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere are dramatically reduced and steps are taken to cool the upper portion of the ocean;

Whereas infant mortality increases 25 percent on extremely hot days, with the first 7 days of life representing a period of critical vulnerability;

Whereas heat illness is a leading cause of death and illness in high school athletes, with nearly 10,000 episodes of heat illness occurring annually;

Whereas 8.4 percent of children suffer from allergic rhinitis, and the ragweed pollen season in North America has grown 13 to 27 days longer since 1995 due to higher temperatures and greater atmospheric carbon dioxide levels;

Whereas children are especially susceptible to air pollution given their developing lungs, higher ventilation rate, and higher levels of physical activity;

Whereas children exposed to smoke from wildfires, which have increased in frequency and severity due to rising temperatures and droughts, suffer substantial—

(1) eye symptoms; and

(2) upper and lower respiratory symptoms that lead to increased rates of asthma-related hospitalizations and emergency room visits;

Whereas long-term exposure to fine particulate matter, including from sources of air pollution and smoke from wildfires, is associated with higher COVID–19 mortality rates;

Whereas extreme weather events can negatively impact the mental health of children due to—

(1) family loss or separation;

(2) school interruption;

(3) scarcities of food, water, and shelter; and

(4) public service outages;

Whereas, without immediate steps to address human-caused climate change, the health effects of climate change on children will—

(1) increase in severity and in terms of the number of children impacted; and

(2) cost the United States billions of dollars per year by the end of the 21st century;

Whereas children will largely shoulder the costs of human-caused climate change;

Whereas further increases in global temperature will saddle children with an enormous, perhaps incalculable, cost burden, undermining their economic security and the economic security of the United States;

Whereas children are deserving of special consideration and protection with respect to human-caused climate change;

Whereas children on the frontlines of human-caused climate change across the United States and globally have risen up and called upon government leaders around the world to take concrete, science-based, and equitable action—

(1) to address human-caused climate change; and

(2) to ensure environmental and climate justice for their generation and future generations, including children from vulnerable communities that have borne the brunt of climate change;

Whereas children within environmental justice communities, including communities of color, low-income communities, and indigenous communities, that have contributed the least to emissions—

(1) have long suffered from systemic environmental racism and social and economic injustices;

(2) are disproportionately burdened by adverse health or environmental effects; and

(3) are subjected to disproportionate energy burdens;

Whereas members and children from frontline and environmental justice communities, who are more likely to reside in areas with greater exposure to air pollution, are disproportionately impacted by the COVID–19 pandemic;

Whereas global atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations must be reduced to less than 350 parts per million by the end of the 21st century, with further reductions thereafter, to restore the energy balance of the planet, stabilize the climate system, and protect the ice sheets and oceans for posterity;

Whereas existing and future adverse public health and other impacts and costs to children and the United States can be significantly mitigated if the United States acts promptly to reduce emissions from fossil fuels in the United States;

Whereas numerous experts have concluded that there are multiple technically and economically feasible pathways to place all sectors of the economy of the United States on an emissions-reduction path consistent with returning global atmospheric carbon dioxide to 350 parts per million by 2100;

Whereas producing energy in the United States with non-carbon emitting sources will result in energy costs within the range of recent experience, ultimately saving consumers money and stabilizing the cost of energy, while increasing the number of jobs in the energy sector; and

Whereas multiple Federal departments and agencies can exercise authority delegated by Congress to prevent and respond to climate change, including—

(1) the Department of Energy;

(2) the Department of the Interior;

(3) the Department of Agriculture;

(4) the Environmental Protection Agency;

(5) the Department of Commerce; and

(6) the Department of State: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) renewed leadership by the United States is needed immediately to address the human-caused climate crisis that is disproportionately affecting the health, economic opportunity, and fundamental rights of the children of the United States; and

(2) there is an urgent human-caused climate crisis that—

(A) has inspired children across the United States to organize and demand immediate government action to protect their fundamental rights from the perils of climate change; and

(B) demands a national, comprehensive, science-based, and just climate recovery plan that—

(i) is prepared by Federal departments and agencies pursuant to delegated authority over energy and climate policy; and

(ii) upholds the fundamental rights of children and puts the United States on a trajectory consistent with reducing global atmospheric carbon dioxide to less than 350 parts per million by 2100.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1459. Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. TESTER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 957, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that certain medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs have physical locations for the disposal of controlled substances medications.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1459. Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. TESTER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 957, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that certain medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs have physical locations for the disposal of controlled substances medications; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF PERIODS DURING WHICH ANY INDIVIDUAL MAY DISPOSE OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES MEDICATIONS AT FACILITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

Section 3009 of the Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–315; 38 U.S.C. 8110 note) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) and (c) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsection (b):

''(b) DESIGNATION OF PERIODS FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL TO DISPOSE OF MEDICATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall designate periods during which any individual may dispose of controlled substances medications at a covered Department medical facility.

''(2) PUBLIC INFORMATION CAMPAIGNS.—The Secretary may carry out public information campaigns regarding the periods designated under paragraph (1).''.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I have 11 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 22, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 22, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 22, 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 Thursday, April 22, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 22, 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 Thursday, April 22, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 22, 2021, at 9:30 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 Thursday, April 22, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 22, 2021, at 10: 15 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 22, 2021, at to be determined, to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 30, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 177, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 177) designating April 2021 as ''Financial Literacy Month''.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Hearing none, the question is on adoption of the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 177) was agreed to.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF AWARD-WINNING CHILDREN'S AUTHOR BEVERLY CLEARY

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 178, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 178) honoring the life and legacy of award-winning children's author Beverly Cleary.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. BALDWIN. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 178) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

MAKING TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 179, introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 179) to make temporary appointments to the Select Committee on Ethics.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. BALDWIN. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 179) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, APRIL 26, 2021

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 3 p.m., Monday, April 26; 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 to resume consideration of the Miller nomination; finally, that the cloture motions filed during today's session ripen at 5:30 p.m. on Monday.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, APRIL 26, 2021, AT 3 P.M.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:05 p.m., adjourned until Monday, April 26, 2021, at 3 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

JILL HRUBY, OF NEW MEXICO, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY FOR NUCLEAR SECURITY, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, VICE LISA GORDON–HAGERTY, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MARA ELIZABETH KARLIN, OF WISCONSIN, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE VICTOR G. MERCADO.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF BUILDING SCIENCES

EVELYN M. FUJIMOTO, OF TEXAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF BUILDING SCIENCES FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 7, 2022, VICE JAMES T. RYAN, TERM EXPIRED.

LORI PEEK, OF COLORADO, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF BUILDING SCIENCES FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 7, 2022, VICE JOSEPH BYRNE DONOVAN, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

CHRISTOPHER A. COES, OF GEORGIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION, VICE CARLOS A. MONJE, JR.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

PAMELA A. MELROY, OF NEW YORK, TO BE DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR OF THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION, VICE JAMES MORHARD.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

MICHAL ILANA FREEDHOFF, OF MARYLAND, TO BE ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, VICE ALEXANDRA DAPOLITO DUNN.

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

BETH PRITCHARD GEER, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 18, 2026, VICE KENNETH E. ALLEN, TERM EXPIRING.

ROBERT P. KLEIN, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 18, 2026, VICE JOHN L. RYDER, TERM EXPIRING.

KIMBERLY CAUDLE LEWIS, OF ALABAMA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 18, 2025, VICE RICHARD CAPEL HOWORTH, TERM EXPIRED.

L. MICHELLE MOORE, OF GEORGIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM EXPIRING MAY 18, 2021, VICE JAMES R. THOMPSON III.

L. MICHELLE MOORE, OF GEORGIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 18, 2026. (REAPPOINTMENT)

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

BENJAMIN HARRIS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, VICE MICHAEL FAULKENDER.

J. NELLIE LIANG, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN UNDER SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, VICE MARY JOHN MILLER, RESIGNED.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MARCELA ESCOBARI, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, VICE JOHN BARSA.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

C.S. ELIOT KANG, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND NON–PROLIFERATION), VICE CHRISTOPHER ASHLEY FORD.

EUGENE S. YOUNG, OF NEW YORK, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER–COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

GWEN GRAHAM, OF FLORIDA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LEGISLATION AND CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, VICE PETER LOUIS OPPENHEIM, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

TARYN MACKENZIE WILLIAMS, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF LABOR, VICE KATHLEEN MARTINEZ, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

JEN EASTERLY, OF NEW YORK, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE CYBERSECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AGENCY, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, VICE CHRISTOPHER KREBS.

JOHN K. TIEN, OF GEORGIA, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY, VICE ELAINE C. DUKE.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ANNE MILGRAM, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF DRUG ENFORCEMENT, VICE MICHELE MARIE LEONHART.

KENNETH ALLEN POLITE, JR., OF LOUISIANA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, VICE BRIAN ALLEN BENCZKOWSKI.

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS VICE COMMANDANT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AND TO THE GRADE INDICATED PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 304:

To be admiral

VICE ADM. LINDA L. FAGAN

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate April 22, 2021:

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

DEANNE BENNETT CRISWELL, OF NEW YORK, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SIKH AWARENESS AND APPRECIATION MONTH

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the month of April as "Sikh Awareness and Appreciation Month" in my home state of Illinois. The 8th Congressional District is home to many Sikh-Americans and Sikh faithful, and I wish to recognize their valuable contributions to my district and to our state and country, I believe this recognition is especially timely, given the disturbing rise in hate crimes and violent acts perpetrated against Sikh-Americans, most recently on April 15, 2021 at a Federal Express facility located in Indianapolis.

The first followers of the Sikh religion emigrated to the United States over 125 years ago, where they found work on farms located in California and in the lumber mills of Washington state. Despite suffering persecution and discrimination, these patriotic Sikh-Americans persevered and found ways to participate in civic life, including service in the United States Army. In 1918, Sergeant Bhagat Singh Thind was the first serviceman in the history of the United States Army allowed to wear a turban as part of his military uniform. Sikh-Americans continued to proudly serve with distinction in the Second World War, Korean War, Vietnam War and in our conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq.

In addition to military service, Sikh-Americans have made countless contributions to our common good. They include scientists like Dr. Narinder Singh Kapany, who is widely known as the "father of fiber optic technology," and Dr. Gurtej Singh Sandhu, one of the world's most prolific inventors. They include artists and musicians like Grammy nominee Snatam Kaur Khalsa, and activist and award-winning filmmaker Valarie Kaur. They include entrepreneurs like Waris Ahluwalia, an actor, model and businessman. And they include men and women called to public service, like Dalip Singh Saund, who in 1957 became the first Asian-American, Indian-American and member of a non-Abrahamic faith to be elected to serve in this House of Representatives.

As revealed by Guru Nanak and the Adi Granth, Sikhism teaches that there is only one God, that God is without form or gender, that we are all equal before God, and that a good life is lived as part of a community and expressed by good deeds and not merely by good thoughts. These tenets of service and respect for the rights and dignity of all stand in painful contrast to the recent vile speech and acts of violence directed at Sikh communities. Madam Speaker, during this month of appreciation for Sikh Americans, I want to officially recognize the contributions of the more than 700,000 members of the United States Sikh community to business, the arts, science, medicine, literature and philosophy. Additionally, I ask all Americans to take to heart the Sikh religion's belief in the sanctity of each person, respect for freedom of religion, and creed that community service is the foundation for living a good life.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT OF SERGEANT MARK SZYMANKIEWICZ

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sergeant Mark Szymankiewicz of the Woodhaven Police Department. His honorable years of service to our community is worthy of commendation.

Sergeant Szymankiewicz retired on April 9, 2021 after serving over two decades with the Woodhaven Police Department. A graduate of Lake Superior State and Eastern Michigan University, Sergeant Szymankiewicz was a valued leader and mainstay of the department since August of 1999 when he began his career as a patrol officer with the unit. Assigned to the Detective Bureau in 2017, he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on March 18, 2019.

Since 2004, he has mentored students interested in a career in law enforcement through the Woodhaven Police Explorers program. Sergeant Szymankiewicz also served on the board of the Michigan Law Enforcement Youth Advisory Committee. Active in service on duty and off, he served on the Woodhaven Police Department Honor Guard.

A lifelong resident of Downriver, he was raised in Brownstown Township, Michigan by Tony and Crystal along with his brothers Dennis and Steve. Dedicated to the community where he was born and raised, Sergeant Szymankiewicz still lives in Brownstown Township today with his son Jake.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Sergeant Mark Szymankiewicz for a career of invaluable service to the Woodhaven Police Department. I join with Sergeant Szymankiewicz's family, friends, and colleagues in extending my gratitude to him for his exemplary and honorable service to our community and thank him for his role in serving the City of Woodhaven for the past two decades.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCRELL, Jr.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, on April 21, 2021, I missed one Roll Call vote. Had I been present I would have voted: NO on Roll Call Vote 128, On Motion to Recommit for H.R. 1573.

IN MEMORY OF JOHN FRANCIS GORITY

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of my friend John Francis Gority, who passed away on April 12, at the age of 74.

Throughout his life, John devoted himself to our nation and our community. A veteran of the Vietnam War, John was awarded a purple heart after being wounded in the line of duty. After returning home to Blair County, John worked tirelessly to serve local veterans. In addition to serving as Post Commander of the Altoona Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 3, John was also a member of Catholic War Veterans, the American Legion's Gallitzin Chapter, and Disabled American Veterans.

A 1965 graduate of Bishop Guilfoyle High School, John continued his education at Penn State University, where he studied business administration. As a businessman, he owned and operated Broadway Sharpening and Gority Cabinetry for more than 30 years.

John was a staple of the Blair County Community. In addition to his work with local veterans, John also served as a leader of the Blair County Historical Society, Open Doors for the Handicapped, Eastern Amputee Golf Association, Fire Base Eagle, and Bravo Company.

As a community leader, John Francis Gority exemplified a life of service to our nation and to his neighbors. On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, it is my privilege to honor John for his many contributions. I extend my deepest condolences to John's devoted wife Donna, their two daughters, and four grandchildren as they mourn this great loss.

H.R. 51, THE WASHINGTON, D.C. ADMISSION ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, today, for the second time in two years, the House will vote to end centuries of political repression in the District of Columbia by granting the District statehood.

For too long Congress has denied more than 712,000 Americans in the District the fundamental right to full representation in government. Today we say no more.

All 37 states that have been added to the union were admitted by legislation with a simple majority vote. There is no reason admitting the District should be any different.

The United States is a republic, but the people of its capital lack representation. The

United States is the only democratic country that denies both voting rights in the national legislature and local self-government to the people of its capital.

Today we say no more.

My Republican colleagues would rather continue to deny voting rights for hundreds of thousands of American citizens because they may vote for Democrats.

Today we say no more.

We say no more to taxation without representation. No more to unequal rights for the District's residents. No more to this Nation failing to live up to the foundational principles that make us who we are.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE MARY MULLARKEY

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Ms. DEGETTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today, along with Congressman ED PERLMUTTER, Congressman JASON CROW, and Congressman JOE NEGUSE, to recognize the life and achievements of former Chief Justice of the Colorado Supreme Court Mary Mullarkey, who passed away on Wednesday, March 31, 2021.

Mary's journey is a familiar Colorado story. She was born and raised elsewhere, in Wisconsin. While there, she graduated from St. Norbert College before earning her law degree at Harvard University in 1968. After law school, Mary traveled to Washington, D.C. in order to work for the Department of the Interior in the agency's equal employment opportunity division. Not only did she find the beginning of what would become a lengthy and distinguished career in public service, but she also found the love of her life, Tom Korson. By 1973, the two had married and moved to Denver for what was supposed to be a brief ''adventure,'' not to exceed two years. However, as the story so often goes, they fell in love with Colorado and thankfully decided to make our state a permanent home for themselves and eventually for their son Andrew.

As many Coloradans have reflected in the wake of her passing, Mary—or ''the Chief,'' as she was affectionately known by her former law clerks—was a remarkable woman with a brilliant legal career. She advised Governors, ran her own law firm, served as our state's Solicitor General and led the appellate division in the Colorado Attorney General's Office before her appointment to the Colorado Supreme Court in 1987. Mary served on the court for 23 years.

Mary's legacy while serving on this esteemed bench is unmatched. She was nominated by her colleagues to be the court's first woman Chief Justice in 1998. She served in this capacity for 12 years, and she is the court's longest serving chief justice. During her time on the Court, Coloradans benefited from her fair and thoughtful decisions. She authored more than 470 opinions, including her most memorable case, which was a 2002 decision granting land access to descendants of Mexican homesteaders in the San Luis Valley after decades of dispute.

Beyond the courtroom, her reputation as a trailblazer and a tireless advocate continued. During her tenure, she accomplished the amazing feat of building a new home for the judiciary, the Ralph L. Carr Colorado Judicial Center, named for the state's Republican governor who opposed the use of internment camps for Japanese individuals during World War II. She also expanded access to the courts by hiring professional interpreters to break down language barriers for those who sought the court's protection. To that same end, she added more jurists to resolve more cases and insisted that childcare be provided in courthouses so that parents could more easily access the court system.

When Mary was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis, she faced that challenge the way she approached life in general—with determination, grit, and resolve. My husband Lino and I are honored, along with so many others, to call her a friend and role model.

Truly, the light that Mary cast over once hidden spaces within the state's judiciary, over those parents and individuals who sought the court's haven, and over those Coloradans who get up and work hard every day despite living with a debilitating disease—that light will shine as strongly and brilliantly as Mary Mullarkey did for many, many years to come. Our heartfelt condolences go out to her family, in particular to Tom, Mary's husband of 49 years, as well as to their son Andrew, and to all the friends, colleagues, and Coloradans who mourn her loss.

IN RECOGNITION OF ANDREW SMITH'S SERVICE TO THE GREEN BAY POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, today I rise in honor of the career and service of retiring Green Bay Police Chief Andrew Smith.

Chief Andrew Smith's career as a Police Officer began 33 years ago when he arrived in Green Bay from Los Angeles after having served 27 ½ years with the Los Angeles Police Department. Throughout his career, he held countless command level assignments in Media Relations and Community Affairs groups, Operations, and Criminal Gang Homicide Division. For those who are unfamiliar with Chief Smith's extensive career with the LAPD, you may recognize him from the popular true crime docuseries on Netflix: The Vanishing at the Cecil Hotel.

During Chief Smith's time with the Green Bay Police Department, transparency was one of his top priorities. He gave regular updates to the public through the department's community update videos where he would address current events taking place throughout the Green Bay Area. During Chief Smith's tenure the Green Bay Police Department successfully grew, hiring 65 new police officers and swearing in approximately 190 officers.

When the attacks against our men and women in uniform sparked national attention last summer, Chief Smith continued to protect and defend the Green Bay area. I commend his selfless service and dedication to the Green Bay Police Department and surrounding communities.

Chief Smith is leaving behind a notable legacy that will be admired by generations of police officers for years to come. After retirement, Chief Smith and his family plan to stay in Green Bay and I am confident that he will continue to be a value add to Northeast Wisconsin. Chief Smith's dedication and selfless service to his community is deserving of the highest degree of recognition and honor. I wish Chief Smith and his family all the best in his retirement.

COMMEMORATING THE 175TH CELEBRATION OF THE FOUNDING OF HENDERSON COUNTY

HON. LANCE GOODEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. GOODEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 175th celebration of the founding Henderson County, Texas. Henderson County was formed April 27, 1846, and named in honor of James Pinckney Henderson, the first attorney general of the Republic of Texas, and secretary of state for the republic, and most importantly the first Governor of Texas.

Henderson County has a rich history, including the one-time Black-Eyed Pea Capital of the world, and the home of the hamburger. Now, many Texans enjoy the wide-ranging activities Henderson County offers including recreation, entertainment, hunting, and fishing, along with the Texas Forest Trail and the Texas Lakes Trail. The county also brings in visitors from across the state and nation with events such as the Old Fiddle Reunion, held in May, and the Black-Eyed Pea Jamboree which is held in July.

After 175 years, Henderson County continues to be a vibrant community that supports family, sports, fine arts, churches, and numerous organizations for more than 84,000 residents that make up 20 municipalities.

I am proud to represent Henderson County and the many people who make it a wonderful place to live. Congratulations to everyone in the county on celebrating their 175th anniversary.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present for this vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 129.

IN RECOGNITION OF KASEY MEREDITH

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Kasey Meredith of Johnstown, Pennsylvania as she is named the Cadet First Captain and Regimental Commander of the Virginia Military Institute's Corps

of Cadets. A trailblazer, Cadet Meredith will be the first woman to hold the position in the Institute's 181-year history.

As Regimental Commander, Cadet Meredith will oversee the training, discipline, fitness, and morale of the Corps. She currently is a member of the U.S. Marine Corps Recruit Officers Training Program. Upon her graduation and successful completion of the program, Cadet Meredith will receive her commission as a Second Lieutenant of Marines.

Cadet Kasey Meredith's selection as Regimental Commander is a testament to her strong academic performance, determination, and leadership. On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, it is my privilege to recognize outstanding Pennsylvanians as they answer the call to serve our nation. I proudly congratulate Cadet Meredith on earning this well-deserved position and wish her every continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JODEY C. ARRINGTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. ARRINGTON. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I was unable to be present for one of the votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 109.

HONORING THE 225TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE STEUBEN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the 225th anniversary of the Steuben County Sheriffs Office, and the legacy of the office's public service and dedication to public safety.

The Steuben County Sheriffs Office was constitutionally established in 1796, with William Dunn being sworn in as Sheriff on March 31, 1796. From 1796 until 1873, the Steuben County Sheriffs Office was the only law enforcement agency serving the county. The longest serving Sheriff was Jack Lisi, who served from 1970 to 1987.

Sheriff James Allard is the current sheriff of the county and is the fifty-ninth Sheriff to serve in office. James has a strong commitment to serving his community and became Undersheriff of the county in 2013. He was elected as Sheriff in 2016.

We are honored to be able to recognize the Steuben County Sheriffs Office in this way. The Steuben County Sheriffs Office has provided service and safety to the communities it served for hundreds of years and should be honored for that service. We cannot forget the great personal risk and dedication each Sheriff showed during their service. Today, we stand and honor those efforts before the eyes of America.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to honor the 225th anniversary of the Steuben County Sheriff's Office, and the legacy of the office's public service and dedication to public safety.

IN MEMORY OF FORMER CONGRESSWOMAN ELIZABETH FURSE

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Congresswoman Elizabeth Furse, who represented the people of Oregon's First District in this chamber from 1993 to 1999.

I am privileged to have called Elizabeth a friend and a mentor. My first experience volunteering for a political campaign was when I made calls and knocked on doors working for her Congressional race for re-election in 1994. She inspired dedication to worthy causes, including co-founding the Oregon Peace Institute, and embodied the traits all public servants should strive to uphold—to meet the needs of their community and drive meaningful change. Her trailblazing example helped shape my life and my career, and the lives of so many others.

Elizabeth was only the third woman to represent Oregon in the House of Representatives, and as an immigrant she was fully committed to protecting the rights of all. Her start in advocacy came at a young age in Kenya, and in her youth she courageously participated in the protests against apartheid in South Africa. From there she continued to grow as a leader and advocate, pursuing a career path that allowed her to serve as a fierce champion for tribal sovereignty, social justice, and peace. She aided countless people during her time in Congress and throughout her life, and her many achievements include helping the Grand Ronde, Klamath, and Coquille tribes gain federal recognition, as well as increasing access to public transportation in our region by extending light rail service to Hillsboro. After leaving Congress, Elizabeth continued to stay involved in her community and enjoyed spending time with her husband John at their winery.

Our world, and especially NW Oregon, is a better place because of Elizabeth's tireless devotion to improving the lives of those around her. Let us continue to serve others in her memory.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF FORMER JUSTICE GREGORY K. SCOTT

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Ms. DEGETTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today, along with Congressman Ed Perlmutter, Congressman Jason Crow, and Congressman Joe Neguse, to recognize the life and accomplishments of the first and only African American to serve on our state's highest court, former Colorado Supreme Court Justice Gregory K. Scott who passed away on Wednesday, March 31, 2021 at the age of 72.

Justice Scott graduated from Rutgers University before attending law school at Indiana University. In 1977, he and his wife Carolyn, also an attorney, moved to Denver so that Scott could start his new position as a trial attorney at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's regional office. Later, Scott joined the faculty at University of Denver's Sturm College of Law as a professor, where he taught numerous students about securities and corporate law. While making their life in Denver, the couple welcomed two sons, both of whom sadly preceded them in death.

In 1993, then Governor Roy Romer appointed Scott to the Colorado Supreme Court, making him the first—and thus far the only—African American to serve at the highest level of our state's judiciary. During his time on the bench, Justice Scott participated in 1,000 decisions, some notable ones including Evans v. Romer, which involved the court stepping in to stop enforcement of a ban that infringed the rights of our gay and lesbian Coloradans, and also Hill v. Thomas, a decision he penned himself to uphold the state law I wrote to mandate an 8–foot buffer zone between protesters and individuals trying to gain entrance into Colorado abortion clinics. I am proud to note that the U.S. Supreme Court later upheld this decision, finding the same truth we hold so dear in Colorado, that rights of speech and access to reproductive care can both be vigorously protected.

Justice Scott served admirably both inside and outside of the courtroom, especially when it came to championing the civil nights causes he cherished deeply. While living in Denver, he took pride in mentoring law students, especially law students of color, who believed as he did—as we all do—that diversity in the legal profession is vital to the best interests of clients, whether corporate or individual, and every Coloradan. Additionally, Scott was active with the local NAACP chapter, the Urban League, and the Sam Cary Bar Association. Even in his retirement years, Scott continued answering the call to serve. After moving to his wife's hometown in Indiana, he became the executive director of the Indiana Civil Rights Commission.

Justice Scott has been remembered by friends and former colleagues as a ''giant'' in Colorado's legal community with a brilliant legal mind and a profound respect for the rule of law. Truly, he will always be remembered for his lasting legacy on our state's supreme court, but also as a bowtie-wearing jurist who was as likable as he was learned, and as socially conscious as he was compassionate. We send our heartfelt condolences to his wife Carolyn and to the entire Scott family, as well as to the Coloradans who are saddened by his loss.

IN MEMORY OF NANCY HICKS SHEETZ

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of my friend Nancy Hicks Sheetz of Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, who passed away on April 16.

Nancy Hicks Sheetz was an incredible community leader whose dedication defined our

region's art and culture landscape. As a lifelong supporter of the theater community, Nancy worked tirelessly to advocate for the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art. She was an outstanding artist, actress, and musician who used her talents to bless others.

A lifelong Blair County resident, Nancy was born on July 9, 1935 in East Freedom and attended Altoona High School, where she was elected president of her class and graduated in 1953. She was a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother whose compassion and care for her family was evident to everyone she met. In addition to her artistic pursuits, Nancy served the Altoona community as a member of the Blair County Historical Society. We also shared a love of gardening.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, it is my privilege to celebrate the life of Nancy Hicks Sheetz and honor her legacy. She leaves a profound void in the community that I share alongside all who knew her. As we remember Nancy for her many contributions to Blair County and our commonwealth, I extend my deepest condolences to the Sheetz family.

IN HONOR OF THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE AND LEGACY OF REVEREND ROY L. FERGUSON

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Reverend Roy L. Ferguson, a beloved pastor and active community leader who passed away at the age of 76 on April 15, 2021. In 1983, Rev. Ferguson was elected Pastor of Saint John Baptist Church in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, where he served his congregation valiantly for 38 years. Demonstrating a continued dedication to public service, Rev. Ferguson contributed to the lives of many through mentorship and ministry, lifting spirits and soothing troubled souls.

Born on July 16, 1945, in Pickensville, Alabama, Rev. Ferguson graduated from Mississippi Valley College, where he studied physical education. He continued his education attending Birmingham Bible College and Samford University. In 1978, Rev. Ferguson answered the call to ministry under the leadership of Dr. J.C. Curry, Pastor of Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church in Flint, Michigan. Shortly after, Rev. Ferguson's employer transferred him to Tuscaloosa, where he began his tenure as an associate minister at Saint John Baptist Church in 1982. He married Coleen Hudson, and together they had seven children.

Rev. Ferguson was a dedicated public servant who contributed to the progression of Civil and Human Rights through his positions as a board member of the State Southern Christian Leadership Conference, President Emeritus of the Tuscaloosa County Chapter Southern Christian Conference, and President of Tuscaloosa Ministerial Alliance. Expanding his influence outside of ministry, Rev. Ferguson gave back to the Tuscaloosa community by acting as a mentor in the Stars Program at Tuscaloosa City Schools and Tuscaloosa Juvenile Detention Center. He lived his life by example, encouraging the members of his community and congregation to live up to their full potential in Christ.

Throughout his life, Rev. Ferguson prioritized the importance of teaching the next generation about Black history. He believed that if we are to truly bring about change in this Nation, it is our responsibility to preserve the legacy of those on whose shoulders we stand.

On a personal note, I am eternally grateful for the support, friendship, and wise counsel that Rev. Ferguson and his dedicated wife Coleen always extend to me. The amazing congregation of St. John Baptist Church was a special refuge to my staff and I and will always be a comforting source of love and support. I am forever indebted to Rev. Ferguson for representing Alabama's 7th Congressional District at the National Day of Prayer in Washington, D.C. I could always count on Rev. Ferguson to extend his ministry for the good of our community. I was constantly reminded by the example that Rev. Ferguson set on how to extend favor and fulfillment to others. May we find comfort in knowing that the legacy of Rev. Ferguson will live in the many people that he touched. Let us be renewed by his giving spirit to make a difference in our communities. Rest In Peace.

On behalf of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the extraordinary life and legacy of Reverend Roy L. Ferguson and his outstanding contributions to the Tuscaloosa community.

SHARK FIN SALES ELIMINATION ACT OF 2021

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Speaker, on Earth Day 2021, together with Rep. MCCAUL and 103 other original cosponsors, I am reintroducing the Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act.

The Act bans the buying and selling of shark fins in the United States and passed in the 116th Congress with bipartisan support and, ultimately, 287 cosponsors. It was the largest number of cosponsors for any ocean conservation bill in the previous Congress.

The Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act has such strong bipartisan support, because it is an effective way to remove the United States from the devastating global trade in shark fins, at no cost. And because it does so without stopping those who want to fish for sharks and use them whole.

Madam Speaker, sharks are absolutely critical to life in the ocean. As apex predators, they help maintain balance by keeping prey populations in check. They are also critical to the tourism economy of our coastal communities. In Florida alone, tourists, who go diving to see sharks, generate more than 200 times the value of the trade in shark fins for our entire country.

Despite their importance ecologically and economically, sharks are in serious trouble. Each year, fins from up to 73 million sharks are sliced off and sold in the global marketplace. And, largely due to this demand for fins, some shark species have now declined by more than 90 percent.

Our nation has wisely banned the inhumane practice of finning sharks and throwing them back into the ocean to die. Yet, we still allow fins to be bought and sold here. And many of the fins we are buying and selling come from countries that simply do not have the same level of protection the U.S. gives sharks.

Now is time for us to take that next step. Only by banning the shark fin trade once and for all within our borders can we ensure we are no longer supporting an unsustainable use of ocean resources.

Recognizing this unsustainability, the Northern Mariana Islands, my home, was the very first U.S. insular area to ban the trade of shark fins in 2011. As an island culture 3,000 years old, the people of the Marianas understand and respect the important role that sharks play in maintaining the life of our oceans.

We are not alone. Thirteen U.S. states and three territories have also passed their own shark fin bans. But this patchwork of state laws can be challenging to enforce. That is why we need a federal ban on the shark fin trade in the United States.

A ban on the shark fin trade is supported by 45 domestic and international airlines, by 22 shipping companies, 15 major corporations, and nearly 700 U.S. businesses and organizations. A 2020 national poll found 4 of 5 American voters support a national ban on the buying and selling of shark fins. Hundreds of scientists, chefs, fishers, and dive and surf businesses have written to Congress requesting passage of a national shark fin ban.

I want, especially, to thank Oceana, the Humane Society Legislative Fund, and the Animal Welfare Institute for those environmental organizations' work to build legislative support for the Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act.

I look forward to quick action in the House on the Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act of 2021.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present during roll call vote number 130. I would like to reflect how I would have voted.

On roll call vote number 130, I would have voted YES.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 99; YEA on Roll Call No. 100; YEA on Roll Call No. 101; NAY on Roll Call No. 102; and NAY on Roll Call No. 103.

HONORING ANGOLA'S MEMORIAL VFW POST NO. 7205

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Angola's Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 7205 as they prepare to celebrate their 75th anniversary.

Founded in the wake of the Second World War on May 26, 1946, the Angola VFW post was named after George Anspaugh, a Steuben County native who was killed in the war while serving in the U.S. Navy.

The post, which boasts 178 members and 200 auxiliary members, earned "All American Post" status in 2019 for its community contributions, participation in VFW events and ability to recruit and retain members.

I am inspired by the mission of Angola's VFW, and VFW posts nationwide, to not only help veterans recover from the wounds of war but also to ensure that the national memory of those who served is never forgotten.

From holding a Poppy Drive every year on November 7 to commemorate the end of the First World War to hosting Veterans Suicide Awareness Day to raise proceeds for the Veterans Suicide Crisis Hotline, and more, Hoosiers thank Angola's VFW Post for their work.

This record is testament to VFW Post No. 7205's longevity and achievement, for which Angola, and northeast Indiana, is grateful.

IN RECOGNITION OF REBECCA WRIGHT

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Rebecca Wright, a student at Windber Area High School, on being crowned the 74th Maple Queen at the Pennsylvania Maple Festival.

A pianist, Rebecca earned accolades at the competition for her performance of "Midnight Rhapsody," including the Anna Ruth Thomas Memorial Talent Award. She also won the Promenade Award and the Interview Award.

As the Maple Queen, Rebecca will represent Somerset County's robust maple industry. Since 1947, the Pennsylvania Maple Festival has been hosted by maple producers from across the region to showcase maple production.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate Rebecca and her family on this incredible achievement. As Rebecca commences her service as Maple Queen, I wish her every continued success.

4/23 ANNIVERSARY OF JOSEPH STONE'S DEATH

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark the fourth anniversary of the tragic death of Joseph Stone, a U.S. paramedic serving with the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) in Ukraine.

My heart and prayers go out to his family who still feel his absence each and every day.

Joseph Stone was killed on April 23, 2017, when his vehicle struck a landmine in Russian-controlled territory in eastern Ukraine. Born in my district in Milwaukee, he was a courageous young man whose life ended much too soon.

Stone gave his life serving a noble mission: helping those who document the human suffering inflicted by the Kremlin's senseless assault on Ukraine. The mission he served with, established in 2014, monitors implementation of the Minsk Agreements, which were designed to bring peace to eastern Ukraine. It is an unarmed, civilian mission that serves as the international community's eyes and ears on the security and humanitarian situation in the war zone. The SMM operates under a mandate adopted by consensus among the 57 OSCE participating States, including the United States, Russia, and Ukraine.

The tragedy of Stone's death—a direct result of this needless conflict—is compounded today by the continuation of Russian aggression against Ukraine. Recent weeks have seen a dramatic escalation by Russia, which has amassed forces and equipment on Ukraine's land and maritime borders and in Crimea, which Russia continues to illegally occupy. Moscow's actions are accompanied by boldfaced denial that these threatening moves should be of any concern to Ukraine or its friends.

The latest Russian escalation only underlines the crucial role of the SMM and the need to ensure that the mission Joseph Stone died serving can fully carry out its mandate. Moscow currently blocks the SMM from accessing Russia-occupied Crimea. And in parts of Ukraine where the SMM is able to operate, its monitors are harassed, blocked, and threatened on a daily basis by Russia-led forces, who also interfere with the SMM's equipment by jamming UAVs or blinding static cameras.

Madam Speaker, all OSCE states, including Russia, must do everything possible to support the OSCE monitors who, to this day, face unacceptable threats and restrictions as they shine a light on the daily cost of this war. The monitors must be allowed unfettered access throughout Ukraine—including Crimea. And rather than deploying more troops, Russia should be working with the OSCE to help de-escalate the situation, including to support the deployment of more monitors to prevent further conflict and provocation moves. The mission's efforts will remain crucial in ensuring the international community has full visibility on the Kremlin's malignant actions against Ukraine.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in marking the solemn anniversary of Joseph Stone's death. Let us use this solemn occasion to redouble efforts to work for peace. I also want to use this opportunity to applaud the men and women of the SMM who are still serving today, even as Russia continues to escalate. Their work is a critical part of efforts to restore Ukraine's territorial integrity and ensure respect for its sovereignty.

RECOGNITION OF THE POPE FRANCIS PREPARATORY HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY TEAM'S 2021 USA HOCKEY DIVISION 1 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Pope Francis Preparatory High School boys' hockey team on winning the 2021 USA Hockey Division 1 National Championship. The Pope Francis Cardinals defeated New Trier, of Illinois, 3–0 in the championship game. This win capped a six day national championship tournament in Omaha, Nebraska, where the Pope Francis Cardinals when 6–0, and outscored opponents 48–5.

The tremendous amount of dedication and commitment to excellence was led by Head Coach Brian Foley, who has led the Pope Francis Hockey program for eighteen years. The impressive efforts on the ice was led by goalie Ben Zaranek, with 23 saves that ensured the shutout, and by Brandon Spaulding and Ryan Leonard, that scored the three goals to solidify victory and the national title.

It gives me great pleasure to extend my sincere congratulations to the entire team, which also includes Matt Hanscom, Jack Moltenbrey, Jake Iby, Ryan Hemenway, Colin Foyle, Evan Phaneuf, Andrew Bolduc, Jack Kennedy, Ryan Shaw, Bryce Russ, Joseph DiMichele, Stephen Rougeot, Jack Turowsky, Matthew Burke, Christopher Calvanese, Ryan O'Leary, Ryan Rhodes, Ben Zaranek, Josh Iby, and Gage Sperlonga. All should be proud of their contribution to this victorious season that furthers the legacy of Pope Francis athletics.

Madam Speaker, the players, coaches, and entire school community should be very proud of their accomplishments. I wish the graduating seniors all the best in their future endeavors and good luck to those who will return for a chance to make another run at the national championship.

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed S. 937, COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act, as amended.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2137–S2183

Measures Introduced: Sixty-four bills and eleven resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1298–1361, S.J. Res. 18, S. Res. 171–179, and S. Con. Res. 8. **Pages S2165–68**

Measures Passed:

COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act: By 94 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. 165), Senate passed S. 937, to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, by the order of the Senate of Wednesday, April 21, 2021, 60 Senators having voted in the affirmative, and after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S2140–50**

Adopted:

Schumer (for Hirono/Collins) Amendment No. 1445, of a perfecting nature. **Pages S2147–50**

Rejected:

By 49 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 162), Cruz Amendment No. 1456 (to Amendment No. 1445), to prohibit Federal funding for any institution of higher education that discriminates against Asian Americans in recruitment, applicant review, or admissions. (Pursuant to the order of Wednesday, April 21, 2021, the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) **Pages S2140–46**

By 49 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 163), McConnell (for Lee) Amendment No. 1425 (to Amendment No. 1445), to require a report on State restrictions on religious exercise during the COVID–19 pandemic. (Pursuant to the order of Wednesday, April 21, 2021, the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) **Pages S2146–47**

By 46 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 164), Blackburn Amendment No. 1458 (to Amendment No. 1445), of a perfecting nature. (Pursuant to the order of Wednesday, April 21, 2021, the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) **Page S2147**

Disposal of Controlled Substances Medications: Committee on Veterans' Affairs was discharged from further consideration of S. 957, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that certain medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs have physical locations for the disposal of controlled substances medications, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S2152–53**

Kennedy Amendment No. 1459, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S2153**

Financial Literacy Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 177, designating April 2021 as ''Financial Literacy Month''. **Page S2182**

Honoring Beverly Cleary: Senate agreed to S. Res. 178, honoring the life and legacy of award-winning children's author Beverly Cleary. **Page S2182**

Select Committee on Ethics Appointments: Senate agreed to S. Res. 179, to make temporary appointments to the Select Committee on Ethics. **Page S2182**

Measures Considered:

Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 914, to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize programs under those Acts. **Pages S2151–52, S2153–61**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of 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 the nomination of Colin Hackett Kahl, of California, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Policy. **Page S2151**

Prior to the consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S2151**

Criswell Nomination—Agreement: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Deanne Bennett Criswell, of New York, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security. **Page S2150**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S2150**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S2150**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination be withdrawn; that the nomination be confirmed; and that the motions to invoke cloture filed on Thursday, April 22, 2021 be considered to have been presented in the following order: Jason Scott Miller, of Maryland, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget, Janet Garvin McCabe, of Indiana, to be Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and Colin Hackett Kahl, of California, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Policy. **Page S2161**

Miller Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Jason Scott Miller, of Maryland, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget. **Page S2151**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, April 22, 2021, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, April 26, 2021. **Page S2151**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S2151**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S2151**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the nomination at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, April 26, 2021; and that the motions to invoke cloture filed on Thursday, April 22, 2021 ripen at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, April 26, 2021. **Page S2182**

McCabe Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Janet Garvin McCabe, of Indiana, to be Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. **Pages S2150–51**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Jason Scott Miller, of Maryland, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget. **Page S2051**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S2050**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S2050**

Kahl Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Colin Hackett Kahl, of California, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Policy. **Page S2151**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Janet Garvin McCabe, of Indiana, to be Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. **Page S2151**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S2151**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S2151**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

Deanne Bennett Criswell, of New York, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security. **Page S2183**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination be withdrawn. **Page S2102**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Jill Hruby, of New Mexico, to be Under Secretary for Nuclear Security, Department of Energy.

Mara Elizabeth Karlin, of Wisconsin, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Evelyn M. Fujimoto, of Texas, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Institute of Building Sciences for a term expiring September 7, 2022.

Lori Peek, of Colorado, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Institute of Building Sciences for a term expiring September 7, 2022.

Christopher A. Coes, of Georgia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Transportation.

Pamela A. Melroy, of New York, to be Deputy Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Michal Ilana Freedhoff, of Maryland, to be Assistant Administrator for Toxic Substances of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Beth Pritchard Geer, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2026.

Robert P. Klein, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2026.

Kimberly Caudle Lewis, of Alabama, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2025.

L. Michelle Moore, of Georgia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for the remainder of the term expiring May 18, 2021.

L. Michelle Moore, of Georgia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2026.

Benjamin Harris, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

J. Nellie Liang, of Maryland, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury.

Marcela Escobari, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

C.S. Eliot Kang, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (International Security and Non-Proliferation).

Eugene S. Young, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Congo.

Gwen Graham, of Florida, to be Assistant Secretary for Legislation and Congressional Affairs, Department of Education.

Taryn Mackenzie Williams, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

Jen Easterly, of New York, to be Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

John K. Tien, of Georgia, to be Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security.

Anne Milgram, of New Jersey, to be Administrator of Drug Enforcement.

Kenneth Allen Polite, Jr., of Louisiana, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

1 Coast Guard nomination in the rank of admiral. **Pages S2182–83**

Messages from the House: **Pages S2163–64**

Measures Referred: **Page S2164**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S2164**

Executive Communications: **Page S2165**

Petitions and Memorials: **Page S2165**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S2165**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2168–70**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S2170–81**

Additional Statements: **Page S2163**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S2181–82**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S2182**

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—165) **Pages S2146–2148**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:05 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, April 26, 2021. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2182.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 1251, 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 markets.

NOMINATION

Committee on Agriculture: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Jewel Hairston Bronaugh, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Warner, testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded open and closed hearings to examine United States Central Command and United States Africa Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2022 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from General Kenneth F. McKenzie, Jr. USMC, Commander, United States Central Command, and General Stephen J. Townsend, USA, Commander, United States Africa Command, both of the Department of Defense.

21ST CENTURY COMMUNITIES

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine 21st century communities, focusing on capitalizing on opportunities in the clean energy economy, after receiving testimony from Ernest Moniz, former Secretary of Energy, Energy Futures Initiative; Khalil Shahyd, Natural Resources Defense Council, New

York, New York; Zoe Lipman, BlueGreen Alliance, and David W. Kreutzer, Institute for Energy Research, both of Washington, D.C.; and Neal Crabtree, Pipeliners Local Union 798, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

CARBON AND CARBON–DIOXIDE UTILIZATION TECHNOLOGIES

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the opportunities and challenges that exist for advancing and deploying carbon and carbon-dioxide utilization technologies in the United States, after receiving testimony from Brian Anderson, Director, National Energy Technology Laboratory, Department of Energy; Jason Begger, Wyoming Integrated Test Center, Cheyenne; Randall W. Atkins, Ramaco Coal, Sheridan, Wyoming; and Gaurav N. Sant, University of California Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Materials Science and Engineering, Los Angeles.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Andrea Joan Palm, of Wisconsin, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services.

U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine U.S.-China relations, focusing on improving U.S. competitiveness through trade, after receiving testimony from Michael R. Wessel, Commissioner, U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission; Aynne Kokas, University of Virginia Miller Center for Public Affairs, Charlottesville; Clete R. Willems, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer and Feld, Washington, D.C.; and David Baer, Element Electronics, Winnsboro, South Carolina.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Kiran Arjandas Ahuja, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Personnel Management, and Anton George Hajjar, of Maryland, Amber Faye McReynolds, of Colorado, and Ronald Stroman, of the District of Columbia, each to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

PROTECTING U.S. BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine protecting U.S. biomedical research, focusing on efforts to prevent undue foreign influence, after receiving testimony from Michael S. Lauer, Deputy Director for Extramural Research, National Institutes of Health, Lisa Aguirre, Acting Director, Office of National Security, and Gary Cantrell, Deputy Inspector General for Investigations, Office of Investigations, Office of Inspector General, all of the Department of Health and Human Services; and Candice N. Wright, Acting Director, Science, Technology Assessment, and Analytics, Government Accountability Office.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND POLICING

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Criminal Justice and Counterterrorism concluded a hearing to examine behavioral health and policing, focusing on interactions and solutions, after receiving testimony from Major Martin A. Bartness, Baltimore Police Department, Baltimore, Maryland; Sheriff Margaret Mims, Fresno, California; Keris Jan Myrick, The Mental Health Strategic Impact Initiative, Los Angeles, California; Ebony C. Morgan, Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets (CAHOOTS), Eugene, Oregon; Kevin Martone, Technical Assistance Collaborative, Boston, Massachusetts; Rafael A. Mangual, Manhattan Institute for Policy Research, New York, New York; and Terri O'Connor, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Richard A. Sauber, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 80 public bills, H.R. 3, 2750–2830; and 11 resolutions, H.J. Res. 43–45; and H. Res. 342–349, were introduced. **Pages H2102–07**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H2109–10**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Washington, D.C. Admission Act: The House passed H.R. 51, to provide for the admission of the State of Washington, D.C. into the Union, by a yea-and-nay vote of 216 yeas to 208 nays, Roll No. 132. **Pages H2061–2089**

Rejected the Griffith motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, by a yea-and-nay vote of 205 yeas to 215 nays, Roll No. 131. **Pages H2081–88**

Pursuant to the Rule, 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. **Page H2061**

H. Res. 330, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 51), (H.R. 1573), and (H.R. 1333) was agreed to Tuesday, April 20th.

Motion to table the motion to reconsider the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bills and agree to the resolution en bloc—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to the McCollum motion to table the Phillips motion to reconsider by a yea-and-nay vote of 292 yeas to 193 nays, Roll No. 133, which was postponed from Tuesday, April 20, 2021, when 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. **Pages H2089–91**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2088–89, H2089 and H2089–91.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

Committee Meetings

UPDATE ON F–35 PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, ISSUES, AND RISKS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces; and Subcommittee on Readiness held a joint hearing entitled ''Update on F–35 Program Accomplishments, Issues, and Risks''. Testimony was heard from Diana Maurer, Director, Military Structure and Operations Issues, Government Accountability Office; Lieutenant General Eric Fick, Program Executive Officer, F–35 Joint Program Office, Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, Department of Defense; Brigadier General David Abba, Director, F–35 Integration Office, U.S. Air Force; and public witnesses.

MEMBERS DAY HEARING: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR

Committee on Education and Labor: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Members Day Hearing: Committee on Education and Labor''. Testimony was heard from Representatives Scanlon and Langevin.

OVERSIGHT OF THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT: THE EVOLVING LANDSCAPE OF VOTING DISCRIMINATION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties held a hearing entitled ''Oversight of the Voting Rights Act: The Evolving Landscape of Voting Discrimination''. Testimony was heard from Mark Robinson, Lieutenant Governor, North Carolina; and public witnesses.

THE ROLE OF FOSSIL FUEL SUBSIDIES IN PREVENTING ACTION ON THE CLIMATE CRISIS

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Subcommittee on Environment held a hearing entitled ''The Role of Fossil Fuel Subsidies in Preventing Action on the Climate Crisis''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR MONDAY, APRIL 26, 2021

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

3 p.m., Monday, April 26

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Jason Scott Miller, of Maryland, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 5:30 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12 noon, Monday, April 26

House Chamber

Program for Monday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 12 noon.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Arrington, Jodey C., Tex., E445
Banks, Jim, Ind., E447
Bonamici, Suzanne, Ore., E445
Brady, Kevin, Tex., E444, E446
DeGette, Diana, Colo., E444, E445
Dingell, Debbie, Mich., E443
Eshoo, Anna G., Calif., E446
Gallagher, Mike, Wisc., E444
Gooden, Lance, Tex., E444
Joyce, John, Pa., E443, E444, E445, E447
Krishnamoorthi, Raja, Ill., E443
Maloney, Carolyn B., N.Y., E443
Moore, Gwen, Wisc., E447
Neal, Richard E., Mass., E447
Pascrell, Bill, Jr., N.J., E443
Reed, Tom, N.Y., E445
Sablan, Gregorio Kilili Camacho, Northern Mariana Islands, E446
Sewell, Terri A., Ala., E446

Congressional Record

The *Congressional Record* (USPS 087–390). The Periodicals postage is paid at Washington, D.C. The public proceedings of each House of Congress, as reported by the Official Reporters thereof, are printed pursuant to directions of the Joint Committee on Printing as authorized by appropriate provisions of Title 44, United States Code, and published for each day that one or both Houses are in session, excepting very infrequent instances when two or more unusually small consecutive issues are printed one time. ¶Public access to the *Congressional Record* is available online through the U.S. Government Publishing Office, at *www.govinfo.gov*, free of charge to the user. The information is updated online each day the *Congressional Record* is published. For more information, contact the GPO Customer Contact Center, U.S. Government Publishing Office. Phone 202–512–1800, or 866–512–1800 (toll-free). E-Mail, *contactcenter@gpo.gov*. ¶To place an order for any of these products, visit the U.S. Government Online Bookstore at: bookstore.gpo.gov. Mail orders to: Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 979050, St. Louis, MO 63197–9000, or phone orders to 866–512–1800 (toll-free), 202–512–1800 (D.C. area), or fax to 202–512–2104. Remit check or money order, made payable to the Superintendent of Documents, or use VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, or GPO Deposit Account. ¶Following each session of Congress, the daily *Congressional Record* is revised, printed, permanently bound and sold by the Superintendent of Documents in individual parts or by sets. ¶With the exception of copyrighted articles, there are no restrictions on the republication of material from the *Congressional Record*.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Superintendent of Documents, *Congressional Record*, U.S. Government Publishing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, along with the entire mailing label from the last issue received.