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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at 2 p.m.

Senate

MONDAY, MAY 10, 2021

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MAZIE K. HIRONO, a Senator from the State of Hawaii.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, vindicate those who cling to the truth. They seek to walk on Your path, to honor You with their work, and to glorify You with their lives. May these lawmakers remember that You are their light and salvation, bestowing mercy and honor on them.

Lord, You refuse to withhold any good thing from those who walk blameless before You. Continue to strengthen our Senators, who strive to please You with their thoughts, words, and actions. Empower them as they seek and pursue peace for our Nation and world.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 10, 2021.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MAZIE K. HIRONO, a Senator from the State of Hawaii, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Ms. HIRONO thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, like all of my colleagues, I spent last week traveling my home State. I spoke with Kentuckians about where we have come over the past 15 months, where we are today, and the bright future we should have ahead.

More than 1.8 million Kentuckians have received COVID vaccines. These medical miracles were created in record time by genius scientists plus Operation Warp Speed. And they are proving the pathway back to normalcy that we had hoped for.

I was happy to get to visit the Baptist Health Hardin Memorial Hospital in Elizabethtown to hear about their vaccination program and to thank the staff for all of their work.

We should be on track for a fantastic American comeback summer, full steam ahead. From vaccinations to job growth, the new Biden administration inherited favorable trends in every direction, thanks to the five bipartisan rescue packages that Congress passed just last year.

But in several important ways, the decisions of elected Democrats have contributed to slowing the return to normalcy. We have seen some State and local officials bow to Big Labor and soft-pedal the clear science on school reopenings. And the big bill that Washington Democrats pushed through a couple of months ago did not require schools to reopen in order to receive even more extra funding.

The President and his team keep sending mixed messages about gatherings and wearing masks that sometimes break from their own CDC's guidance for vaccinated Americans. Again, there almost seems to be some reluctance to let go of emergency measures, even to the point of clashing with science.

And what about our economic recovery? Back in March, Democrats rammed through their so-called American Rescue Plan with a $2 trillion partisan spending spree. It is packed with policies that seem designed for March 2020, not March 2021; for example: continuing to use taxpayer dollars to pay a special bonus for unemployed people to stay home rather than filling one of the growing number of job openings around the country.

Republicans had this crazy idea that with vaccines flooding the country, with COVID–19 in retreat, it was time

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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to actually reopen our country instead of spending even more of working families' tax dollars to keep things shut down.

Well, a few days ago, experts were stunned by a monthly jobs report for April that came in way below expectations. It was the first full month of data collected after the Democrats passed their so-called rescue plan. This bill they sold as a fast-acting, urgent, emergency measure that was going to bolster our economy right away. This report was expected to show that more than a million American workers had gotten jobs back in the month of April. Instead, we added about one-fourth that many jobs.

Now, I had just spent the prior week talking with Kentuckians. I spoke with workers and employers at nearly every size of business from just about every kind of industry, all across the spectrum. And from big national companies to local chambers of commerce, to businesses like Manchester Tank in Campbellsville, we heard optimism but also real concerns—concerns about inflation and runaway costs, concerns about backed-up supply chains.

And as Washington pays workers a bonus to stay unemployed, virtually everyone discussed very real concerns about their difficulties in finding workers who are willing to come back and fill these open positions. Almost every employer I spoke with specifically mentioned the extra generous jobless benefits as a key force holding back our recovery.

Now, I have heard some Democrats say that whatever incentives Washington creates, the responsibility really falls on workers. But my friends on the other side can't use the American people to shield their own bad ideas from scrutiny. Policy matters. Incentives matter.

It is May of 2021. Vaccines are available nationwide. There are millions of jobs open, ''Help Wanted'' signs from coast to coast. We should not still be taxing the Americans who are working to fund continued extra benefits for those staying home.

It is not March of 2020 anymore. It is May of 2021. Kentuckians and all Americans need our Democratic friends to govern accordingly.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, on another matter, yesterday marked the beginning of National Police Week. Under normal circumstance, we would be welcoming police officers across the country here to Washington to share experiences and commemorate brothers and sisters who have fallen in the line of duty.

This year, I understand many of the in-person gatherings have been postponed until this autumn. But we are still remembering our law enforcement officers as we prepare for Police Officers Memorial Day on May 15.

The past year has seen the difficult job of law enforcement become even harder. They have battled the challenges of the historic pandemic. In many places, they have grappled with increased violent crime rates and unrest. And following terrible incidents this past year, the majority of brave and honorable law enforcement officers have too often found themselves painted unfairly with a broad brush, as though their entire profession should be defined by the worst examples.

This year's remembrances will be especially somber here at the Capitol, where we are still mourning Officers Billy Evans, Howie Liebengood, and Brian Sicknick, whom we have lost in a matter of months.

I hope police officers throughout our country, from the Capitol to Kentucky and all 50 States, know how very grateful we are for their courage and for their service.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader is recognized.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, the last time we observed Mother's Day, most of the country could not spend time with their parents or have their kids spend time with them. Standing outside of a window and waving to mom was the closest you could get. I remember that. So this year, I was beyond grateful to celebrate with my mother and my daughters in person. I know the same was true for Americans across the country. As COVID–19 continues to recede—and more than half of eligible adults have received at least one shot of the vaccine after a very painful and difficult year—it was another sign that our country is turning the corner. Praise God.

Now, as we begin this work period, the Senate will continue working to help the country recover and build back stronger than ever. That includes filling vacancies in the executive branch with highly qualified public servants.

This week, the Senate will consider the nomination of Andrea Palm for Deputy HHS Secretary and Cynthia Marten, a teacher of 17 years, to serve as the next Deputy Education Secretary. There will be additional nominations on the floor as the week goes on. At the committee level, at least half a dozen other nominees will have their markups.

There will be plenty of legislative action off the floor as well. Discussions continue on a potential, bipartisan infrastructure bill, gun safety legislation, and policing reform.

On Wednesday, the Senate Commerce Committee will begin to mark up the Endless Frontier Act, bipartisan legislation that would invest in our scientific and technologic capabilities and help the United States outcompete China and other nations in a number of emerging industries. There have been extremely constructive bipartisan talks over the last week, and I am fully supportive of the product that will be considered in Wednesday's committee meeting.

In addition, a number of other Senate committees are working on bipartisan legislation to improve our competitiveness and make the United States a world leader in advanced manufacturing, innovation, and supply chains.

It is my intention to have the full Senate consider comprehensive competitive legislation during this work period.

This week, the Senate Rules Committee will also mark up S. 1, a bill to strengthen our democracy, increase transparency in our campaign finance system, and make it easier for all Americans to vote. The Senate Democratic majority named this bill ''S. 1'' because it is a very top priority. The majority gets to name the first five bills of any new Congress. We picked the For the People Act to be S. 1 for a reason. Make no mistake, we are moving forward with S. 1 in the Rules Committee this week. I will attend the markup tomorrow.

As a reminder to my colleagues, I have committed to bring S. 1 to the floor of the Senate. As the Rules Committee prepares to amend and advance S. 1, our Republican colleagues face a critical choice between working with Democrats in good faith to pass law to protect our democracy or siding with Republican State legislatures that are orchestrating the largest contraction of voting rights in decades. There is no reason our two parties can't work together on S. 1. In fact, the legislation has already been updated and improved. It now includes input from election officials across the country, including Republican election officials.

I am sure we will see additional amendments to mark up tomorrow. For example, I understand my colleague from Georgia, Senator OSSOFF, will offer an amendment to ban States from restricting volunteers from giving food and water to Americans waiting in line to vote. You would think such a provision would be unnecessary, but, sadly, giving voters food or water while they are waiting in long lines has just been criminalized by the State of Georgia.

Look, we know our Republican colleagues don't like every aspect of S. 1, but will they work in good faith to improve it? Will they offer revisions or new ideas to protect voting rights, or,

through uncompromising resistance to commonsense voter protections, will they side with Republican legislatures across the country that are restricting the voting rights in a way that hurts African Americans, Latinos, and younger and poorer Americans? The choice is theirs.

Two final points on this. No. 1, Donald Trump spread the ''big lie.'' We all know it was a big lie that there was massive fraud in the elections. Instead of resisting that lie—so harmful to our democracy because when people don't have faith in the electoral process, it withers faith in our very democracy—so many Republicans in State legislatures and here in the Senate, unfortunately, are spreading that lie.

Second, what has been the tradition of America? It has been to improve the right to vote. At the time of the Constitution, in many States, you had to be a White male Protestant property owner to vote. We have improved on that. We have improved on that beginning in many different ways through the years. What the Republican legislatures are taking is a giant setback—a giant step back in the progress we have made to making this a more perfect union.

Will the Republican Senate, in the Rules Committee tomorrow and later on the floor of the Senate when they bring the bill forward, participate in improving on democracy or in helping, aiding, and abetting the big lie and the giant step backward?

Finally, on State and local aid, today the Treasury Department launched a $350 billion program to deliver aid to State and local governments—funding that Democrats in Congress provided through the American Rescue Plan. After fighting this pandemic on the frontlines, State and local governments in New York and across the country needed help, and they needed it quickly to keep frontline workers on the job and prevent brutal service cuts. Thanks to the American Rescue Plan and the Treasury Department's announcement this morning, we can finally say that help is on the way to State and local governments.

Eligible State, territorial, city, county, and Tribal governments will be able to access funding directly from the Treasury Department in the coming days. State and local governments now need to file applications with Treasury. Once they are processed, money will begin flowing. Let me say that again. State, local, and Tribal governments should prepare to file applications with the Treasury Department for assistance, and I am told the assistance will be quickly forthcoming.

And, State and local government, it is not only available, it is flexible. The Biden administration deserves credit for providing clear guidance in broad categories for spending the money, letting States make their own decisions about how to allocate funds to recover from the pandemic and address immediate needs. Whether it is to support public health systems, small businesses, necessary infrastructure, hard-hit industries like tourism, or premium pay for essential workers, States can use the funding we passed in the American Rescue Plan to help their constituents and their economy recover in a variety of ways.

The Treasury Department's announcement today begins the process of delivering the resources our States and municipalities need to prevent layoffs, keep essential services running, and boost Main Street businesses from one end of the country to the other.

I was proud to successfully push for robust State and local funding in the American Rescue Plan, and I will continue to work with the Biden administration as this funding is distributed.

I yield the floor.

No, I don't yield the floor. I finished my speech, but I have another activity or two to do.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 108.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Ronald Stroman, of the District of Columbia, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2021.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 108, Ronald Stroman, of the District of Columbia, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2021.

Charles E. Schumer, Margaret Wood Hassan, Tammy Duckworth, Jon Tester, John Hickenlooper, Tammy Baldwin, Brian Schatz, Gary C. Peters, Tina Smith, Cory A. Booker, Christopher Murphy, Debbie Stabenow, Richard Blumenthal, Sheldon Whitehouse, Chris Van Hollen, Benjamin L. Cardin, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Alex Padilla.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 109.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Ronald Stroman, of the District of Columbia, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2028. (Reappointment)

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 109, Ronald Stroman, of the District of Columbia, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2028. (Reappointment)

Charles E. Schumer, Margaret Wood Hassan, Tammy Duckworth, Jon Tester, John Hickenlooper, Tammy Baldwin, Brian Schatz, Gary C. Peters, Tina Smith, Cory A. Booker, Christopher Murphy, Debbie Stabenow, Richard Blumenthal, Sheldon Whitehouse, Chris Van Hollen, Benjamin L. Cardin, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Alex Padilla.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 110.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Amber Faye McReynolds, of Colorado, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2026.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 110, Amber Faye McReynolds, of Colorado, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2026.

Charles E. Schumer, Margaret Wood Hassan, Tammy Duckworth, Jon Tester, John Hickenlooper, Tammy Baldwin, Brian Schatz, Gary C. Peters, Tina Smith, Cory A. Booker, Christopher Murphy, Debbie Stabenow, Richard Blumenthal, Sheldon Whitehouse, Chris Van Hollen, Benjamin L. Cardin, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Alex Padilla.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 112.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Donet Dominic Graves, Jr., of Ohio, to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 112, Donet Dominic Graves, Jr., of Ohio, to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce.

Charles E. Schumer, Jon Ossoff, Margaret Wood Hassan, Richard J. Durbin, Sheldon Whitehouse, Ron Wyden, Benjamin L. Cardin, Jacky Rosen, Cory A. Booker, Tammy Duckworth, Tammy Baldwin, Jon Tester, Edward J. Markey, John Hickenlooper, Brian Schatz, Gary C. Peters, Tina Smith, Christopher Murphy.

Mr. SCHUMER. Finally, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, May 10, be waived.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Andrea Joan Palm, of Wisconsin, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The assistant Democratic leader.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

APRIL JOBS REPORT

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, some economists have another name for the recession that we are living through, the one that was caused by the COVID pandemic. They call it a ''she-cession'' because the economic hardships and job losses have fallen disproportionately on women, especially on working mothers. It is ironic that we are having this conversation the day after Mother's Day and reflecting on the current state of American families in the midst of a pandemic but, equally important, on the state of American families and the state of the mothers of those families and the economic realities that they face.

There are 2.5 million American women who have dropped out or were pushed out of the workforce since the start of this pandemic. In a recent ABC News poll, 25 percent of women said they are worse off economically now than they were a year ago compared to 18 percent of men. A survey last fall found that almost 40 percent of working mothers in my State of Illinois—40 percent—lost their jobs or are working reduced hours. Nearly half of all working mothers of color reported the same.

There are many reasons that this recession has been so economically devastating for so many women, but the two biggest reasons are these: Women are overrepresented in the industries that have been hit the hardest by the pandemic: restaurants, retail, leisure and hospitality. Women are also the primary caregivers—in some cases, the only caregivers—in the vast majority of American families. With schools and childcare programs closed, what choice does a working mother have besides stepping back from work?

For millions of American mothers and their families, the stimulus payments, the enhanced unemployment checks, the increased child tax credits, and other economic benefits in the American Rescue Plan have literally been a lifeline. They have enabled these mothers and families to feed their kids and to keep their homes during the worst recession since the Great Depression.

So it has come as a bit of a surprise that our Republican colleagues would choose to start Mother's Day weekend by vowing to end enhanced unemployment benefits for more than 8 million American workers. They cite the April jobs report as their justification. After we added 770,000 jobs in March—a strong showing—we learned last week the U.S. economy added only 266,000 jobs in April. Immediately, our Republican colleagues cited the disappointing jobs numbers as proof that the recovery has clearly stalled and that we have to do more to get people back to work, as if it justifies ending enhanced jobless benefits.

They seem to think that additional unemployment benefits make American workers lazy. They imply that Americans would rather sit at home, watch nonstop Netflix, and eat chocolate-covered cherries rather than go back to work. They must not know many American workers. Americans want to work. Americans work longer and harder than their counterparts in almost every nation in the world. We should be proud of that work ethic and what it has meant to America.

The reason many workers haven't returned to the workplace isn't because they are lazy. People remain afraid of this coronavirus. They lack adequate, affordable childcare. They may be caring for older family members or be dealing with personal health conditions. That is the reality of life in families and, particularly, in struggling, working families. Taking away the enhanced unemployment benefits they need to be able to feed their kids and

pay their rents or mortgages does nothing to change that reality except to make it worse.

Our Republican colleagues will say that the April jobs report is the reason for their renewed determination to stop sending these enhanced checks to the jobless families. The truth is—the real truth is—these Republicans think the Federal Government ought to do the bare minimum to help working families weather this pandemic. That is their credo: Government isn't the solution; government is the problem even during a once-in-a-century health crisis. Whether the economy is adding jobs quickly or slowly, whether the COVID infection and death rates are rising or falling, the Republicans have fought to scale back Federal unemployment benefits for workers.

Not one of our Republican colleagues—let me repeat that—not one of our Republican Senate colleagues voted for the American Rescue Plan. Remember that one? That was the plan by President Biden that put more money into the purchase of vaccines; that finally set up a nationwide effort to administer those vaccines; that sent the $1,400 cash check to working families—a check that had been promised by the previous administration—that gave an additional helping hand to small businesses to get through the pandemic; and that did, in fact, increase or, I should say, lengthen the period of time that people would be eligible for unemployment benefits.

That is a pretty good, important package; don't you think? When you look at what it did for America, it came just in the nick of time for many. You would have thought, wouldn't you, with 50 Republican Senators, that one—one—Republican Senator would have supported those things. Unfortunately, that wasn't the case.

There are things we can do to get this economy moving again. We need to encourage more Americans to get vaccinated, No. 1. President Biden has done a remarkable job, but we still have work to do. We shouldn't sit back and relax. Every person vaccinated is another person protected. Also, the people around them are protected. The fundamental fact remains, as we talk about all of the economics and all of the government philosophy, our economy cannot recover completely until this virus is under control.

In addition, if the Republicans want to solve the problems facing our workforce, there are pretty obvious answers: Sit down, and talk to a working mother who lost a job, who has a child at home, perhaps a young child, and ask her: Well, how soon can you get back to work?

Her question back to you: Senator, how soon can you take care of my little boy? How much is it going to cost me?

That is the reality. The daycare center is probably closed, and the babysitter may not be available. There are lots of reasons. It just may be too expensive. That is the reality of work for American workers today. That mother isn't lazy. That mother faces a challenge that not one of us wants to see in our families. Either our children or grandchildren, we don't want them to be pawns in this whole public debate about when we are going to start or stop helping families.

We need to face this workforce problem because it is really key to it, this childcare crisis in this country. Do we care enough about families and children to make sure there is affordable daycare? President Biden does. He is talking about a program nationwide, thank goodness, which will finally address this issue and put a goal in place to keep the cost of daycare manageable for every family regardless of its means.

So what did the Republican Senate leader say last week? He said he was 100-percent focused—100-percent focused—on stopping the Biden administration. That is an echo of what he said in the first, early days of the Obama Presidency. He came to the floor, and instead of talking about what we could do to work together to try to find some bipartisan ground, he said that he hoped to do everything he could to make sure that Barack Obama was a one-term President. It didn't take him long to come back with a similar statement with regard to the Biden Presidency.

It is not encouraging, but I am encouraged by the fact that there are some Republicans who just don't agree with it. I hope that they will step up. I hope that they will show that we can still work on a bipartisan basis. This ''100-percent'' stopping the Biden administration from Senator MCCONNELL cannot be the basis for a successful congressional session.

The Senate Democrats have an agenda; it is true. We are 100-percent focused on getting this pandemic under control and building a better future for our families. We would like to work with our Republican colleagues to do it. Although they didn't join us, for example, on the child tax credit, I do believe that they really care about the children in America, particularly the poor children in America, and care enough to want to help them with daycare, with early kindergarten classes, with extending the school year beyond the 12th grade for skills that are needed.

The Presiding Officer knows this well because we come from the same State. Last week, I had an exciting visit in Normal, IL. Things are not normal in Normal, IL. They are exceedingly beyond normal. I visited the Rivian plant. The Rivian plant has an incredible story.

It used to be the Mitsubishi auto plant. Six years ago, it closed. One thousand workers were on the payroll at the time they lost their jobs, good-paying jobs. And there sat that empty factory out on the cornfields just west of Bloomington-Normal.

The mayor of the town, Chris Koos, called me a year after the Mitsubishi plant had closed and said: ''Senator, I think I've got a buyer.'' I said: ''Chris, what are you drinking?'' ''No,'' he says, ''I really believe there's a new company that makes electric vehicles that's really interested in the Mitsubishi plant.''

Well, he was right, and thank goodness he was. Fast forward 4 years later, and a visit last week, he showed this amazing facility, which is now going to be expanded because of the plant that is going to build electric vehicles. They already have models on the floor that you can see of SUVs, trucks, and delivery vans for Amazon. Amazon is a major investor in Rivian.

And we are not just seeing it in Normal. We are seeing evidence that our State, the State of Illinois, has a chance to become an EV State.

I looked up in the Will County area. The Governor was there last week, talking about help for a plant that is going to build the heavy trucks and buses that are needed—electric vehicles for the future.

Go to Libertyville, IL, and there is a Dutch supplier of power generating equipment that is relocating some of its facilities in our State.

And at the same time, Argonne Laboratory has been doing research on battery technology and leading the Nation in doing it for years, and we believe it is a combination that really pays off.

So how will our State or any State tap into this new economy? With trained and skilled workers, with families that don't have to worry day in and day out about daycare.

We have to make sure that we are ready in Illinois and across the Nation for this opportunity. President Biden does. He understands it because he understands the challenges to working families.

I can't understand the opposition of the Republicans in Congress to President Biden. They seem to be determined to make sure that America always finishes a solid second. The Biden administration disagrees, and I do too.

We have the capacity to continue to lead the world and to continue to lead the world's economy, but it isn't by sitting back and patting ourselves on the back and talking about who won the last election. We have to roll up our sleeves on a bipartisan basis and get this workforce ready and stand behind our families that send these workers into the plants that are going to create the products that are going to make a success story out of the 21st century. That is what President Biden is for, and I couldn't agree with him more.

I want to sit down and talk with any Republican who is willing to be honest and serious about doing this together, and we also ought to take on the other issues that we know plague our economy and our families—reducing the cost of prescription drugs, building an infrastructure for the 21st century.

The truth is that last week's job report is a ringing endorsement for the American Jobs Plan and the American Families Plan of President Biden.

Thanks to the American Rescue Plan, more than 220 million shots have been administered, and more than 100 million Americans have been fully vaccinated, allowing businesses all across America to start to reopen. We need to build on the success of the American Rescue Plan, not dismantle it piece by piece. We need to work together to invest in workers and families for the 21st century, not grind Congress to a halt, as some might prefer.

The American Jobs Plan will enable American workers and businesses to build on those successes. It will help reduce barriers for entry to many workers. It will direct billions of dollars toward helping dislocated workers develop new skills and secure a stable, well-paying job, building wind turbines or electric vehicles or making other American-made goods that will be in high demand in the years to come.

Another priority for Democrats is throwing a lifeline to working parents. Fortunately, we have made some progress on that front with the child tax credit expansion and other provisions in the American Rescue Plan. Those policies put more money in the pockets of middle-class and low-income working families in the midst of the worst economic recession we have seen in decades.

When President Trump left office, 30 million Americans couldn't afford to put food on the table. Think about that. Just 1 month after the American Rescue Plan, that number was reduced to 17 million, and we should never accept that or any number as acceptable in the future. We have cut the number of Americans going hungry by nearly half since President Biden took office, but we still have work to do.

We need to provide more relief to parents so they can work a full-time job, if they choose, without having to worry about finding a safe, reliable place for the kids. We have to ensure that low- and middle-income families pay no more than 7 percent, that is what President Biden is asking, no more than 7 percent income on high-quality childcare. And that is on top of billions of dollars in funding the American Jobs Plan would invest in building and retrofitting childcare facilities across our State and Nation.

Last week's job report is a wake-up call. We can't just wish this crisis away. We have to act and act together. We can't reopen our economy fully until the virus is under control, and then we can't wait for 10 years to get back on track to where we were a year and a half ago.

We can't build a prosperous economy for the future unless we address some of the systemic shortcomings that prevent too many workers from participating fully. Even if next month's job report exceeds expectations, such as the one in March, we need to rebuild our economy and put working families at the center of it, and make bold investments in the future right now.

We can keep good jobs in America and build industries that have a future if we are ready to invest in American families.

I hope our Republican colleagues will not say: Let's go slow; let's be satisfied with second. You know, maybe we just can't compete with some other countries in the world.

I don't buy it. If we believe in America and its workers, we need to invest in them and their future. It is time to think bigger. It is time to believe that this country has a future which is going to be bright if we come together and do our job to stand by working families and the men and women—and, in this moment, particularly the women—who need that helping hand.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. DUCKWORTH). The Senator from Alabama.

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, President Biden promised unity to bring the country together during his inaugural address. I was there with my 26-year-old son Tucker. We listened together and hoped that President Biden would live up to his words. I assumed that when he said he would be a President for all Americans, it also included the 75 million Americans who voted for Donald Trump.

I was ready, and I still am, to work with President Biden in good faith to find commonsense solutions to problems facing the country and to ensure the voices of Alabamians are heard. But, so far, the President has neither united nor reached across the aisle. His actions have shown that he is fine to play along with the divisive tactics of the progressive left, rather than unite a large and diverse country.

President Biden is acting like he is the President of New York and California, not the United States of America. The progressives can barely contain their excitement. The President received glowing reviews from leading progressive Members of Congress, saying the President has ''exceeded expectations.''

The left have been waiting a long time for an administration to implement their vision. They need to use a Trojan horse to put that vision into practice because it is remarkably unpopular with a majority of the American people.

Their vision is unpopular because it centers around a core belief of imposing their vision on everyone. But to achieve this, that means taking away your freedom—freedom to think differently, freedom to worship differently, freedom for you and your family to live differently, freedom to spend your hard-earned money the way you want to spend it.

Taking away those freedoms—freedoms that are the foundation of America—is not progress. It is called socialism.

When progressives talk about equity, they mean equal outcomes, not opportunities. They want a government that is so powerful it owns everything and chooses how wealth is distributed to ensure equal outcomes. That, in essence, is socialism, and the folks promoting this vision are channeling the same energy as the Marxists and communists of the 20th century.

Well, so far, President Biden has been a more willing partner to champion the progressive vision and export it from New York and California to every corner of the entire country. Just look at what has happened lately. One of President Biden's first moves was to signal to the world that America's borders are open. The result? Absolute chaos. And the administration shows little interest in fixing it. We cannot have a country without borders. That is common sense.

Democrats were so eager to undo all the work President Trump did at the border just because President Trump did it, not because there was merit in rolling back these policies. Because of this insane, open-door policy, the American taxpayer—not the Biden administration but the American taxpayer—is footing a $60 million bill a week—$60 million a week—to cover the cost of housing unaccompanied minors at the border—60 million.

In the same rush, Democrats are working to undermine the integrity of the election process through H.R. 1 and S. 1, the Federal Government takeover of our elections.

They are working to force millions of workers to join unions. They all want to strip States of their right-to-work laws, called the PRO Act.

Democrats are using things Americans desperately need, like traditional infrastructure, as a smokescreen for things Americans desperately don't want, like the fantasy Green New Deal.

And now Democrats in both Chambers have introduced legislation to expand the Supreme Court. And because they don't have the votes to ram this through the Senate—such an extreme agenda—many Democrats want to eliminate the filibuster, despite the fact that many wrote a letter asking to keep the filibuster just a few years ago, when they were in the minority.

The bottom line is that the Democrats want to change the rules so they can get their way, because they are to the point where they want to transform our country, so said some of our leaders.

As concerning as each of these actions have been, even more alarming are the progressives' efforts to indoctrinate our children by favoring fringe theories over actual learning. For example, the California Department of Education is considering using a curriculum that says: ''The concept of mathematics being purely objective is unequivocally false.'' Their goal is to ''dismantle racism in mathematics.''

Apparently, two plus two does not equal four anymore because it is not

politically correct. And just last year, the United States ranked 37th in the world in math—what a disaster.

But here is the worst of all. The U.S. Department of Education recently introduced a rule that would direct millions—millions—of taxpayer dollars to schools that promised teaching critical race theory and the 1619 Project for American history and civics.

Put aside for a minute that these theories have been routinely debunked by historians and actively seek to divide Americans on strict racial lines. Critical race theory's central belief is that the law and legal institutions of the United States are inherently racist—so racist, they believe, that these institutions cannot be redeemed and must be completely replaced. The goal should be to have better laws and better application of those laws, not to tear them down.

For pushing this, it is not about uniting our country, it is about fanning the flames of the unfortunate human tendency to divide and separate into different tribes instead of uniting us around a set of common morals.

Shouldn't we be fighting that impulse to divide into groups against each other? I think we need to do more uniting, and that should start in our schools, which is why I cannot believe that the U.S. Government is spending taxpayer dollars to teach our kids to dislike our country. How low have we sunk? These ideas are designed to drive a wedge between Americans based solely on their skin color. They openly reject the goal of the United States of liberty and justice for all.

Our schools should be places that encourage the open debate of ideas and teach important morals to our young people so that they know right from wrong. That is why I joined Leader MCCONNELL and 38 of my Republican colleagues to send a letter to Education Secretary Cordona, urging him to withdraw these divisive grant programs. Part of our letter reads:

> Families did not ask for this divisive nonsense. Voters did not vote for it. Americans never decided our children should be taught that our country is inherently evil.

Secretary Cordona should redirect these grant dollars to American history programs that teach the ideals and morals that have made the United States the greatest force for good in human history.

I spent my career in education—40 years. I have seen firsthand how a quality education can put a kid on the path to success in our great country, regardless of their race, religion, or economic background. When done right, education is the key to freedom. But the education we see in many schools today is just cementing existing inequality rather than giving kids the chance to escape it.

We have got a clear trend here: undermine border security, undermine the election system, undermine the Supreme Court, undermine the Senate, undermine our education system, undermine our country. If your goal is to deconstruct and completely reshape a country, these are the steps that you would take.

Our country is not perfect. There is a lot we have got to work on. But here in the United States of America, citizens have freedom and opportunities, and that is what we need to be focused on, not giving handouts, not dismantling our institutions but creating opportunity.

We have the ability to make it better. We have the rules to do so. Those rules are in place so that all of us can respect, if not always agree with, the changes that are made to make this country better. That is called democracy. But changing the rules to force one's vision on everyone isn't democracy; it is tyranny. My Republican colleagues and I will continue to stand against that. That is what America was founded on, after all, and it is what America needs now.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

NOMINATION OF ANDREA JOAN PALM

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President and colleagues, very shortly, the Senate will vote on whether or not to advance the nomination of Andrea Palm to serve as the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. I strongly urge the Senate to support this nominee because Ms. Palm knows every nook and cranny at the Department. I will tell my colleagues, there is experience, and then there is Andrea Palm's experience.

During the Obama administration, Ms. Palm served in multiple senior roles at the Department of Health and Human Services, including serving as the Department's Chief of Staff.

She also served in the White House as a senior adviser on the Domestic Policy Council. Very importantly, she has played a particularly strong role in looking at policies to tackle the pandemic. She served recently as the head of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. That put her on the frontlines against COVID–19. There she was a coalition builder. She brought together the State government, the healthcare sector, public health experts, and more to protect the people of Wisconsin and save lives.

She led a collaborative effort to build the State's testing and contact tracing program. And thanks to her hard work, Wisconsin, on a number of particulars, has moved ahead in the country on vaccinations.

Ms. Palm started her career in social work, helping vulnerable kids and their families during times of crisis. During her Finance Committee hearing, she talked about how that experience set her on a path toward public service and how it is going to help her when she returns to the Department of Health and Human Services.

She also mentioned a story that I thought was particularly relevant in these days of polarized government. She mentioned that former Secretary Burwell put her in charge of what was called the common ground agenda. Secretary Burwell knew that Ms. Palm brought people together, Democrats and Republicans, to tackle big challenges.

She said—and I note that there is a senior member of the Finance Committee here, our colleague from Texas. She said to our committee that the common ground agenda is the perspective she is going to bring to the Department. You can sure sign me up to that proposition because there is a lot that needs to be done, as my colleagues know, when it comes to big healthcare challenges.

I mentioned Ms. Palm is going to have to hit the ground running when it comes to the pandemic response as one issue. And my colleague from Texas knows, we are in the middle of a transformation of Medicare.

Back when I was director of the senior citizens—the Gray Panthers, Medicare was an acute care program. If you broke your ankle, Medicare was there for you. If you had a horrible case of flu, Medicare was there for you. Madam President and colleagues, that is not Medicare today.

Today's Medicare is chronic disease, cancer, diabetes, heart disease, and strokes. Millions of seniors have two or more of these conditions. In 2017, the Finance Committee, on a bipartisan basis, led the passage of the Chronic Care Act, dealing with modernizing Medicare, and we are very much looking forward to working again on a bipartisan basis with Ms. Palm and Secretary Becerra because there is a lot to do here, particularly as it relates to traditional Medicare.

My colleague and I know together, because we have worked on these issues, that Medicare Advantage has really moved forward on many of these particulars, and we have got a lot to do on traditional Medicare. Ms. Palm is going to be instrumental in that effort.

We also know, on another issue the Finance Committee is dealing with—that millions of Americans feel that they are getting mugged when they walk up to the prescription drug counter at their pharmacy. It is long past time for the Congress to step up and act to bring down the cost of people's medicine. The Senate Finance Committee has worked in a bipartisan way on that. There are other approaches that I support, particularly giving Medicare the authority to negotiate and hold down prices. But we can work together in a bipartisan way on prescription drugs.

Finally, there is an enormous agenda ahead of us in terms of major issues surrounding mental health care. I was given a report by the GAO just a few days ago that really highlights how we have seen so many people falling between the cracks in the mental healthcare system as a result of the pandemic; you know, rural seniors, for example, young people who perhaps are

facing learning challenges. They haven't taken to remote learning. The law says that mental healthcare and physical healthcare are supposed to be treated equally, but based on this GAO report that was just given to me a few days ago, that is not the case.

So that is just a handful—a handful of the major issues that Ms. Palm will have on her plate. It is critically important that we have all hands on deck there. This is a person who knows the Department front to back.

When we vote here in a bit, with respect to advancing her nomination, I hope that the U.S. Senate, on a bipartisan basis, will vote for a proven healthcare leader, somebody who is committed to expanding and improving healthcare, who really understands the nuts and bolts of building healthcare coalitions in America.

I see the Presiding Officer of the Senate who has been involved in this work in her State, the State of Illinois. We need these top-notch individuals who have been willing to serve, who are experts in their fields. That is what makes Ms. Palm so qualified for this position.

I support her nomination fully. I urge my colleagues, when we vote this afternoon at 5:30, to advance this important nomination.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

DOMESTIC MANUFACTURING

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, this has been a tough year since COVID–19 became a global pandemic. There are many lessons to be learned from this pandemic. One of them that jumps out at me as being abundantly obvious is the real-world consequences of vulnerable supply chains.

We almost began to believe, because cheap consumer goods could be made in China or someplace overseas, that that was the optimal arrangement. And certainly consumers in America have benefited from low prices when it comes to a number of things that are not made in this country. But some of the things that we depend upon, whether it is for public health or to keep our economy going or for our national security, are dependent on vulnerable supply chains.

Perhaps the easiest one for everybody to identify with was the shortage of personal protective equipment. I remember when I called my Governor in Texas, he said: Two things you can get us—more PPE and more testing.

Well, we produce so much testing capability now you don't hear much about that. But it was true that our hospitals needed masks, gloves, gowns, and ventilators to keep our frontline healthcare workers safe as well as other patients. At one point the situation became so dire, when it came to personal protective equipment, that first responders asked the public to help boost their supplies. They welcomed donations of N–95 masks from folks who had extra boxes in their garage or gloves from hair salons that had closed their doors. We didn't reach that point because of the lack of preparation by those hospitals or healthcare workers but because of our reliance on other countries to produce that essential medical gear.

China, it will surprise no one, is a major supplier of PPE. And since much of their stock was sent to hot spots in the earliest days of the pandemic, including in Wuhan, we were left to rely on the relatively small number of domestic manufacturers here in the United States.

But I am here today not to talk about PPE but another supply chain breakdown with far-reaching consequences, and this time it is semiconductors. While semiconductors are something that perhaps most people are not intimately familiar with—but let me put it this way: Anything that has an on-off switch involves a semiconductor.

They are the underlying technology in our most used products, things like cell phones, computers, cars, televisions, dishwashers. That is right, just about anything with an on-off switch. These are small integrated circuits that keep getting smaller and smaller and smaller, which means you can put them on a device like this; whereas, in the past, you may recall, Madam President, I remember the first cell phones that came out looked like a brick, but because semiconductors got so much more sophisticated and so much more powerful, you can put hundreds, perhaps thousands, of them on a device like this. These chips are necessary not just for consumer products but for other things as well, like the cell towers that keep us connected and the advanced weapon systems that support our national security. Even ventilators at hospitals require semiconductors.

In short, we need semiconductors for our most prevalent and critical products, but the vast majority of chips are no longer made in the United States. Taiwan dominates semiconductor manufacturing, and one company, Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company, virtually controls the market. Last month, TSMC accounted for more than half of the total foundry revenues. Foundries are the manufacturing facilities that make semiconductors. Companies in Taiwan control 63 percent of the global market.

Well, you don't have to look very far to see what a supply chain breakdown might look like because currently we are getting a taste of what it is like to not have access to the semiconductors that the U.S. economy needs. Right now, the demand for chips far exceeds supply. There is a global shortage of semiconductors that is creating serious impacts in nearly every industry, from consumer electronics to national security.

Texas is home to companies across a whole range of affected industries, and last week, I was able to sit down with leaders from a few of those companies in Dallas to learn more about the impact of this shortage.

We heard from a Hewlett Packard executive about the difficulties this has created in consumer electronic manufacturing covering a whole gamut of products.

An executive from Raytheon, a national defense company, talked about how a steady supply of chips is important to our national security. These tiny technologies, these tiny circuits help support American warfighters around the globe.

We know now that the auto industry is among the hardest hit, and I heard from leaders last week from General Motors and Toyota about how their companies are coping. Chris Nielsen from Toyota said that when he first started with the company, you could count the number of chips on a given vehicle on two hands. That is certainly not the case today. Think about all the high-tech features in cars these days—navigation devices, Bluetooth, automatic braking, backup cameras, and a variety of sensors. All of those depend on semiconductors, and that is on top of standard features like power steering, electric windows, air-conditioning, and windshield wipers. This adds up to dozens and dozens of chips for the various components of a single vehicle, and that supply is getting harder and harder to come by.

At the beginning of the pandemic, automaker suppliers predicted a drop in car sales and canceled existing chip orders. Semiconductor manufacturers replaced the auto chip capacity with other in-demand things like personal computers for kids learning at home or more ventilators to use with COVID–19 patients. But Americans kept buying cars at the prepandemic level.

Unfortunately, the shortage of semiconductor manufacturing capacity and the long lead time for chip making has meant a shortage of chips that will likely last through the summer for the auto industry, and it has forced many auto makers to slash production because they simply don't have enough chips, and they are laying workers off. Some have shifted production to focus on the most in-demand models, while others removed some of the tech bells and whistles.

But the impact goes far beyond the options available on a car lot. For every production or assembly line that is cut, there are hard-working men and women who lose their jobs, as I said. As a reminder, this industry reaches across virtually every business and every national security company in America—automotive, consumer electronics; everything from the F–35, our fifth-generation stealth fighter, down to your cell phone, agriculture. Some of them even power children's toys.

Well, there is a clear problem with this vulnerable supply chain, and the question is, How do we fix it? How do we solve it? When we faced supply chain shortages at the start of the pandemic, companies of all types began to shift their manufacturing to help alleviate some of the strain. Distilleries

in Texas and across the country began making hand sanitizer, and everyone, from big clothing manufacturers to entrepreneurial kids, produced cloth face masks. But with semiconductors, it is not that simple. In order to build a single chip, you need a very expensive, highly advanced piece of equipment. You also need skilled workers, and you need a lot of lead time. It can take months to create a single chip.

Building a new foundry, which is a manufacturing facility, is a huge and expensive undertaking. A single foundry can cost upwards of $10 to $20 billion. Yes, that is with a ''b.'' It is $10 to $20 billion for a single foundry.

During our conversations last week in Dallas, a Qorvo executive talked about how the process of building a new chip fab isn't just expensive, it takes a lot of time. It can take years to receive all of the necessary equipment.

Time is of the essence, and fortunately a solution is not as daunting as it could seem. In part because of the dependency of this vulnerable supply chain, particularly with Taiwan, Senator MARK WARNER, chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, and I introduced the CHIPS for America Act to help bolster our domestic semiconductor manufacturing. When we first introduced this bill, the chip shortage wasn't nearly as pervasive as it is now, but the writing has been on the wall for years.

As our reliance on semiconductors has steadily increased, the U.S. share of global semiconductor manufacturing has decreased. Since 2000, the United States has dropped from producing roughly a quarter of the world's semiconductors to only 12 percent. And I am sure it comes as no surprise that as our manufacturing capacity has gone down, China's has gone up. In the same period of time, China has gone from manufacturing zero chips to 16 percent of the world's supply, and it plans to invest another $1.4 trillion in semiconductor technologies.

Yes, America has lost ground to our global competitors, and unless we take action, it is estimated that by 2030, 83 percent of global semiconductor manufacturing will be in Asia. This presents a huge risk to both our national security and our global competitiveness, and we need to take action now to reverse the tide.

That is what the CHIPS for America Act will do. The premise of this legislation is straightforward: create a Federal incentive program to encourage chip manufacturing in the United States of America. Rather than relying on foreign manufacturers or competing against other countries for the small supply of chips, let's bolster the supply of American-made semiconductors. This way, we can secure some of our most vulnerable supply chains. We can create thousands of well-paying American jobs and boost our global competitiveness by supplying made-in-America chips to our friends and allies around the world.

In the 1980s, President Reagan and Congress led the defense budget buildup to counter military-based, geostrategic threats that contributed to the end of the Cold War. This legislation fills a similar purpose by securing our critical supply chain from the ever-evolving economic and national security challenges ahead.

Other governments have made similar investments in semiconductor manufacturing—not only China but South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, and Germany, among others, including a more than $100 billion pledge to boost semiconductor manufacturing in the European Union. It is time for the United States not to just follow suit but to lead.

The CHIPS for America Act has received broad bipartisan support both in the House and the Senate, and it became law in January. That is the authorization part, but now we have the important job of backing these programs with funding.

Back in February, I spoke to President Biden about the importance of getting this done, and I am glad to say that there is bipartisan, bicameral support, and the administration has made this a priority as well.

Last month, I sent a letter to President Biden urging him to prioritize funding for these initiatives, and more than 70 colleagues, Republicans and Democrats from the House and the Senate, cosigned the letter. If we are looking for something important to do that has broad bipartisan support in both the House and the Senate and is supported by the Biden administration, this is it.

Bolstering domestic semiconductors is good for our economy, our national security, and our global competitiveness. This current shortage is a reminder of how critical it is to take action today so a lean supply of semiconductors does not become the new normal. We have a big opportunity ahead of us, and success is our only option.

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. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

POLICE DEPARTMENTS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, today I want to discuss an unfortunate trend that has grown over the last year.

Since March of 2020, the United States has been battling COVID–19. We have lost over half a million Americans because of the virus. But I am talking about another tragedy today, and that is the tragedy that I call ''war on the cops.''

Two months after the pandemic hit and sparked by the death of George Floyd, cities all across the country broke out into violent riots. Much of that violence has been directed at law enforcement, and it has taken a very serious toll.

During the 2020 riots, more than 900 law enforcement officers were injured, including 277 officer injuries while defending the Federal courthouse in Portland and 60 Secret Service officers defending the White House. In September, a gunman ambushed two Los Angeles sheriff police deputies as they sat in their squad car. In January 2020, a violent mob attacked police defending the Capitol. Just last month, a young man killed a Capitol Police officer performing his duties.

Police across the country are suffering from demoralization and fatigue. By the end of last summer, police officers were quitting the force in large numbers. Last August, 49 officers retired from the Portland Police Bureau in Oregon. That is more than it lost in all of 2019. By the end of last summer, 140 officers had quit the Atlanta Police Department by that point in the year. That number had been only 80 in the previous year. In Washington, DC, over 300 officers have quit since last June. Only half of those were retirements; the other half just walked away.

We must consider, what does that mean for the crime in these cities? In Portland, murders increased 60 percent in 2020 from the year before. Arsons were up 95 percent. In Atlanta, murders were up 62 percent in 2020 from the year before. Aggravated assault was up by 15 percent. In Washington, DC, here, murders were up 22 percent in 2020 from the year before. So far this year, murders are up even more—33 percent so far in 2021 compared to this point last year. Professor Paul Cassell at the University of Utah estimates that reduced policing in dangerous neighborhoods last year caused an additional 1,200 homicides in America's largest cities.

But the problem isn't just with keeping police officers on the force; there is also a problem with getting new ones as well, including in my State of Iowa. Recently, the Des Moines Police Department reported it had received half the applications it did last year. At the county level, the Polk County Sheriff's Office usually gets hundreds of applications for deputy vacancies but recently got only 50 applications. The Council Bluffs Police Department told me at one of my recent county meetings that it was having the same recruiting difficulties.

This is a problem that police departments are having all over the country, with hundreds of vacancies across cities like Louisville, New York, Philadelphia, and Portland. How could this be? Well, for the last year, there has been a lot of hatred and vitriol directed at the police. If a police officer uses excessive force, he or she should suffer the consequences, but it often seems like our national media would have us believe that any use of force by police is unjustified.

Even Members of Congress sometimes join this sort of demagoguery. A month ago, Congresswoman RASHIDA TLAIB tweeted, ''No more policing, incarceration, and militarization. It can't be reformed.'' Back in January, Congresswoman CORI BUSH tweeted, ''Defunding the police isn't radical, it's real.'' This sort of talk is dangerous for people in neighborhoods that depend heavily on police officers to keep them safe.

Law enforcement officers have to make split-second decisions that could be the difference of life or death for themselves or someone they are trying to protect. That is what we train them to do. Sadly, we sometimes need them to use force in order to keep the rest of us safe.

Now, we are used to seeing videos on the internet of police officers using deadly force. But if you want to see really good policing in action, I would suggest people look at another video. It is on the internet. Just do a simple search of ''Los Angeles deputy Mercedes Benz.'' You will come across a video of a Los Angeles sheriff's deputy doing a routine traffic stop of a driver who had been using her phone while behind the wheel. In this video, the driver calls the deputy a ''murderer'' and then mocks him for being Hispanic and taunts him for supposedly wishing he were White. That video will make your stomach turn. But throughout the video, the deputy is courteous and professional. I suspect nearly all enforcement officers conduct themselves and their work in that way. They have a very hard job to do and deal with people who often don't want to deal with the police. Most of them do that job very professionally and respectfully.

I worry that because of the threat of violence, the condemnation by the media, and daily abuses like this one, more and more police officers won't want to do the job anymore. And I worry that more and more young adults won't want to start careers in law enforcement. We need more qualified people who want to be police officers, not fewer.

We can't keep up like this. We can't keep scaring away our police officers while telling the next generations of Americans that cops are evil. They are not evil. They are our friends and neighbors who make a career out of keeping us safe. When the outside world becomes a dangerous place, they show up and we expect them to show up.

The outside world is not going to stop being a dangerous place. Let's make sure cops don't stop showing up. Let's end the war on cops.

CHINA

On another subject, Madam President, dealing with my oversight work, on March 10 of this year, I came to the floor about my February 11, 2021, oversight letter to the Biden administration's Department of Homeland Security. That letter discussed the administration's withdrawal of what has been called the Confucius rule associated with the country of China and probably more closely related to the Communist Party of China. The rule that was withdrawn was proposed in the Trump administration, and it would have required educational institutions to just simply disclose their financial connection to the Communist Chinese Government, including its Confucius Institutes.

The substance of the rule is common sense, especially in light of the clear propaganda threat that the regime of China presents to us. It is common sense, so why wouldn't the Biden administration continue with it?

In my letter, I ask Secretary Mayorkas two very simple questions:

One, does the Biden Department of Homeland Security consider Confucius Institutes to be an extension of the Chinese Government? If not, why not?

Second question: Does the Biden Department of Homeland Security consider Confucius Institutes to be purveyors of Communist Chinese propaganda? If not, why not?

When I took to the floor on March 10, the Biden administration had failed to respond. As of today, still no response. These are very easy questions for the administration. The failure to answer in light of the ongoing threat is very troubling.

Just the other week, the Justice Department indicted an American professor on two counts of wire fraud and one count of making a false statement for concealing support he received from the Chinese Government. The indictment tells me this administration has concerns about China and our universities, or this action would not have been taken.

During the course of my oversight activities, I have looked at both threats to taxpayer-funded research and threats that Confucius Institutes pose to our educational institutions. Simply put, these are real concerns.

With respect to threats to taxpayer-funded research, we must protect our intellectual property and research. The Chinese are stealing our intellectual property every day. We all know that.

We spend billions of dollars and expend a great amount of effort to bring innovations to this country and, in turn, the world. We must protect our American investments from Chinese espionage and theft.

Likewise, we must guard against the propaganda spread by Confucius Institutes, which are extensions of the Communist regime.

One member of the Communist regime said this:

> The Confucius Institute is an appealing brand for expanding our culture abroad. It has made an important contribution toward improving our soft power. The ''Confucius'' brand has a natural attractiveness. Using the excuse of teaching Chinese language, everything looks reasonable and logical.

Now, I want to quote the Chinese Minister of Propaganda, who said to his fellow ministry workers:

> [C]oordinate the efforts of overseas and domestic propaganda, [and] further create a favorable international environment for us.
>
> With regard to key issues that influence our sovereignty and safety, we should actively carry out international propaganda battles against issues such as Tibet . . . Taiwan, human rights.
>
> Our strategy is to proactively take our culture abroad. We should do well in establishing operating overseas cultural centers and Confucius Institutes.

Why would any American doubt China's purpose for Confucius Institutes based upon the quote of that Minister? Yet, even with this very clear threat, the Biden administration is silent on the proposed rule other than their getting caught retracting that Trump rule. What more does this administration need before they get the picture?

Given the administration's failure to act, I have introduced a bill, S. 1369, that would make the rule that they have withdrawn now a law. My bill, which is cosponsored by Senators BLACKBURN, TILLIS, and HAWLEY, would require U.S. educational institutions to disclose their financial connections with the Communist Chinese regime. My bill would accomplish these measures by requiring schools to disclose those connections as part of their certification and recertification in the Student and Exchange Visitor Program. That program provides approvals to schools to enroll nonimmigrant students. If the schools want visas for these foreign students, they will first have to disclose their ties to the Chinese Government.

The centerpiece of the bill I just described is disclosure and transparency, and we all know that transparency brings accountability. We the people absolutely have a right to know if our educational institutions are tied to the hip with China, especially in light of that regime's using money to gain leverage over many of them, which brings me, then, to a greater point. American educational institutions ought to stand up to the Communist regime instead of doing their bidding for the millions of dollars they receive.

China is a national security threat. They are a propaganda machine, and we know they will stop at nothing in their attempt to dominate the world.

It is time for the Biden administration to step up to the plate and protect our American interests and American institutions. If they don't let that rule of the previous administration stay in place or put it back in place, I would urge my colleagues to join my transparency bill.

ELECTION SECURITY

Madam President, on one final point, I would like to call once again for both sides to stop using elections as a partisan weapon.

As I have mentioned before, the claim by some Trump supporters that a certain brand of voting machine switched votes was lifted entirely from the Democrats' 2004 playbook. President Trump's questioning of his loss in Georgia was simply following in the

footsteps of the losing candidate for Governor 2 years before. She lost by over 50,000 votes and has never even bothered to try to prove voting irregularities on that scale.

Just ask Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger, who got into hot water from Trump supporters and was briefly celebrated by the Democrats for defending the integrity of the Georgia election. He will be the first to tell you that attacks on Georgia's election system started not with Trump but with Democrats.

Democrats decided to take their partisan election attack nationwide. This is what led to H.R. 1, the so-called by Speaker PELOSI For the People Act. The title alone reveals it as a propaganda bill. They didn't take the time to draft something from scratch since the purpose was partisan messaging, not enacting thoughtful reform of our election laws. They just cobbled together every election mandate bill introduced by a Democrat in recent years into one giant package, taking little care to make sure it all made sense together and without working with local election officials to see if it was even a practical approach.

Democrats have now reframed the same bill in a response to what they call the big lie, that the 2020 election was illegitimate, but it was actually written in 2019 to double down on Democrats' own big lie questioning the legitimacy of the various elections they lost in 2018.

America's elections are free and fair. That is true in Iowa, in Georgia, and all 50 States. It was true in 2018 and in 2020, and I am confident it will be true in 2022.

Foreign adversaries like Russia and China cast doubt on the soundness of our democratic system both to weaken it from within and to justify their own repressive regimes. Influence efforts to do just that have been part of the KGB playbook for decades. But foreign agents can't hold a candle to what we Americans are doing to ourselves. Casting doubt on elections may be good politics in the short run, but it does real damage in the long run. Let's all agree to stop this sort of peddling of doubts about the elections.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

JOBS

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, I hope that you had a marvelous Mother's Day. I enjoyed so much being back in Tennessee, and over the past week, I really had the pleasure of hearing from so many Tennesseans who are just celebrating having reopened businesses and music venues and public spaces in our communities.

There was a lot of happiness across our State as I was there. Everywhere you looked, you could see evidence that people are ready to get back to work, and they want to get back to life as normal.

There is also a lot of evidence that local businesses are ready to get back to normal. You cannot walk 10 feet in Knoxville, TN, for example, without running into a ''help wanted'' sign. Normally, this would be an indicator of a successful economic comeback, but here is the problem: Those signs just are not working, not for retail or restaurants or even for the industrial sector with small business manufacturing. Some businesses are getting so desperate for help that they are offering signing bonuses worth hundreds of dollars to anyone willing and able to come back to work.

All year, we have used a particular catchphrase to encourage people to get their vaccinations. We have said that if we could only get shots in arms, then we could get back to normal. Well, as it turns out, that was step 1. We are getting the shots in arms. People are getting vaccinated. Now it is time for step 2, and that is getting people back to work, getting them to fill these jobs.

I have said time and again and I will say it again: The best economic stimulus there is, the very best economic stimulus there is, is a job. It is a job. This holds true not just for those pulling in a paycheck but for the businesses that are hiring.

My Democratic colleagues—many of them—disagree with me on this point, but I firmly believe the best economic stimulus is a job. For months, some have refused to discuss an end to the various emergency relief programs we all agreed were necessary to help workers and businesses survive the lockdowns. But they were never meant to be permanent programs; they were there for a time of specific need.

I think, if some of my colleagues took the time to speak to the owners whose businesses are short on labor, they would hear the same story over and over again. Their pool of potential employees was drained dry, at least in part by the unemployment insurance plus-up that we initiated last year. Because of the way that program was designed and because my colleagues on the other side of the aisle rejected our offers to amend it, potential employees are drawing in more in unemployment than they would make at some jobs.

Now, some of my colleagues across the aisle dispute the notion that this imbalance has led to a labor shortage. They claim that if there are people staying home and collecting unemployment rather than taking their old job back, or maybe a new job, that those examples are anecdotal. But to that point, I would ask: How many anecdotes does it take to create a trend?

In Tennessee, there are at least a quarter of a million jobs available, but as of last week, we still have about 49,000 people receiving the $300 plus-up. This means that there are five jobs—five—five jobs available for every single one of those 49,000 people.

I want to make it clear that these business owners have no reason to lie about the trouble they are having finding help. Their survival depends on their ability to hire a team of employees. They gain nothing by poisoning the well with false accusations. Anyone who has ever run a business knows that.

They also know it is a difficult call for these potential employees to make, even when signing bonuses and higher wages are on the table, but therein lies the disconnect. While businesses are incentivized to do all they can to attract workers, the Federal Government has incentivized workers to hold out as long as they can before taking the leap into a new job. It is not their fault, but it is the reality that Congress created.

What we are seeing now isn't economic stimulus. I would offer that it is an economic stalemate. And if we don't break the ties that bind recovery to the success or failure of a government program, we will suffer long-term economic consequences.

As I said, some of my Democratic colleagues fundamentally disagree with that approach. They have made that disagreement clear to the tune of $6 trillion worth of spending that would be like nothing else that we have ever seen and making it a permanent part of our economic landscape.

They gave us a COVID relief package that had almost nothing to do with fighting the pandemic, an infrastructure proposal that dedicates 60 percent—60 percent of its total pricetag to job-killing proposals like the Green New Deal fantasies and, most recently, a supposedly pro-family proposal that, if implemented, will in fact replace the stability of the nuclear family with a lifelong tether to the welfare state.

Talk about never letting a crisis go to waste. This isn't compassion, in my opinion, and it isn't recovery. This is a power grab. They took the majority, put pen to paper, and produced a wish list. They have wanted to check off items from that wish list since 2010. So their list is long.

This version of economic stimulus, which, in reality, is just a destructive cycle of spending and dependency and taxation and inflation, will require more than just a general buy-in from the American people. They are going to have to persuade people to cede authority, to cede authority over their lives, their families, their businesses, their jobs, their employment—cede that authority to the Federal Government.

Now, if this isn't true, if this isn't their goal, let the Democrats dispute it. Let them come to the table and listen to what these business owners are telling us. Let them help figure out a way to offer a light at the end of the tunnel to the unemployed and underemployed instead of keeping them tangled in a safety net that was neither designated nor intended to be permanent.

We still have a long way to go before we can declare victory over the COVID–19 pandemic. But what my colleagues on the other side of the aisle refuse to acknowledge is that we will never make it across the finish line if we don't allow the American people to

hope for that victory. We need to allow them to hope that last month's terrible jobs report was just an anomaly. I certainly hope it was.

And most importantly, we need to allow them to remember that a little over a year ago, we didn't have to rely on emergency supplements and direct payments from the government to survive. We had the most robust economy we had in decades and decades. Unemployment numbers were at record lows. Wage gains were at record highs.

So we have been there before. We can and we will recover. But encouraging total reliance on the government is not going to be what gets us there, especially when so many businesses in this country are trying to hire workers, and workers are not taking the jobs.

I yield floor.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 69, Andrea Joan Palm, of Wisconsin, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Charles E. Schumer, Patty Murray, Michael F. Bennet, Jack Reed, Jeanne Shaheen, Patrick J. Leahy, Martin Heinrich, Catherine Cortez Masto, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Christopher Murphy, Christopher A. Coons, Tammy Baldwin, Tammy Duckworth, Chris Van Hollen, Tim Kaine, Thomas R. Carper, Amy Klobuchar, Margaret Wood Hassan.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Andrea Joan Palm, of Wisconsin, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Pennslyvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 62, nays 35, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 179 Ex.]

YEAS—62

Baldwin	Casey	Grassley
Bennet	Collins	Hassan
Blumenthal	Coons	Hickenlooper
Blunt	Cornyn	Hirono
Booker	Cortez Masto	Hyde-Smith
Brown	Crapo	Kaine
Burr	Duckworth	Kelly
Cantwell	Durbin	King
Capito	Feinstein	Klobuchar
Cardin	Gillibrand	Leahy
Carper	Graham	Luján
Manchin	Reed	Stabenow
Markey	Romney	Sullivan
Menendez	Rosen	Tester
Merkley	Rounds	Van Hollen
Murkowski	Sanders	Warner
Murphy	Schatz	Warnock
Ossoff	Schumer	Warren
Padilla	Shaheen	Whitehouse
Peters	Sinema	Wyden
Portman	Smith	

NAYS—35

Barrasso	Hawley	Risch
Blackburn	Hoeven	Rubio
Boozman	Inhofe	Sasse
Braun	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Shelby
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Cruz	Lummis	Tillis
Daines	Marshall	Tuberville
Ernst	McConnell	Wicker
Fischer	Moran	Young
Hagerty	Paul	

NOT VOTING—3

Heinrich	Murray	Toomey

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). On this vote, the yeas are 62, the nays are 35.

The motion is agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

GREEN JOBS PLAN

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to discuss what I have seen happen now over the last 100 days of the Biden administration, and that is President Biden seems to be doubling down on some of the failures of the Obama administration.

Last week, as the ranking member of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I released a report, and it is called ''Solyndra Syndrome and the Green Stimulus Delusion.'' Solyndra syndrome.

I tell you, I think it is an important thing to highlight because this 20-page report really is an in-depth look at the failed green energy policies under the Obama administration. Now what we are seeing is President Biden is determined, in my opinion, to repeat them, on a much larger scale.

In 2009, under the direction of President Obama, Democrats passed a partisan stimulus spending bill. The legislation included $90 billion for green job training, for green energy loans, and for high-speed rail. It also included about $3 billion for a program more commonly referred to now as ''Cash for Clunkers.''

The goal was to produce millions of green energy jobs. They wanted to do it by investing taxpayer dollars in emerging green energy companies and also subsidizing new vehicles.

So what did American taxpayers get for all of this money? What did they get as a return on this hefty investment? Well, they didn't get the promised jobs. They got boondoggles. Billions of taxpayer dollars wound up wasted on green tech companies through loans or grants. Several of the companies then failed.

The most famous of these was, of course, Solyndra. This was a solar panel company with many personal ties to the administration. It was located in California and received over $500 million in government-backed loans. Vice President Biden, at the time Vice President, was actually the one who announced that Solyndra would receive hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars.

Well, not too long after that, headlines across the Nation told the story of what happened next. In September of 2011, the company failed miserably. More than 1,000 workers lost their jobs. Almost all of the 535 million taxpayer dollars were lost.

The leadership of Solyndra lied about the company's value and what they could produce. It also turns out they were big political donors to the Obama-Biden campaign and the Democrats.

While the Obama-Biden donors got millions of grant money, taxpayers back then were left holding the bag. It was a terrible green gamble, and it had gone terribly wrong.

It wasn't the only one of these projects. Other companies like A123 Systems, Beacon Power, Ener1, Fisker Automotive all received big government-backed loans, and they all went bankrupt.

The waste didn't stop at loans for private companies. No, the Obama administration gave a $3.5 billion grant to California for a high-speed rail project. This was California's planned bullet train, and it was supposed to go from Los Angeles to San Francisco.

Let's fast forward 10 years and see where we are with that bullet train. After skyrocketing project costs, the Governor of California has recently thrown in the towel. Only a fraction of the original project is going to be completed, and delays continue to be announced.

So you might ask: Well, why are they completing a small fraction of this railroad, this high-speed bullet train that was supposed to go from Los Angeles to San Francisco? Well, by completing a small part of the original project, California can avoid having to pay back the taxpayers of the Nation—more wasted money.

Americans clearly remember Cash for Clunkers. What a program that was. It gave subsidies to folks for the purchase of a new greener vehicle as a way to stimulate auto sales and auto industry jobs. The big problem was it didn't work. One analysis found that the Cash for Clunkers Program created one job for every $1.4 million spent. That is quite a lot of money for a single job. The program itself was a clunker, and it spent way too much taxpayer cash.

The list goes on and on, as I have outlined in this report. The Obama administration frittered away billions of taxpayer dollars. They chose people close to the administration to receive the money. The economy remained sluggish, and the taxpayers got fleeced.

There actually was one bright economic spot during the great recession, and, of course, I will tell you that was the oil and gas sector in this country.

By the end of 2013, nonfarm employment was an anemic 1.9 percent higher than it had been at the end of the year in 2009. In contrast, the oil and gas sector's employment was 16 percent higher. While the rest of the economy was stuck in the mud, the oil and gas sector was growing and creating American jobs. That robust job growth helped make America energy independent and secure.

You would think that the lessons from the failed 2009 stimulus and the U.S. energy boom would be obvious and would be repeated today, but the Biden administration seems blinded by the Solyndra syndrome. President Biden wants to use the exact same playbook now and this time with a much heftier pricetag.

The President wants to spend trillions of dollars, not just billions. Included in that spending would be hundreds of billions of dollars in green job training programs, green energy financing, increased high-speed rail, new electric vehicles. It is the same plan that failed under President Obama.

At the same time the Biden administration is recycling the farfetched so-called jobs plan, the Biden administration is attacking oil and gas jobs—good jobs that people have today.

On his first day in office, President Biden signed an Executive order to kill the Keystone XL Pipeline. Now, this eliminated the prospect of 11,000 American jobs. Making matters worse, President Biden implemented a ban on new oil and gas production on public lands, a huge impact on my home State of Wyoming. A permanent ban on oil and gas leasing on Federal lands could destroy up to 1 million jobs across America.

My report finds the Biden administration is pushing expensive fantasy jobs and killing real ones at a time that America cannot afford to lose these jobs. It is a recipe for repeated disaster.

We all remember how President Obama promised shovel-ready jobs, and he then later admitted that the jobs weren't coming, as he said, because ''shovel-ready was not as shovel-ready as we expected.''

We know we can expect the same thing this time. The expensive, wasteful job-killing Solyndra syndrome is back. It was a terrible idea in 2009. And here we are a dozen years later, once again, spending a lot more, and doing that on the same bad ideas is now even worse than before.

I yield the floor.

MORNING BUSINESS

REMEMBERING CLAIRE SERDIUK ANDERSON

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, last month, we lost a generous and beautiful soul with the passing of Claire Serdiuk Anderson. Claire devoted her life to public service. During her 46 years on this Earth, she changed it for the better. As an Illinois native, she advocated for candidates and causes that pushed our State and country to be more like her: kind, gentle, and accepting.

Claire was driven, in part, by her Catholic faith. She believed in her sacred responsibility to help others, and she encouraged her friends and family to do the same, with a warm smile and a loving heart.

Anyone would have been lucky to sit in the same room as Claire. She would captivate any audience with her gifts as a storyteller and her instincts as a comedian. In addition to graduating summa cum laude from Loyola University, Claire also studied at another venerated Chicago institution: The Second City Comedy Club. She used to say that her background in comedy and improvisation prepared her well for a career in politics. And I can think of more than a few politicians who would be lucky to have half of her charm and charisma.

Claire played key roles in the careers of President Obama and other national leaders. She was the financial director for his first campaign for U.S. Senate. Claire also raised funds for my friend and colleague Senator DUCKWORTH when she first ran for Congress. In both instances, Claire was there from the beginning, investing her time, talent, and passion into two candidates who would go on to make history and inspire a new generation of American leaders.

I came to know Claire during the early 2000s, when she worked in my Chicago office as my State scheduler. As part of my team, she was beloved for her tenacity and her good cheer. In her eternal wisdom, she left my office in 2004 to help a skinny community organizer in the South Side run for Senate but she remained, always, a treasured member of the extended Team Durbin.

In her final act of charity, Claire donated her organs and tissues. I would like to think that, right now, someone may be seeing the world through Claire's wise eyes, perceiving all the possibilities for our future, rather than settling for the ways things are today.

I hope all of us can learn from Claire's example. Loretta and I join her husband Kurt, her son Henry, her parents Yvonne and Matthew, her brother Andrew, and everyone in her extended family, and so many friends, in mourning Claire's loss.

Thank you for your loving service, Claire. We will miss you.

REMEMBERING ERNIE WEST

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, the Bluegrass State is home to many heroes. For centuries, brave Kentuckians have proudly worn the uniform to defend our country and our way of life. Earlier this month, we said goodbye to one of these remarkable individuals. Ernie West, of Greenup County, was recognized in 1954 for his courage in the Korean war with our country's top military recognition, the Medal of Honor. He inspired those who knew him and became an example of our Commonwealth's highest ideals. Today, I would like to join Ernie's admirers in paying tribute to his incredible life and offering condolences to his family.

For Ernie, who came from humble beginnings in a children's home, putting his fellow soldiers' safety before his own was practically second nature. During a patrol, his squad was ambushed by North Korean fighters. Ernie sprang into action, braving enemy grenades and intense fire to carry three wounded comrades to safety. As he did, the young private suffered serious wounds, including taking shrapnel that eventually cost him his eye.

After the war, President Dwight D. Eisenhower presented Ernie with the Medal of Honor in recognition of his valor and selfless sacrifice. Ernie never considered himself a hero and almost refused to accept the medal. He believed everyone who served with him was deserving of the same honor. In the years that followed, Ernie became a proud example of service to a cause larger than oneself. Kentucky was grateful to have this hero among us for so many years, and we will all miss him.

Mr. President, the Daily Independent in nearby Ashland paid tribute to Ernie West and his heroism. I ask unanimous consent the article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From Daily Independent, May 2, 2021]

A HERO'S LEGACY: WEST DIES AT 89

(By Charles Romans)

A young boy came home one day to find his father talking to a man he did not know. His father's companion was rather ordinary, the young boy remembered, and appeared to be just like any of his neighbors he saw on a daily basis. But the father spoke up and said, ''Do you know this man? He's a war hero.'' Those words changed the young boy's opinion of the man, and he became fascinated with learning the man's story. But the man just smiled and quickly changed the subject, asking the young boy instead where he liked to fish.

The young boy was Tom Clay, of Greenup, and the man his father (well-known writer and community activist Soc Clay) introduced him to was Ernest ''Ernie'' West. Clay remembers West as being a plainspeaking and easygoing man, and not at all what one might expect from a war hero. Clay said you'd expect a war hero to be larger than life, big and bold, but West wasn't any of those things.

''He was just a normal guy,'' Clay said. ''One of the neighbors who really liked to fish.'' But even though West was hesitant to speak of it, Clay would later learn that West was not only a hero, but also a hero to whom other heroes looked as the very definition of the word. West died on Saturday at age 89.

The man who talked so readily about fishing at the Clay home was a Greenup County native himself. He was born on Sept. 2, 1931 in Russell and raised in an orphanage at the Methodist Children's Home in Versailles.

West lived in Wurtland and worked on what is now CSX Railroad. He was drafted in 1950, and in October 1952 he was serving as private first class with Company L, 14th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division in Korea. During a patrol, West's unit was ambushed and took heavy casualties.

Unit commander Captain George Gividen was seriously wounded, and West ordered those not wounded to retreat from the enemy's larger force. West himself, however, didn't retreat, but instead repeatedly faced a hailstorm of enemy fire and grenades to rescue the wounded members of his unit and carry them to safety. And in numerous cases, West faced not only area fire but personal attacks as well while rescuing his comrades. At one point, West was carrying his commander, while returning fire with both his own and his commander's weapon. And though he said he wasn't aware of when it happened, West became one of the walking wounded himself, sustaining wounds that would cost him an eye. But, in typical fashion, when people referred to him as a hero, West simply responded, ''They were all my brothers. Any of us would have done it because you don't leave your brothers behind.''

For his actions on that day, West received numerous medals, chiefly the Medal of Honor, which was presented by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. Again, true to form, West said, ''I turned it down at first. I thought everybody deserved a medal.'' But he did accept the medal on Jan. 29, 1954, though he was still reluctant to speak much of his time at war. And it was obvious that West desired first and foremost to return home and continue with his life. Fortunately for West, he was able to do just that, by marrying and starting a family, and even returned to his job at the railroad.

''He was one great man,'' said AMV Commander Lori Grizzle, a friend who worked with West at the railroad. ''Our post is named after him, and there are memorials to him at the post.''

But as much as West the hero, Grizzle says she misses her friend.

''He was just such a nice person,'' she said. ''He was funny and nice to be around. And he was always pleasant to everyone.''

Grizzle said West didn't really want to talk about himself, and while she and her husband worked with him on the railroad, he was very humble and didn't talk about his service.

''But his wife persuaded him to talk to schools because she thought that kids needed to know. And he was always great about speaking to the kids about what it takes sometimes to keep our country safe. It was the last thing he wanted to talk about,'' Grizzle said. ''But she convinced him, and he never hesitated then to speak to the kids. He will be dearly missed.''

West also was immortalized in a painting that now hangs in the Greenup County Courthouse. A committee comprised of Soc Clay, Tom Crump and Emily Cantrell Stephenson commissioned a painting from Greenup High School art teacher Brian Moser, and then sold prints of the painting signed by West, with the proceeds going toward a scholarship for seniors at Greenup County, Raceland, and Russell. The scholarship will continue, and Clay said that it has quite a large impact on the students.

The official citation of West's Medal of Honor reads:

''Pfc. West distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry above and beyond the call of duty in action against the enemy. He voluntarily accompanied a contingent to locate and destroy a reported enemy outpost. Nearing the objective, the patrol was ambushed and suffered numerous casualties. Observing his wounded leader lying in an exposed position, Pfc. West ordered the troops to withdraw, then braved intense fire to reach and assist him.

While attempting evacuation, he was attacked by three hostile soldiers employing grenades and smallarms fire. Quickly shifting his body to shelter the officer, he killed the assailants with his rifle, then carried the helpless man to safety. He was critically wounded and lost an eye in this action, but courageously returned through withering fire and bursting shells to assist the wounded. While evacuating two comrades, he closed with and killed three more of the foe. Pfc. West's indomitable spirit, consummate valor, and intrepid actions inspired all who observed him, reflect the highest credit on himself, and uphold the honored traditions of the military service.''

Ernest ''Ernie'' Edison West is a shining example of how a common man can rise to the occasion and do uncommon things. His life both on active military duty and as a retired veteran is a testament of dedication to the community and country he loved. West passed from this life Sat., May 1, 2021, at the age of 89. But he will live on in the memory of a grateful community and thankful country.

TRIBUTE TO WENDY CURRAN

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the distinguished career of Wendy Curran. Wendy will soon retire as vice president of care delivery and provider affairs at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wyoming. Her retirement marks the end of a remarkable career dedicated to improving the lives of people in my State.

Wendy Curran has been at the center of Wyoming health policy for over 30 years. She earned the trust of folks across the State with her broad knowledge of the challenges and opportunities for improving care in Wyoming. She forged alliances and friendships on both sides of the aisle, and both Republicans and Democrats respected Wendy's insights and relied on her unique knowledge.

As the daughter of a third-generation rancher, Wendy grew up on the Peryam Ranch in the Upper North Platte River Valley. During this time, spent riding horses and playing in the Encampment River, she learned lessons that would later contribute to her successful career. Daily chores taught her the value of hard work. She developed the ability to ''heal up and hair over,'' a cowboy's term for resiliency. In fact, her grit, humility, and determination represent several of the key tenets in our State ethics code, the Code of the West: be tough, but fair; take pride in your work; do what has to be done.

Throughout her career, Wendy held many distinguished jobs at all levels of government. She began by working for U.S. Senator Cliff Hansen. Other members of Wyoming's congressional delegation also benefited from her work. Wendy served U.S. Congressman Dick Cheney and U.S. Senator Malcom Wallop as well.

In 1991, Wendy joined the Wyoming Medical Society. Wendy was the passionate voice of Wyoming physicians and patients, serving as the assistant director of public affairs and later leading the organization as executive director. Wendy testified frequently before the Wyoming Legislature, advocating on behalf of Wyoming physicians and patients. She was known to introduce herself as a ''representative to the people who save Wyoming residents' lives,'' a job she took very seriously. She worked on many important provider issues. In particular, she was the leading voice supporting medical liability reform.

Wendy was instrumental in Wyoming joining the organization now known as WWAMI. This acronym stands for the States it represents: Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho. These States, working through the University of Washington Medical School, are part of a medical education consortium. This allows students in Wyoming to attend medical school at the University of Washington while participating in clerkships both in Wyoming and across the region. The program gives the students wide exposure to practicing medicine in rural communities. Wendy deserves credit for helping to bring this successful program to Wyoming, and she continues to serve on the University of Wyoming WWAMI curriculum review panel.

In 2005, Wendy left the Medical Society. Recognizing her skills, Governor Dave Freudenthal asked Wendy to serve in his administration. In this role, Wendy championed initiatives to improve childcare, substance abuse services, and an innovative Medicaid pilot program known as Healthy Frontiers. Her talents for creating health policy were so respected that she also helped incoming Governor Matt Mead during his administration's transition. That Freudenthal was a Democrat and Mead a Republican made no difference. Wendy proved yet again that partisan politics mattered far less than honoring her commitment to the people of Wyoming.

Wendy spent the last 10 years of her career working for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wyoming. In the midst of widespread reform and changes, Wendy remained committed to improving the State's health care system. Her excellent communication skills and well-established knowledge of the industry benefited her immensely. She embraced her role as a liaison between the insurance agency and providers, often bridging gaps and fostering connection. She ends her career as a trusted adviser to all in the health care industry.

In 2001, I was honored to join Wendy in the inaugural class of Leadership Wyoming, a program developed to inspire Wyoming's leaders through exploration and connection. Already an established leader in her own right, Wendy fully committed herself to the 8-month program and later became one of its most fervent supporters.

Wendy also lent her talents and expertise to the boards of numerous nonprofit organizations. These included Peak Wellness Center, the Wyoming

Health Resources Network, the Wyoming Small Business Development Center, and CLIMB Wyoming. Her work with CLIMB Wyoming is of special significance. CLIMB is a unique nonprofit empowering single mothers to develop life and career skills. This holistic program helps these women start new careers and ultimately become self-sufficient.

Wendy's accomplishments speak for themselves. She views herself as a humble public servant. Still, her impact on health care in Wyoming cannot be understated and will be recognized for years to come.

Finally, I must conclude my remarks by recognizing the most important people in Wendy's life, her family. Her late husband Denny was a good friend and an outstanding journalist. His passing in 2012 was a tremendous loss. I know he is looking down on Wendy, their three children, Katie, Laura, and Tim, and granddaughter Lillian, with pride today.

Wendy and I have been personal friends for nearly four decades. She represents the best of Wyoming in every sense of the word. One could not have a better friend than Wendy Curran.

The people of Wyoming are fortunate to have Wendy Curran serve our State for so many years. She is a leader, mentor, and advocate to many, especially women working in health care. Bobbi and I are proud to call her our friend. Wendy will be missed in retirement, but I know she will continue to find meaningful ways to serve and to make Wyoming a better place for everyone. Thank you, Wendy, for your committed and dedicated service.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO OLIVIA VAN LEDTJE

• Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I am proud to recognize Olivia Van Ledtje of Durham as March's Granite Stater of the Month. Olivia, a 12-year-old book activist, creates videos—called LivBits—that seek to encourage children around the globe to love books as much as she does.

Olivia began creating LivBits when she was 8 years old as a way to overcome bullying that she experienced. The videos gave Olivia a purpose and allowed her to find her voice.

Olivia's first video, which was uploaded to her mother's social media, went viral and has more than 500,000 views. Since then, Olivia has created many more LivBits about some of her favorite books and even hosted a podcast with authors as a way to get children her age excited about reading.

Over the last few years, Olivia has travelled across the country and around the world to promote her love of reading and inspire others. Due to the COVID–19 pandemic, Olivia hasn't been travelling as much, but because her work is built for the digital age, she is still able to share her message with children and teachers around the globe.

Olivia's passion for and dedication to promoting literacy and inspiring children in New Hampshire and around the world to love reading represents the best of our State. By promoting self-reliance and self-empowerment through discovery and learning, I know that she will continue to do incredible things, and I look forward to everything she will go on to accomplish.•

TRIBUTE TO STELLA LAVADIE

• Mr. LUJÁN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and share the inspirational story of native New Mexican Ms. Stella Lavadie, who celebrated her 100th birthday on April 29, 2021. Her friends, family, and neighbors know Stella as a warm-hearted woman who celebrates her veteran community with great pride and has lived a remarkable and impactful life. A member of the ''greatest generation,'' Stella was born in 1921 in Taos, and while she grew up partially in Wyoming, she returned to New Mexico as a young adult to attend my alma mater, New Mexico Highlands University. In a pivotal moment, Stella recalls seeing Uncle Sam on signs in Albuquerque beckoning her: ''I want you!'' they said, and she answered the call. Stella enlisted for the Women's Army Corps in 1944 at the Bruns Army Hospital in Santa Fe and trained at Fort Des Moines. Taking great pride in her fatigues and dress uniform, Stella completed duty stations in Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and South Dakota. Stella completed her service in 1946 when the war was won, but she has said she would gladly have stayed in the Women's Army Corps if given the chance.

Throughout her life, Stella has carried with her meaningful memories from her service, including fellow Women Army Corps member Ruby Hart singing ''Till we meet again'' and marching in formation every Saturday morning in front of the ranking officers. Upon returning home to New Mexico, Stella continued her Federal service working at the University of California in Los Alamos, then at the Atomic Energy Commission also in Los Alamos, before rounding out her career with a combined 32 years at the Bureau of Land Management doing essential work contributing to the management of New Mexico's Federal lands. She raised three children as a single mother in the 1950s, due to her husband's early death, and built a beautiful family in her own home State of New Mexico.

I want to personally wish Stella a happy 100th birthday and thank her for her service and barrier-breaking accomplishments. In 2015, I had the pleasure of greeting Stella on her visit to D.C. on Honor Flight No. 0615, and I was honored to celebrate her birthday in a drive-by celebration this year.

Stella, thank you for your service, and it is an honor to play a small part in your story.•

TRIBUTE TO BENNIE MONTOYA

• Mr. LUJÁN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and share the inspirational story of native New Mexican Mr. Bennie Montoya, who will celebrate his 100th birthday on August 20, 2021. Bennie is a member of the ''greatest generation,'' and his heroism and courage-filled life are an inspiration to us all.

Bennie was raised near Santa Fe in the Village of Agua Fria as the youngest of six siblings. After finishing the ninth grade at Harrington Junior High in Santa Fe, Bennie left school to help his family on their ranch, until he was drafted in August 1942. Bennie trained at Fort Bliss in El Paso, TX, prior to shipping out for Normandy to serve his country at one of the most significant battle sites in U.S. military history. At 23 years old, Private First Class Montoya landed in Normandy 6 days after D-day, and to this day, he recalls the bloodied waters and fallen soldiers from the momentous battle.

During the war, he worked as a switchboard operator and also had the responsibility of driving his commanding officer from post to post. On December 17, 1944, when Private First Class Montoya volunteered to drive a senior military officer to the next post, he was ambushed by German soldiers and taken prisoner. As a prisoner of war, Bennie was forced to dig graves for Nazi soldiers who were killed in action. He was often made to do hard labor in the freezing snow with no shoes and suffered frostbite while under their abuse.

Private First Class Montoya was finally liberated in 1945 and sent to a POW rehabilitation and recovery center in Santa Barbara, CA. Honorably discharged, Bennie made his way back to New Mexico unbeknownst to his family. The story of his homecoming speaks to the power of prayer and the bond between family members. His mother, as told by others with her on that day, kept a prayer card to St. Anthony, the patron saint of lost people and things in her pocket. As she was cooking and praying, she was overcome with emotion. What followed was nothing less than a joyous reunion: Bennie's mother stepped outside to collect herself and continued praying, and when she looked up and gazed across the fields, she saw Bennie walking towards her, duffel bag in tow.

Bennie has lived a full and meaningful life since his time in the Army. Upon his honorable discharge, he was awarded several medals, including a Purple Heart. He raised four children in Agua Fria with his wife, Mary, before losing her to a drunk driver. Professionally, Bennie worked in the local banking industry for 27 years. He still lives in Agua Fria, where he is an upstanding and highly regarded member

of his community, and attends mass at San Isidro Catholic Church.

I want to personally wish Bennie the happiest of birthdays as he prepares to celebrate 100 years and thank him for his service and sacrifice during World War II.

Bennie, your service will never be forgotten, and I am forever grateful for your role in fighting for our freedom.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. EUGENE MORGAN HUGHES

● Ms. SINEMA. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life of Dr. Eugene ''Gene'' Morgan Hughes, a recognized leader in higher education at the local, State, and national level.

Dr. Hughes was selected by the Arizona Board of Regents as the 12th president of Northern Arizona University, NAU, in 1979. During his tenure, he established NAU's Center for Excellence in Education, the School of Hotel and Restaurant Management, and the Southwest Center for Forestry Science Complex. Dr. Hughes launched field sites on the campuses of Arizona's community colleges, including NAU-Yuma, and initiated NAU-net, the first courses in the State offered via television to off-campus sites. He also expanded the New Momentum program to engage Native American Tribes and forged relationships with higher education institutions in China. Under his leadership, NAU's total enrollment rose from 12,000 to 18,800 students.

Dr. Hughes retired from NAU in 1993 and received the titles of president emeritus and professor emeritus of mathematics. He served as president of Wichita State University, WSU, from 1993 until 1999, retiring as president emeritus. He later led Eastern Kentucky University, EKU, as its interim president in 2001 before retiring to Flagstaff, AZ.

Dr. Hughes was chairman of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities and president of the Arizona Board of Education. He was selected as Flagstaff Citizen of the Year in 1988 and Outstanding Kansas Citizen of the Year in 1998. He also received the Arizona Board of Regents Medal. The School of Hotel and Restaurant Management building at NAU was named for him in 1997, and WSU dedicated the Eugene M. Hughes Metropolitan Complex in 1999. Dr. Hughes received honorary doctoral degrees from NAU in 1997 and EKU in 2011.

In retirement, Dr. Hughes remained active in the community, including as a member of the National Advisory Board of the NAU School of Hotel and Restaurant Management, chair of Amtrak's National Customer Advisory Committee, and co-president of the Flagstaff Society of St. Vincent de Paul. He was also president of the Museum of Northern Arizona.

Dr. Hughes was a kind, intelligent, and diplomatic man who listened patiently, cared deeply, sought compromise, and treated everyone with dignity. All who interacted with him felt seen, heard, and appreciated. His wit, wisdom, and warm smile will be greatly missed, but his legacy endures in the memories of all he touched. Please join me in honoring Gene Hughes, a visionary in higher education.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Select Committee on Intelligence to be sequentially referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2021, the Secretary of the Senate, on April 30, 2021, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BROWN) had signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 2630. An act to amend the Temporary Reauthorization and Study of the Emergency Scheduling of Fentanyl Analogues Act to exend until October 2021, a temporary order for fentanyl-related substances.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2021, the enrolled bill was signed on April 30, 2021, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRIVILEGED NOMINATION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

On request by Senator CHARLES GRASSLEY, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary: Helaine Ann Greenfeld, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General, vice Stephen Elliott Boyd.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CARPER, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

Report to accompany 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 (Rept. No. 117–20).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

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 (Rept. No. 117–21).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment:

S. 636. A bill to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to submit to Congress an annual report on projects that are over budget and behind schedule, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117–22).

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1169. A bill to address issues involving the People's Republic of China.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. ERNST (for herself, Ms. SINEMA, and Mr. LEE):

S. 1528. A bill to amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, to repeal certain limits on leave for married individuals employed by the same employer; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 1529. A bill to establish safety standards for certain limousines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. WARREN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. HEINRICH, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 1530. A bill to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 and the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to make breakfasts and lunches free for all children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 1531. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Transportation to award grants to States that have enacted and are enforcing certain laws with respect to stretch limousines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 1532. A bill to provide a work opportunity tax credit for military spouses and to provide for flexible spending arrangements for childcare services for uniformed services families; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 1533. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to modify the definition of commercial motor vehicle, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. 1534. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to authorize

the Reentry Employment Opportunities Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 1535. A bill to designate as wilderness certain Federal portions of the red rock canyons of the Colorado Plateau and the Great Basin Deserts in the State of Utah for the benefit of present and future generations of people in the United States; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 1536. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand the availability of medical nutrition therapy services under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 1537. A bill to modernize certain Federal agencies for an era of strategic energy and mineral competition, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. PADILLA, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 1538. A bill to amend the Smith River National Recreation Area Act to include certain additions to the Smith River National Recreation Area, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain wild rivers in the State of Oregon, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. OSSOFF (for himself and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. 1539. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to ensure access to water and food for voters waiting in line at polling stations in Federal elections; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1540. A bill to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to provide for better protections for children raised in kinship families outside of the foster care system; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. KING, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. WARREN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WYDEN, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 1541. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require the Federal Communications Commission to ensure just and reasonable charges for telephone and advanced communications services in correctional and detention facilities; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. STABENOW, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 1542. A bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to improve Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program for low-income mothers; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Ms. ERNST, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 1543. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide best practices on student suicide awareness and prevention training and condition State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and tribal educational agencies receiving funds under section 520A of such Act to establish and implement a school-based student suicide awareness and prevention training policy; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 15

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 15, a bill to require the Federal Trade Commission to submit a report to Congress on scams targeting seniors, and for other purposes.

S. 79

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 79, a bill to eliminate the disparity in sentencing for cocaine offenses, and for other purposes.

S. 127

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 127, a bill to support library infrastructure.

S. 346

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 346, a bill to end preventable maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity in the United States and close disparities in maternal health outcomes, and for other purposes.

S. 419

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 419, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for a full annuity supplement for certain air traffic controllers.

S. 437

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 437, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to concede exposure to airborne hazards and toxins from burn pits under certain circumstances, and for other purposes.

S. 452

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 452, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Willie O'Ree, in recognition of his extraordinary contributions and commitment to hockey, inclusion, and recreational opportunity.

S. 586

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 586, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to combat the opioid crisis by promoting access to non-opioid treatments in the hospital outpatient setting.

S. 611

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 611, a bill to deposit certain funds into the Crime Victims Fund, to waive matching requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 659

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) were added as cosponsors 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. 662

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 662, a bill to establish an interactive online dashboard to allow the public to review information for Federal grant funding related to mental health programs.

S. 692

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 692, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the female telephone operators of the Army Signal Corps, known as the ''Hello Girls''.

S. 745

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 745, a bill to make high-speed broadband internet service accessible and affordable to all Americans, and for other purposes.

S. 774

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 774, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to punish criminal offenses targeting law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

S. 792

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) 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. 802

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 802, a bill to modify the Federal and State Technology Partnership Program of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 921

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 921, a bill to amend title

18, United States Code, to further protect officers and employees of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 994

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 994, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reinstate estate and generation-skipping taxes, and for other purposes.

S. 1061

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1061, a bill to encourage the normalization of relations with Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 1125

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 1125, a bill to recommend that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation test the effect of a dementia care management model, and for other purposes.

S. 1167

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1167, a bill to eliminate subsidies for fossil-fuel production.

S. 1169

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1169, a bill to address issues involving the People's Republic of China.

S. 1251

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) 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. 1279

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) 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. 1283

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1283, a bill to impose a tax on certain trading transactions to invest in our families and communities, improve our infrastructure and our environment, strengthen our financial security, expand opportunity and reduce market volatility.

S. 1289

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1289, a bill to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to reauthorize and modify the John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1298

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of S. 1298, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for increased investment in clean energy.

S. 1308

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1308, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit to issuers of American infrastructure bonds.

S. 1389

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1389, a bill to provide relief to workers impacted by COVID–19 and support for reopening businesses, and for other purposes.

S. 1417

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1417, a bill to establish a Venezuela Reconstruction Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 1466

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1466, a bill to authorize the Director of the United States Geological Survey to establish a regional program to assess, monitor, and benefit the hydrology of saline lakes in the Great Basin and the migratory birds and other wildlife dependent on those habitats, and for other purposes.

S. 1501

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1501, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the rules relating to inverted corporations.

S. 1511

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1511, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 with respect to payments to certain public safety officers who have become permanently and totally disabled as a result of personal injuries sustain in the line of duty, and for other purposes.

S. 1520

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1520, a bill to reform the disposition of charges and convening of courts-martial for certain offenses under the Uniform Code of Military Justice and increase the prevention of sexual assaults and other crimes in the military.

S. 1522

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) were added as cosponsors of S. 1522, a bill to allow reciprocity for the carrying of certain concealed firearms.

S. CON. RES. 9

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 9, a concurrent resolution supporting the Local Radio Freedom Act.

S. RES. 164

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 164, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the number of justices of the Supreme Court of the United States should remain at 9.

S. RES. 196

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 196, a resolution designating May 5, 2021, as the ''National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls''.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 1529. A bill to establish safety standards for certain limousines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1529

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 ''Safety, Accountability, and Federal Enforcement of Limos Act of 2021'' or the ''SAFE Limos Act''.

SEC. 2. LIMOUSINE COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL SAFETY STANDARDS.

(a) LIMOUSINE STANDARDS.—

(1) SAFETY BELT AND SEATING SYSTEM STANDARDS FOR LIMOUSINES.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall prescribe a final rule—

(A) that amends Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard Numbers 208, 209, and 210 to require to be installed in limousines at each designated seating position, including on side-facing seats—

(i) an occupant restraint system consisting of integrated lap shoulder belts; or

(ii) an occupant restraint system consisting of a lap belt if the occupant restraint system described in clause (i) does not meet the need for motor vehicle safety; and

(B) that amends Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard Number 207 to require limousines to meet standards for seats (including side-facing seats), seat attachment assemblies, and seat installation to minimize the possibility of their failure by forces acting on them as a result of vehicle impact.

(2) REPORT ON RETROFIT ASSESSMENT FOR LIMOUSINES.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report that assesses the feasibility, benefits, and costs with respect to the application of any requirement established under paragraph (1) to a limousine introduced into interstate commerce before the date on which the requirement takes effect.

(b) SAFETY REGULATION OF LIMOUSINES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 30102(a)(6) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period and inserting ''; or''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) modifying a passenger motor vehicle (as such term is defined in section 32101) that has already been purchased by the first purchaser (as such term is defined in subsection (b)) by increasing the wheelbase of the vehicle so that the vehicle has increased seating capacity.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall apply beginning on the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) LIMOUSINE COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL SAFETY STANDARDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 301 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 30128 the following:

''§ 30129. Limousine compliance with Federal safety standards

''(a) REQUIREMENT.—Beginning on the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section, a limousine remodeler may not offer for sale, lease, or rent, introduce or deliver for introduction into interstate commerce, or import into the United States a new limousine unless the limousine remodeler has submitted to the Secretary a vehicle remodeler plan (or an updated vehicle remodeler plan required by subsection (b), as applicable) that describes how the remodeler is mitigating risks to motor vehicle safety posed by the limousines of the remodeler. A vehicle remodeler plan shall include the following:

''(1) Verification and validation of compliance with applicable motor vehicle safety standards.

''(2) Design, quality control, manufacturing, and training practices adopted by the limousine remodeler.

''(3) Customer support guidelines, including instructions for limousine occupants to wear seatbelts and limousine operators to notify occupants of the date and results of the most recent inspection of the limousine.

''(b) UPDATES.—Each limousine remodeler shall submit an updated vehicle remodeler plan to the Secretary each year.

''(c) PUBLICLY AVAILABLE.—The Secretary shall make any vehicle remodeler plan submitted under subsection (a) or (b) publicly available not later than 60 days after the date on which the plan is received, except the Secretary may not make publicly available any information relating to a trade secret or other confidential business information (as such terms are defined in section 512.3 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation)).

''(d) REVIEW.—The Secretary may inspect any vehicle remodeler plan submitted by a limousine remodeler under subsection (a) or (b) to enable the Secretary to determine whether the limousine remodeler has complied, or is complying, with this chapter or a regulation prescribed or order issued pursuant to this chapter.

''(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed to affect discovery, a subpoena or other court order, or any other judicial process otherwise allowed under applicable Federal or State law.

''(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following definitions apply:

''(1) CERTIFIED PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE.—The term 'certified passenger motor vehicle' means a passenger motor vehicle that has been certified in accordance with section 30115 to meet all applicable motor vehicle safety standards.

''(2) INCOMPLETE VEHICLE.—The term 'incomplete vehicle' has the meaning given such term in section 567.3 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).

''(3) LIMOUSINE.—The term 'limousine' means a motor vehicle—

''(A) that has a seating capacity of 9 or more persons (including the driver);

''(B) with a gross vehicle weight rating greater than 10,000 pounds but not greater than 26,000 pounds; and

''(C) that the Secretary has determined by regulation has physical characteristics resembling—

''(i) a passenger car;

''(ii) a multipurpose passenger vehicle; or

''(iii) a truck with a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less.

''(4) LIMOUSINE OPERATOR.—The term 'limousine operator' means a person who owns or leases, and uses, a limousine to transport passengers for compensation.

''(5) LIMOUSINE REMODELER.—The term 'limousine remodeler' means a person who alters or modifies by addition, substitution, or removal of components (other than readily attachable components) an incomplete vehicle, a vehicle manufactured in two or more stages, or a certified passenger motor vehicle before or after the first purchase of the vehicle to manufacture a limousine.

''(6) MULTIPURPOSE PASSENGER VEHICLE.—The term 'multipurpose passenger vehicle' has the meaning given such term in section 571.3 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).

''(7) PASSENGER CAR.—The term 'passenger car' has the meaning given such term in section 571.3 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).

''(8) PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE.—The term 'passenger motor vehicle' has the meaning given such term in section 32101.

''(9) TRUCK.—The term 'truck' has the meaning given such term in section 571.3 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).''.

(2) ENFORCEMENT.—Section 30165(a)(1) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''30129,'' after ''30127,''.

(3) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subchapter II of chapter 301 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 30128 the following:

''30129. Limousine compliance with Federal safety standards.''.

(d) LIMOUSINE CRASHWORTHINESS.—

(1) RESEARCH.—Not later than 4 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall complete research into the development of motor vehicle safety standards for side impact protection, roof crush resistance, and air bag systems for the protection of occupants for limousines with alternative seating positions, including perimeter seating arrangements.

(2) RULEMAKING OR REPORT.—

(A) CRASHWORTHINESS STANDARDS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the completion of the research required under paragraph (1), except as provided in clause (ii), the Secretary shall prescribe a final motor vehicle safety standard, for the protection of occupants in limousines with alternative seating positions, for each of the following:

(I) Side impact protection.

(II) Roof crush resistance.

(III) Air bag systems.

(ii) REQUIREMENTS AND CONSIDERATIONS.—The Secretary may only prescribe a motor vehicle safety standard described in clause (i) if the Secretary determines that such standard meets the requirements and considerations set forth in subsections (a) and (b) of section 30111 of title 49, United States Code.

(B) REPORT.—If the Secretary determines that a standard described in subparagraph (A)(i) does not meet the requirements and considerations set forth in subsections (a) and (b) of section 30111 of title 49, United States Code, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register and submit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report describing the reasons for not prescribing such standard.

(e) LIMOUSINE EVACUATION.—

(1) RESEARCH.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall complete research into safety features and standards that aid evacuation in the event that one exit in the passenger compartment of a limousine is blocked.

(2) STANDARDS.—Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall prescribe a final motor vehicle safety standard based on the results of the research under paragraph (1).

(f) LIMOUSINE INSPECTION DISCLOSURE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A limousine operator may not introduce a limousine into interstate commerce unless the limousine operator has prominently disclosed in a clear and conspicuous notice, including on the website of the operator if the operator has a website, the following:

(A) The date of the most recent inspection of the limousine required under State or Federal law.

(B) The results of the inspection.

(C) Any corrective action taken by the limousine operator to ensure the limousine passed inspection.

(2) FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION ENFORCEMENT.—The Federal Trade Commission shall enforce this subsection in the same manner, by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incorporated into and made a part of this subsection. Any person who violates this subsection shall be subject to the penalties and entitled to the privileges and immunities provided in the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.).

(3) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to limit the authority of the Federal Trade Commission under any other provision of law.

(4) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection shall take effect 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(g) EVENT DATA RECORDERS FOR LIMOUSINES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall prescribe a final motor vehicle safety standard requiring the use of event data recorders for limousines.

(2) PRIVACY PROTECTIONS.—Any standard prescribed under paragraph (1) pertaining to event data recorder information shall be consistent with the collection and sharing requirements under the FAST Act (Public Law 114–94) and any other applicable law.

(h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) EVENT DATA RECORDER.—The term ''event data recorder'' has the meaning given such term in section 563.5 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).

(2) LIMOUSINE.—The term ''limousine'' has the meaning given such term in section 30129 of title 49, United States Code, as added by this section.

(3) LIMOUSINE OPERATOR.—The term ''limousine operator'' has the meaning given such term in section 30129 of title 49, United States Code, as added by this section.

(4) LIMOUSINE REMODELER.—The term ''limousine remodeler'' has the meaning given such term in section 30129 of title 49, United States Code, as added by this section.

(5) MOTOR VEHICLE.—The term ''motor vehicle'' has the meaning given such term in section 30102(a) of title 49, United States Code.

(6) MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD.—The term ''motor vehicle safety standard'' has the meaning given such term in section 30102(a) of title 49, United States Code.

(7) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Transportation.

(8) STATE.—The term ''State'' has the meaning given such term in section 30102(a) of title 49, United States Code.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 1531. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Transportation to award grants to States that have enacted and are enforcing certain laws with respect to stretch limousines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1531

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 ''Take Unsafe Limos Off the Road Act''.

SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM FOR SAFETY OF STRETCH LIMOUSINES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter IV of chapter 311 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 31162. Grant program for safety of stretch limousines

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) ELIGIBLE DEFECT.—The term 'eligible defect' means a defect that would cause a motor vehicle to fail a commercial motor vehicle safety inspection.

''(2) PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE.—The term 'passenger motor vehicle' has the meaning given the term in section 32101.

''(3) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Transportation.

''(4) STRETCH LIMOUSINE.—The term 'stretch limousine' means a new or used passenger motor vehicle that—

''(A) has been modified, altered, or extended in a manner that increases the overall wheelbase of the vehicle—

''(i) beyond the wheelbase dimension of the original equipment manufacturer for the base model and year of the vehicle; and

''(ii) to a length sufficient to accommodate additional passengers; and

''(B) after being altered as described in subparagraph (A), has a seating capacity of not fewer than 9 passengers, including the driver.

''(b) GRANT PROGRAM.—Each fiscal year, the Secretary shall make a grant, in accordance with this section, to each State that is eligible for a grant under subsection (c).

''(c) ELIGIBILITY.—A State is eligible for a grant under this section for a fiscal year if, on October 1 of that fiscal year, the State—

''(1) has enacted a law that requires the impoundment or immobilization of a stretch limousine that is found to have an eligible defect on inspection; and

''(2) is enforcing the law described in paragraph (1), as determined by the Secretary.

''(d) GRANT AMOUNTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on October 1 of the first fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall apportion the amounts appropriated to carry out this section to each State that is eligible to receive a grant under subsection (c) in an amount that is equal to the quotient obtained by dividing—

''(A) the difference between—

''(i) $5,000,000; and

''(ii) the total amount provided to States under paragraph (2); and

''(B) the number of States eligible for a grant under subsection (c) for the fiscal year.

''(2) INCREASE OF GRANT AMOUNTS.—Beginning on October 1 of the first fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this section, a State that is eligible for a grant under subsection (c) may receive an additional $50,000 in grant funds if, on October 1 of that fiscal year, the State has enacted and is enforcing a law or regulation that requires—

''(A) any safety inspection of a stretch limousine to be conducted at a designated site controlled by the State; and

''(B) the inspection described in subparagraph (A) to be conducted by employees trained in the inspection of stretch limousines.

''(e) USE OF FUNDS.—A State receiving a grant under this section may use grant amounts—

''(1) for the impoundment or immobilization of a stretch limousine;

''(2) for the establishment and operating expenses of designated stretch limousine safety inspection sites; or

''(3) to train employees in the inspection of stretch limousines.

''(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section $5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2024.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter IV of chapter 311 of title 49 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 31161 the following:

''31162. Grant program for safety of stretch limousines.''.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 1532. A bill to provide a work opportunity tax credit for military spouses and to provide for flexible spending arrangements for childcare services for uniformed services families; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, today I am introducing the Jobs and Childcare for Military Families Act, with my colleagues Senators BOOZMAN and TILLIS. By incentivizing private businesses to hire military spouses and allowing military families to use pre-tax dollars to pay for childcare, we can alleviate some of the unique hardships military families face and put them on firmer financial footing. This effort has only become more critical as the nation recovers from the coronavirus pandemic that has increased the number of unemployed and emphasized some longstanding issues in securing childcare for young families.

The families of America's servicemembers make sacrifices that are not as recognized in the public eye. Military spouses face routine moves every few years that require packing up a stable home in order to move to a new area and start over. This is compounded by the complex system of state licensing and certification requirements, which can limit these spouses from taking jobs that utilize their expertise and experience. Because of this, military spouses have unemployment rates substantially higher than the national average, and are often underemployed when they do have jobs. Adding to the financial struggle that frequent periods of unemployment and underemployment cause, the rising cost of childcare puts a substantial burden on many military families.

The Jobs and Childcare for Military Families Act would help these families in two ways. First, the bill makes military spouses an eligible population for the Work Opportunity Tax Credit. This tax credit has been proven effective in improving the employment prospects for other groups, and extending it to military spouses would help them find employment easier after moving a new area. Second, the bill instructs the administration to implement dependent care flexible spending accounts for all servicemembers. These accounts which are widely available in the private sector would allow military families to contribute pre-tax dollars to accounts

that they can then use to pay for childcare services, helping ease the financial burden of childcare.

I hope my colleagues will support this bill to help families who have made an incredible sacrifice for our nation.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 1535. A bill to designate as wilderness certain Federal portions of the red rock canyons of the Colorado Plateau and the Great Basin Deserts in the State of Utah for the benefit of present and future generations of people in the United States; 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. 1535

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 ''America's Red Rock Wilderness Act''.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Definitions.
Sec. 3. Findings.
Sec. 4. Purposes.

TITLE I—DESIGNATION OF WILDERNESS AREAS

Sec. 101. Great Basin Wilderness Areas.
Sec. 102. Grand Staircase-Escalante Wilderness Areas.
Sec. 103. Moab-La Sal Canyons Wilderness Areas.
Sec. 104. Henry Mountains Wilderness Areas.
Sec. 105. Glen Canyon Wilderness Areas.
Sec. 106. San Juan-Anasazi Wilderness Areas.
Sec. 107. Canyonlands Basin Wilderness Areas.
Sec. 108. San Rafael Swell Wilderness Areas.
Sec. 109. Book Cliffs and Uinta Basin Wilderness Areas.

TITLE II—ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Sec. 201. General provisions.
Sec. 202. Administration.
Sec. 203. State school trust land within wilderness areas.
Sec. 204. Water.
Sec. 205. Roads.
Sec. 206. Livestock.
Sec. 207. Fish and wildlife.
Sec. 208. Protection of Tribal rights.
Sec. 209. Management of newly acquired land.
Sec. 210. Withdrawal.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Land Management.

(2) STATE.—The term ''State'' means the State of Utah.

SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) the land designated as wilderness by this Act is 1 of the largest remaining expanses of unprotected, wild public land in the continental United States;

(2) the designation of wilderness by this Act would—

(A) increase landscape connectivity in the Colorado Plateau; and

(B) help to mitigate the impacts of climate change by—

(i) providing critical refugia;

(ii) reducing surface disturbances that exacerbate the impacts of climate change;

(iii) reducing greenhouse gas emissions related to the extraction and use of fossil fuels; and

(iv) contributing to the goal of protecting 30 percent of global land and waters by 2030;

(3) the land designated as wilderness by this Act is—

(A) a living cultural landscape;

(B) a place of refuge for wild nature; and

(C) an important part of Indigenous and non-Indigenous community values;

(4) Indian Tribes have been present on the land designated as wilderness by this Act since time immemorial, using the plant, animal, landform, and spiritual values for sustenance and cultural, medicinal, and ceremonial activities, purposes for which Indigenous people continue to use the land; and

(5) the designation of wilderness by this Act—

(A) is vital to the continuation and revitalization of Indigenous cultures; and

(B) serves to protect places of Indigenous use and sanctuary.

SEC. 4. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to designate as wilderness certain Federal portions of the red rock canyons of the Colorado Plateau and the Great Basin Deserts in the State of Utah for the benefit of present and future generations of people in the United States;

(2) to protect the cultural, ecological, and scenic values of land designated as wilderness by this Act for the benefit, use, and enjoyment of present and future generations of people in the United States; and

(3) to protect the ability of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people to use the land designated as wilderness by this Act for traditional activities, including hunting, fishing, hiking, horsepacking, camping, and spirituality as people have used the land for generations.

TITLE I—DESIGNATION OF WILDERNESS AREAS

SEC. 101. GREAT BASIN WILDERNESS AREAS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the Great Basin region of western Utah is comprised of starkly beautiful mountain ranges that rise as islands from the desert floor;

(2) the Wah Wah Mountains in the Great Basin region are arid and austere, with massive cliff faces and leathery slopes speckled with piñon and juniper;

(3) the Pilot Range and Stansbury Mountains in the Great Basin region are high enough to draw moisture from passing clouds and support ecosystems found nowhere else on earth;

(4) from bristlecone pine, the world's oldest living organism, to newly flowered mountain meadows, mountains of the Great Basin region are islands of nature that—

(A) support remarkable biological diversity; and

(B) provide opportunities to experience the colossal silence of the Great Basin; and

(5) the Great Basin region of western Utah should be protected and managed to ensure the preservation of the natural conditions of the region.

(b) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(1) Antelope Range (approximately 17,000 acres).

(2) Barn Hills (approximately 21,000 acres).

(3) Black Hills (approximately 8,700 acres).

(4) Bullgrass Knoll (approximately 16,000 acres).

(5) Burbank Hills/Tunnel Spring (approximately 94,000 acres).

(6) Conger Mountain (approximately 31,000 acres).

(7) Crater and Silver Island Mountains (approximately 121,000 acres).

(8) Crater Bench (approximately 35,000 acres).

(9) Cricket Mountains (approximately 56,000 acres).

(10) Deep Creek Mountains (approximately 128,000 acres).

(11) Drum Mountains (approximately 40,500 acres).

(12) Dugway Mountains (approximately 24,500 acres).

(13) Fish Springs Range (approximately 64,500 acres).

(14) Granite Peak (approximately 19,500 acres).

(15) Grassy Mountains (approximately 24,000 acres).

(16) Grouse Creek Mountains (approximately 15,000 acres).

(17) House Range (approximately 202,000 acres).

(18) Keg Mountain (approximately 38,500 acres).

(19) Kern Mountains (approximately 15,000 acres).

(20) King Top (approximately 111,000 acres).

(21) Little Goose Creek (approximately 1,300 acres).

(22) Middle/Granite Mountain (approximately 81,000 acres).

(23) Mount Escalante (approximately 17,500 acres).

(24) Mountain Home Range (approximately 90,000 acres).

(25) Newfoundland Mountains (approximately 23,000 acres).

(26) Ochre Mountain (approximately 13,500 acres).

(27) Oquirrh Mountains (approximately 8,900 acres).

(28) Painted Rock (approximately 26,500 acres).

(29) Paradise/Steamboat Mountains (approximately 136,000 acres).

(30) Pilot Range (approximately 44,000 acres).

(31) Red Tops (approximately 28,000 acres).

(32) Rockwell-Little Sahara (approximately 19,000 acres).

(33) San Francisco Mountains (approximately 40,000 acres).

(34) Sand Ridge (approximately 73,000 acres).

(35) Sevier Plateau (approximately 30,000 acres).

(36) Simpson Mountains (approximately 43,000 acres).

(37) Snake Valley (approximately 103,000 acres).

(38) Spring Creek Canyon (approximately 5,200 acres).

(39) Stansbury Island (approximately 9,900 acres).

(40) Stansbury Mountains (approximately 25,000 acres).

(41) Thomas Range (approximately 41,000 acres).

(42) Tule Valley (approximately 159,000 acres).

(43) Wah Wah Mountains (approximately 177,000 acres).

(44) White Rock Range (approximately 5,500 acres).

SEC. 102. GRAND STAIRCASE-ESCALANTE WILDERNESS AREAS.

(a) GRAND STAIRCASE AREA.—

(1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(A) the area known as the Grand Staircase rises more than 6,000 feet in a series of great

cliffs and plateaus from the depths of the Grand Canyon to the forested rim of Bryce Canyon;

(B) the Grand Staircase—

(i) spans 6 major life zones, from the lower Sonoran Desert to the alpine forest; and

(ii) encompasses geologic formations that display 3,000,000,000 years of Earth's history;

(C) land managed by the Secretary lines the intricate canyon system of the Paria River and forms a vital natural corridor connection to the deserts and forests of those national parks;

(D) land described in paragraph (2) (other than East of Bryce, the majority of Upper Kanab Creek, Moquith Mountain, Bunting Point, Canaan Mountain, Orderville Canyon, Parunuweap Canyon, and Vermillion Cliffs) is located within the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, as established in 1996; and

(E) the Grand Staircase in Utah should be protected and managed as a wilderness area.

(2) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(A) Bryce Boot (approximately 2,800 acres).

(B) Bryce View (approximately 850 acres).

(C) Bunting Point (approximately 11,000 acres).

(D) Canaan Mountain (approximately 15,000 acres).

(E) East of Bryce (approximately 850 acres).

(F) Glass Eye Canyon (approximately 25,000 acres).

(G) Ladder Canyon (approximately 14,000 acres).

(H) Moquith Mountain (approximately 15,500 acres).

(I) Nephi Point (approximately 15,000 acres).

(J) Orderville Canyon (approximately 8,100 acres).

(K) Paria-Hackberry (approximately 196,000 acres).

(L) Paria Wilderness Expansion (approximately 4,000 acres).

(M) Parunuweap Canyon (approximately 44,500 acres).

(N) Pine Hollow (approximately 11,000 acres).

(O) Slopes of Bryce (approximately 3,700 acres).

(P) Timber Mountain (approximately 52,500 acres).

(Q) Upper Kanab Creek (approximately 51,000 acres).

(R) Vermillion Cliffs (approximately 26,000 acres).

(S) Willis Creek (approximately 21,000 acres).

(b) KAIPAROWITS PLATEAU.—

(1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(A) the Kaiparowits Plateau east of the Paria River is one of the most rugged and isolated wilderness regions in the United States;

(B) the Kaiparowits Plateau, a windswept land of harsh beauty, contains distant vistas and a remarkable variety of plant and animal species;

(C) ancient forests, an abundance of big game animals, and 22 species of raptors thrive undisturbed on the grassland mesa tops of the Kaiparowits Plateau;

(D) each of the areas described in paragraph (2) (other than Heaps Canyon, Little Valley, and Wide Hollow) is located within the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, as established in 1996; and

(E) the Kaiparowits Plateau should be protected and managed as a wilderness area.

(2) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(A) Andalex Not (approximately 18,000 acres).

(B) Box Canyon (approximately 3,000 acres).

(C) Burning Hills (approximately 81,000 acres).

(D) Canaan Peak Slopes (approximately 2,500 acres).

(E) Carcass Canyon (approximately 85,000 acres).

(F) Fiftymile Bench (approximately 13,000 acres).

(G) Fiftymile Mountain (approximately 207,000 acres).

(H) Heaps Canyon (approximately 4,000 acres).

(I) Horse Spring Canyon (approximately 32,000 acres).

(J) Kodachrome Headlands (approximately 8,500 acres).

(K) Little Valley Canyon (approximately 4,000 acres).

(L) Mud Spring Canyon (approximately 66,000 acres).

(M) Nipple Bench (approximately 32,000 acres).

(N) Paradise Canyon-Wahweap (approximately 266,000 acres).

(O) Rock Cove (approximately 17,000 acres).

(P) The Blues (approximately 22,000 acres).

(Q) The Cockscomb (approximately 12,000 acres).

(R) Warm Creek (approximately 24,000 acres).

(S) Wide Hollow (approximately 7,700 acres).

(c) ESCALANTE CANYONS.—

(1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(A) glens and coves carved in massive sandstone cliffs, spring-watered hanging gardens, and the silence of ancient Anasazi ruins are examples of the unique features that entice hikers, campers, and sightseers from around the world to Escalante Canyon;

(B) Escalante Canyon links the spruce fir forests of the 11,000-foot Aquarius Plateau with winding slickrock canyons that flow into Glen Canyon;

(C) Escalante Canyon, one of Utah's most popular natural areas, contains critical habitat for deer, elk, and wild bighorn sheep that also enhances the scenic integrity of the area;

(D) each of the areas described in paragraph (2) is located within the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, as established in 1996; and

(E) Escalante Canyon should be protected and managed as a wilderness area.

(2) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(A) Colt Mesa (approximately 28,000 acres).

(B) Death Hollow (approximately 50,000 acres).

(C) Forty Mile Gulch (approximately 7,600 acres).

(D) Lampstand (approximately 11,500 acres).

(E) Muley Twist Flank (approximately 3,700 acres).

(F) North Escalante Canyons (approximately 182,000 acres).

(G) Pioneer Mesa (approximately 11,000 acres).

(H) Scorpion (approximately 61,000 acres).

(I) Sooner Bench (approximately 500 acres).

(J) Steep Creek (approximately 36,000 acres).

(K) Studhorse Peaks (approximately 24,000 acres).

SEC. 103. MOAB-LA SAL CANYONS WILDERNESS AREAS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the canyons surrounding the La Sal Mountains and the town of Moab offer a variety of extraordinary landscapes;

(2) outstanding examples of natural formations and landscapes in the Moab-La Sal area include the huge sandstone fins of Behind the Rocks, the mysterious Fisher Towers, and the whitewater rapids of Westwater Canyon; and

(3) the Moab-La Sal area should be protected and managed as a wilderness area.

(b) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(1) Arches Adjacent (approximately 4,100 acres).

(2) Beaver Creek (approximately 45,000 acres).

(3) Behind the Rocks (approximately 19,500 acres).

(4) Big Triangle (approximately 21,500 acres).

(5) Coyote Wash (approximately 27,000 acres).

(6) Dome Plateau (approximately 36,500 acres).

(7) Fisher Towers (approximately 18,000 acres).

(8) Goldbar Canyon (approximately 9,500 acres).

(9) Granite Creek (approximately 5,000 acres).

(10) Hunter Canyon (approximately 5,500 acres).

(11) Mary Jane Canyon (approximately 27,500 acres).

(12) Mill Creek (approximately 17,000 acres).

(13) Morning Glory (approximately 11,000 acres).

(14) Porcupine Rim (approximately 10,000 acres).

(15) Renegade Point (approximately 6,200 acres).

(16) Westwater Canyon (approximately 39,000 acres).

(17) Yellow Bird (approximately 4,600 acres).

SEC. 104. HENRY MOUNTAINS WILDERNESS AREAS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the Henry Mountain Range, the last mountain range to be discovered and named by early explorers in the contiguous United States, still retains a wild and undiscovered quality;

(2) fluted badlands that surround the flanks of 11,000-foot Mounts Ellen and Pennell contain areas of critical habitat for mule deer and for the largest herd of free-roaming buffalo in the United States;

(3) despite their relative accessibility, the Henry Mountain Range remains one of the wildest, least-known ranges in the United States; and

(4) the Henry Mountain range should be protected and managed to ensure the preservation of the range as a wilderness area.

(b) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(1) Bull Mountain (approximately 16,000 acres).

(2) Bullfrog Creek (approximately 42,000 acres).

(3) Dogwater Creek (approximately 3,400 acres).

(4) Fremont Gorge (approximately 22,000 acres).

(5) Long Canyon (approximately 16,500 acres).

(6) Mount Ellen-Blue Hills (approximately 145,000 acres).

(7) Mount Hillers (approximately 20,000 acres).

(8) Mount Pennell (approximately 155,000 acres).

(9) Notom Bench (approximately 7,300 acres).

(10) Oak Creek (approximately 1,500 acres).

(11) Ragged Mountain (approximately 29,000 acres).

SEC. 105. GLEN CANYON WILDERNESS AREAS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the side canyons of Glen Canyon, including the Dirty Devil River and the Red, White and Blue Canyons, contain some of the most remote and outstanding landscapes in southern Utah;

(2) the Dirty Devil River, once the fortress hideout of outlaw Butch Cassidy's Wild Bunch, has sculpted a maze of slickrock canyons through an imposing landscape of monoliths and inaccessible mesas;

(3) the Red and Blue Canyons contain colorful Chinle/Moenkopi badlands found nowhere else in the region; and

(4) the canyons of Glen Canyon in the State should be protected and managed as wilderness areas.

(b) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(1) Cane Spring Desert (approximately 18,000 acres).

(2) Dark Canyon (approximately 138,000 acres).

(3) Dirty Devil (approximately 245,000 acres).

(4) Fiddler Butte (approximately 93,000 acres).

(5) Flat Tops (approximately 30,000 acres).

(6) Little Rockies (approximately 64,000 acres).

(7) Red Rock Plateau (approximately 210,000 acres).

(8) The Needle (approximately 11,000 acres).

(9) White Canyon (approximately 115,500 acres).

SEC. 106. SAN JUAN-ANASAZI WILDERNESS AREAS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) more than 1,000 years ago, the Anasazi Indian culture flourished in the slickrock canyons and on the piñon-covered mesas of southeastern Utah;

(2) evidence of the ancient presence of the Anasazi pervades the Cedar Mesa area of the San Juan-Anasazi area where cliff dwellings, rock art, and ceremonial kivas embellish sandstone overhangs and isolated benchlands;

(3) the Cedar Mesa area is in need of protection from the vandalism and theft of its unique cultural resources;

(4) the Cedar Mesa wilderness areas should be created to protect both the archaeological heritage and the extraordinary wilderness, scenic, and ecological values of the United States; and

(5) the San Juan-Anasazi area should be protected and managed as a wilderness area to ensure the preservation of the unique and valuable resources of that area.

(b) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(1) Allen Canyon (approximately 6,400 acres).

(2) Arch Canyon (approximately 30,500 acres).

(3) Comb Ridge (approximately 16,000 acres).

(4) Cross Canyon (approximately 2,400 acres).

(5) East Montezuma (approximately 46,500 acres).

(6) Fish and Owl Creek Canyon (approximately 74,000 acres).

(7) Grand Gulch (approximately 161,000 acres).

(8) Hammond Canyon (approximately 4,700 acres).

(9) Monument Canyon (approximately 18,000 acres).

(10) Nokai Dome (approximately 94,000 acres).

(11) Road Canyon (approximately 64,000 acres).

(12) San Juan River (approximately 15,000 acres).

(13) The Tabernacle (approximately 7,400 acres).

(14) Tin Cup Mesa (approximately 26,000 acres).

(15) Valley of the Gods (approximately 20,000 acres).

SEC. 107. CANYONLANDS BASIN WILDERNESS AREAS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) Canyonlands National Park safeguards only a small portion of the extraordinary red-hued, cliff-walled canyonland region of the Colorado Plateau;

(2) areas near Canyonlands National Park contain canyons with rushing perennial streams, natural arches, bridges, and towers;

(3) the gorges of the Green and Colorado Rivers lie on adjacent land managed by the Secretary;

(4) popular overlooks in Canyonlands National Park and Dead Horse Point State Park have views directly into adjacent areas, including Lockhart Basin and Indian Creek; and

(5) designation of those areas as wilderness would ensure the protection of this erosional masterpiece of nature and of the rich pockets of wildlife found within its expanded boundaries.

(b) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(1) Bridger Jack Mesa (approximately 33,500 acres).

(2) Butler Wash (approximately 27,000 acres).

(3) Dead Horse Cliffs (approximately 5,300 acres).

(4) Demon's Playground (approximately 3,600 acres).

(5) Duma Point (approximately 14,500 acres).

(6) Gooseneck (approximately 9,400 acres).

(7) Hatch Point Canyons/Lockhart Basin (approximately 150,500 acres).

(8) Horseshoe Canyon (approximately 83,500 acres).

(9) Horsethief Point (approximately 15,500 acres).

(10) Indian Creek (approximately 28,500 acres).

(11) Labyrinth Canyon (approximately 83,000 acres).

(12) San Rafael River (approximately 117,000 acres).

(13) Shay Mountain (approximately 15,500 acres).

(14) Sweetwater Reef (approximately 69,500 acres).

SEC. 108. SAN RAFAEL SWELL WILDERNESS AREAS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the San Rafael Swell towers above the desert like a castle, ringed by 1,000-foot ramparts of Navajo Sandstone;

(2) the highlands of the San Rafael Swell have been fractured by uplift and rendered hollow by erosion over countless millennia, leaving a tremendous basin punctuated by mesas, buttes, and canyons and traversed by sediment-laden desert streams;

(3) among other places, the San Rafael wilderness offers exceptional back country opportunities in the colorful Wild Horse Badlands, the monoliths of North Caineville Mesa, the rock towers of Cliff Wash, and colorful cliffs of Humbug Canyon;

(4) the mountains within these areas are among Utah's most valuable habitat for desert bighorn sheep; and

(5) the San Rafael Swell area should be protected and managed to ensure its preservation as a wilderness area.

(b) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(1) Cedar Mountain (approximately 15,000 acres).

(2) Devils Canyon (approximately 14,000 acres).

(3) Eagle Canyon (approximately 38,500 acres).

(4) Factory Butte (approximately 22,000 acres).

(5) Hondu Country (approximately 2,600 acres).

(6) Jones Bench (approximately 3,400 acres).

(7) Limestone Cliffs (approximately 25,500 acres).

(8) Lost Spring Wash (approximately 36,500 acres).

(9) Mexican Mountain (approximately 25,000 acres).

(10) Molen Reef (approximately 32,500 acres).

(11) Muddy Creek (approximately 92,000 acres).

(12) Mussentuchit Badlands (approximately 24,500 acres).

(13) Price River-Humbug (approximately 122,000 acres).

(14) Red Desert (approximately 36,500 acres).

(15) Rock Canyon (approximately 17,500 acres).

(16) San Rafael Knob (approximately 15,000 acres).

(17) San Rafael Reef (approximately 53,000 acres).

(18) Sids Mountain (approximately 36,500 acres).

(19) Upper Muddy Creek (approximately 18,500 acres).

(20) Wild Horse Mesa (approximately 63,000 acres).

SEC. 109. BOOK CLIFFS AND UINTA BASIN WILDERNESS AREAS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the Book Cliffs and Uinta Basin wilderness areas offer—

(A) unique big game hunting opportunities in verdant high-plateau forests;

(B) the opportunity for float trips of several days duration down the Green River in Desolation Canyon; and

(C) the opportunity for calm water canoe weekends on the White River;

(2) the long rampart of the Book Cliffs bounds the area on the south, while seldom-visited uplands, dissected by the rivers and streams, slope away to the north into the Uinta Basin;

(3) bears, Bighorn sheep, cougars, elk, and mule deer flourish in the back country of the Book Cliffs; and

(4) the Book Cliffs and Uinta Basin areas should be protected and managed to ensure the protection of the areas as wilderness.

(b) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(1) Bad Land Cliffs (approximately 13,000 acres).

(2) Bourdette Draw (approximately 15,500 acres).
(3) Bull Canyon (approximately 3,100 acres).
(4) Dead Horse Pass (approximately 8,400 acres).
(5) Desbrough Canyon (approximately 14,000 acres).
(6) Desolation Canyon (approximately 32,000 acres).
(7) Diamond Breaks (approximately 8,600 acres).
(8) Diamond Canyon (approximately 168,000 acres).
(9) Diamond Mountain (approximately 31,000 acres).
(10) Dinosaur Adjacent (approximately 7,900 acres).
(11) Goslin Mountain (approximately 3,800 acres).
(12) Hideout Canyon (approximately 12,500 acres).
(13) Lower Flaming Gorge (approximately 21,000 acres).
(14) Mexico Point (approximately 1,500 acres).
(15) Moonshine Draw (approximately 10,500 acres).
(16) Mountain Home (approximately 7,800 acres).
(17) O-Wi-Yu-Kuts (approximately 14,000 acres).
(18) Red Creek Badlands (approximately 4,600 acres).
(19) Survey Point (approximately 8,600 acres).
(20) Turtle Canyon (approximately 9,700 acres).

TITLE II—ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 201. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

(a) NAMES OF WILDERNESS AREAS.—Each wilderness area named in title I shall—

(1) consist of the quantity of land referenced with respect to that named area, as generally depicted on the map entitled ''Utah BLM Wilderness Proposed by H.R. 1630, 113th Congress''; and

(2) be known by the name given to it in title I.

(b) MAP AND DESCRIPTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall file a map and a legal description of each wilderness area designated by this Act with—

(A) the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate.

(2) FORCE OF LAW.—A map and legal description filed under paragraph (1) shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act, except that the Secretary may correct clerical and typographical errors in the map and legal description.

(3) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—Each map and legal description filed under paragraph (1) shall be filed and made available for public inspection in the Office of the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

SEC. 202. ADMINISTRATION.

Subject to valid rights in existence on the date of enactment of this Act, each wilderness area designated under this Act shall be administered by the Secretary in accordance with—

(1) the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.); and

(2) the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.).

SEC. 203. STATE SCHOOL TRUST LAND WITHIN WILDERNESS AREAS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), if State-owned land is included in an area designated by this Act as a wilderness area, the Secretary shall offer to exchange land owned by the United States in the State of approximately equal value in accordance with section 603(c) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(c)) and section 5(a) of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1134(a)).

(b) MINERAL INTERESTS.—The Secretary shall not transfer any mineral interests under subsection (a) unless the State transfers to the Secretary any mineral interests in land designated by this Act as a wilderness area.

SEC. 204. WATER.

(a) RESERVATION.—

(1) WATER FOR WILDERNESS AREAS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to each wilderness area designated by this Act, Congress reserves a quantity of water determined by the Secretary to be sufficient for the wilderness area.

(B) PRIORITY DATE.—The priority date of a right reserved under subparagraph (A) shall be the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) PROTECTION OF RIGHTS.—The Secretary and other officers and employees of the United States shall take any steps necessary to protect the rights reserved by paragraph (1)(A), including the filing of a claim for the quantification of the rights in any present or future appropriate stream adjudication in the courts of the State—

(A) in which the United States is or may be joined; and

(B) that is conducted in accordance with section 208 of the Department of Justice Appropriation Act, 1953 (66 Stat. 560, chapter 651).

(b) PRIOR RIGHTS NOT AFFECTED.—Nothing in this Act relinquishes or reduces any water rights reserved or appropriated by the United States in the State on or before the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) ADMINISTRATION.—

(1) SPECIFICATION OF RIGHTS.—The Federal water rights reserved by this Act are specific to the wilderness areas designated by this Act.

(2) NO PRECEDENT ESTABLISHED.—Nothing in this Act related to reserved Federal water rights—

(A) shall establish a precedent with regard to any future designation of water rights; or

(B) shall affect the interpretation of any other Act or any designation made under any other Act.

SEC. 205. ROADS.

(a) SETBACKS.—

(1) MEASUREMENT IN GENERAL.—A setback under this section shall be measured from the center line of the road.

(2) WILDERNESS ON 1 SIDE OF ROADS.—Except as provided in subsection (b), a setback for a road with wilderness on only 1 side shall be set at—

(A) 300 feet from a paved Federal or State highway;

(B) 100 feet from any other paved road or high standard dirt or gravel road; and

(C) 30 feet from any other road.

(3) WILDERNESS ON BOTH SIDES OF ROADS.—Except as provided in subsection (b), a setback for a road with wilderness on both sides (including cherry-stems or roads separating 2 wilderness units) shall be set at—

(A) 200 feet from a paved Federal or State highway;

(B) 40 feet from any other paved road or high standard dirt or gravel road; and

(C) 10 feet from any other roads.

(b) SETBACK EXCEPTIONS.—

(1) WELL-DEFINED TOPOGRAPHICAL BARRIERS.—If, between the road and the boundary of a setback area described in paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection (a), there is a well-defined cliff edge, stream bank, or other topographical barrier, the Secretary shall use the barrier as the wilderness boundary.

(2) FENCES.—If, between the road and the boundary of a setback area specified in paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection (a), there is a fence running parallel to a road, the Secretary shall use the fence as the wilderness boundary if, in the opinion of the Secretary, doing so would result in a more manageable boundary.

(3) DEVIATIONS FROM SETBACK AREAS.—

(A) EXCLUSION OF DISTURBANCES FROM WILDERNESS BOUNDARIES.—In cases where there is an existing livestock development, dispersed camping area, borrow pit, or similar disturbance within 100 feet of a road that forms part of a wilderness boundary, the Secretary may delineate the boundary so as to exclude the disturbance from the wilderness area.

(B) LIMITATION ON EXCLUSION OF DISTURBANCES.—The Secretary shall make a boundary adjustment under subparagraph (A) only if the Secretary determines that doing so is consistent with wilderness management goals.

(C) DEVIATIONS RESTRICTED TO MINIMUM NECESSARY.—Any deviation under this paragraph from the setbacks required under in paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection (a) shall be the minimum necessary to exclude the disturbance.

(c) DELINEATION WITHIN SETBACK AREA.—The Secretary may delineate a wilderness boundary at a location within a setback under paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection (a) if, as determined by the Secretary, the delineation would enhance wilderness management goals.

SEC. 206. LIVESTOCK.

Within the wilderness areas designated under title I, the grazing of livestock authorized on the date of enactment of this Act shall be permitted to continue subject to such reasonable regulations and procedures as the Secretary considers necessary, as long as the regulations and procedures are consistent with—

(1) the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.); and

(2) section 101(f) of the Arizona Desert Wilderness Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–628; 104 Stat. 4469).

SEC. 207. FISH AND WILDLIFE.

Nothing in this Act affects the jurisdiction of the State with respect to wildlife and fish on the public land located in the State.

SEC. 208. PROTECTION OF TRIBAL RIGHTS.

Nothing in this Act affects or modifies—

(1) any right of any federally recognized Indian Tribe; or

(2) any obligation of the United States to any federally recognized Indian Tribe.

SEC. 209. MANAGEMENT OF NEWLY ACQUIRED LAND.

Any land within the boundaries of a wilderness area designated under this Act that is acquired by the Federal Government shall—

(1) become part of the wilderness area in which the land is located; and

(2) be managed in accordance with this Act and other laws applicable to wilderness areas.

SEC. 210. WITHDRAWAL.

Subject to valid rights existing on the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal land referred to in title I is withdrawn from all forms of—

(1) entry, appropriation, or disposal under public law;

(2) location, entry, and patent under mining law; and

(3) disposition under all laws pertaining to mineral and geothermal leasing or mineral materials.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 1536. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand the

availability of medical nutrition therapy services under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Medical Nutrition Therapy Act of 2021, along with my colleague from Michigan, Senator PETERS. Our bill would expand Medicare beneficiaries' access to Medical Nutrition Therapy, or MNT, which is a cost-effective component of treatment for obesity, diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidemia, and other chronic conditions. At a time when we have seen many diet-related chronic conditions contribute to poor COVID–19 outcomes, increasing access to MNT should be part of the strategy to improve disease management and prevention for America's seniors. The Medical Nutrition Therapy Act would make two important changes to support patients, improve health outcomes, and reduce unnecessary health care costs.

First, it would expand Medicare Part B coverage of outpatient medical nutrition therapy services to a number of currently uncovered diseases or conditions—including prediabetes, obesity, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, malnutrition, eating disorders, cancer, HIV/AIDS, gastrointestinal diseases including celiac disease, and cardiovascular disease. Currently, Medicare Part B only covers outpatient MNT for diabetes, renal disease, and post-kidney transplant.

Second, the bill would allow more types of providers—including nurse practitioners, physician assistants, clinical nurse specialists, and psychologists—to refer patients to MNT. This is especially critical for a rural state like Maine where a NP or PA may be one's trusted primary care provider.

MNT counseling is provided by Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) as part of a collaborative health care team. It is evidenced-based and proven to positively affect weight, blood pressure, blood lipids, and blood sugar control. Nutritional counseling by RDNs is recommended by the National Lipid Association to promote long-term adherence to an individualized, heart-healthy diet. Through MNT, individuals benefit from in-depth, individualized nutrition assessments. Follow-up visits help reinforce important behavior and lifestyle changes and increase compliance.

Seniors deserve improved access to this cost-effective medical treatment, but many older adults are missing out under the current Medicare policy. Marcy Kyle, a RDN from Rockport, Maine, has seen many patients denied access to medically necessary MNT. One of her patients with prediabetes was referred by his primary care physician for MNT at age 64. At that time, his private insurance covered the service, and he booked the first available appointment the following week. That same week, this patient turned 65 and transitioned onto Medicare. You can imagine his surprise upon arriving for his appointment and learning that MNT would not be covered. Fortunately for that patient, the outpatient facility changed its process to prevent similar situations, but this example demonstrates how the current restrictions can be detrimental for older adults at a critical juncture in their journey to better health.

Another unfortunate example from Maine was a patient with a new Celiac Disease diagnosis complicated by severe weight loss. His private insurance covered MNT as Celiac Disease is a controllable disease with proper nutrition. But when transitioning from private insurance to Medicare, this patient, too, lost his access to MNT. This truly is a lost opportunity since we know early treatment with MNT can prevent future and more serious health complications and chronic conditions in older adults. Conditions such as prediabetes and Celiac Disease should be covered.

The health and financial crisis brought on by the COVID–19 pandemic makes access to MNT even more important. Seniors with diet-related conditions have suffered more than any other population in terms of experiencing the worst health outcomes, including death. According to Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) data, among those hospitalized with COVID–19, 84 percent of patients had hypertension, 68 percent had hyperlipidemia, 51 percent had diabetes, and 35 percent of patients were obese. Tragically, many of these patients were never able to leave the hospital because they passed away. In addition to the human cost, there is a financial one: the impact on the Medicare program.

This should not come as a surprise since the health and economic impact of chronic diseases is staggering. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 90 percent of the $3.5 trillion that the United States spends annually on health care goes to the treatment of people with chronic diseases and mental health conditions. Preventing chronic diseases, or managing symptoms when prevention is not possible, is one way to reduce these costs. This is particularly important for the Medicare program as more than two-thirds of seniors on Medicare live with multiple chronic conditions. As one Registered Dietitian Nutritionist in Maine told me, "we all know a dollar spent on prevention saves many health care dollars in the long run and is the right thing to do for our seniors at a time when they have limited budgets."

The Medical Nutrition Therapy Act of 2021 is supported by nearly 50 national organizations, including the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, the American Diabetes Association, the Endocrine Society, the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, and UsAgainstAlzheimer's.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation to improve access to cost-effective medical treatment for Medicare patients with chronic diseases.

Thank you, Mr. President.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. HASSAN. Mr. President, I have a request for one committee to meet during today's session of the Senate. It has the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committee is 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 Monday, May 10, 2021, at 5:30 p.m., to conduct a meeting.

APPOINTMENT

U.S. SENATE,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
April 30, 2021.

Hon. KAMALA D. HARRIS,
President of the Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM PRESIDENT: Under the provisions of Public Law 101–509, 104 Stat. 1389 (1990), the Secretary of the Senate is authorized to recommend one appointee to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress.

Tanya Marshall has served as the State of Vermont's Archivist and Chief Records Officer since 2012, where she also directs the Vermont State Archives and Records Administration, a division within the Vermont Office of the Secretary of State responsible for administering the Statewide Records and Information Management Program. I am pleased to nominate her to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress.

Congress established the Advisory Committee "to review the management and preservation of the records of Congress [and to] report to and advise the Congress and the Archivist of the United States on such management and preservation." The Committee consists of the Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the House, the Archivist of the United States, the historians of the Senate and House, and six members appointed by the leadership of Congress.

The statute requires that leadership appointees "shall have knowledge or expertise in United States history, archival management, publishing, library science, or use of legislative records." These appointees serve "for a term of two years, and may be reappointed without limitation."

I have enclosed a copy of the customary Congressional Record appointment notice for outside committee members.

Sincerely,

SONCERIA A. BERRY,
Secretary of the Senate.

Customary CONGRESSIONAL RECORD appointment notice for committee members:

The Chair announces, on behalf of the Secretary of the Senate, pursuant to Public Law 101–509, the appointment of Tanya Marshall of Vermont, to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

CONDEMNING THE HORRIFIC ATTACK IN INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, ON APRIL 15, 2021, AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT AND PRAYERS FOR ALL OF THOSE IMPACTED BY THAT TRAGEDY

Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 203.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 203) condemning the horrific attack in Indianapolis, Indiana, on April 15, 2021, and expressing support and prayers for all of those impacted by that tragedy.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 203) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of April 29, 2021, under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2021

Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, May 11; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, that upon conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the nomination of Andrea Palm, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services; that at 11:30 a.m., all postcloture time on the Palm nomination be considered expired; that the Senate recess following the cloture vote on the Marten nomination until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; that, if cloture is invoked on the Marten nomination, all postcloture debate time be considered expired at 2:30 p.m.; and, finally, that if any of the nominations are confirmed, that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. SMITH. For the information of Senators, there will be two rollcall votes at 11:30 a.m. and at least one rollcall vote at 2:30 p.m. Additional rollcall votes are expected during Tuesday's session.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:27 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nomination received by the Senate:

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

THOMAS ANDREW MONHEIM, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY, OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, VICE MICHAEL K. ATKINSON.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, May 11, 2021 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 12

Time to be announced

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Jocelyn Samuels, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Jennifer Ann Abruzzo, of New York, to be General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, Seema Nanda, of Virginia, to be Solicitor for the Department of Labor, and other pending calendar business.

TBA

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine the President's 2021 trade policy agenda.

SD–215

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 1351, to strengthen the security and integrity of the United States scientific and research enterprise, S. 1316, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to make a declaration of a significant incident, S. 1097, to establish a Federal rotational cyber workforce program for the Federal cyber workforce, S. 1353, to promote United States values and fulfill agency missions through the use of innovative applied artificial intelligence technologies, S. 1324, 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, S. 73, to ban the Federal procurement of certain drones and other unmanned aircraft systems, S. 1143, to prohibit certain individuals from downloading or using TikTok on any device issued by the United States or a government corporation, S. 1330, to facilitate the reskilling of Federal employees, S. 1350, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a national risk management cycle, S. 1306, to provide for domestic sourcing of personal protective equipment, S. 732, to strengthen Buy American requirements, S. 1303, to ensure that certain Federal infrastructure programs require the use of materials produced in the United States, S. 363, to amend chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code, to increase the requirement for American-made content, to strengthen the waiver provisions, and S. 1094, to ensure that certain materials used in carrying out Federal infrastructure aid programs are made in the United States.

SD–342

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

To hold hearings to examine domestic violent extremism in America.

SH–216

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider S. 82, to require a joint task force on air travel during and after the COVID–19 Public Health Emergency, S. 140, to improve data collection and monitoring of the Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries, and coasts, S. 316, to establish a temperature checks pilot program for air transportation, S. 497, to establish the American Fisheries Advisory Committee to assist in the awarding of fisheries research and development grants, S. 516, to plan for and coordinate efforts to integrate advanced air mobility aircraft into the national airspace system, S. 1037, to provide for the establishment of a section of the website of the Department of Commerce that shall serve as the primary hub for information relating to Federal manufacturing programs, S. 1106, to prohibit the sale of shark fins, S. 1260, to establish a new Directorate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, innovation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program, S. 1289, to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to reauthorize and modify the John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant Program, an original bill entitled, ''COVID–19 Home Safety Act'', and the nominations of Leslie B. Kiernan, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Department of Commerce, and Lina M. Khan, of New York, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner.

SD–106

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Shannon Aneal Estenoz, of Florida, to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife, and Radhika Fox, of California, to be an Assistant Administrator and Michal Ilana Freedhoff, of Maryland, to be Assistant Administrator for Toxic Substances, both of the Environmental Protection Agency.

SR–301

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine COVID–19 pandemic and the United States international response.

SD–419/VTC

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Deborah L. Boardman, and Lydia Kay Griggsby, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Maryland, and Ronald L. Davis, of California, to be Director of the United States Marshals Service, Department of Justice.

SD–G50

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the racial wealth gap in the United States.

VTC

11 a.m.

Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine waste, fraud, cost overruns, and auditing at the Pentagon.

SD–608

2 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH–219

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Personnel

To hold hearings to examine military and civilian personnel programs in the Department of Defense in review on the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2022 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD–106

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Emerging Threats and Spending Oversight

To hold hearings to examine the findings and recommendations of the Government Accountability Office's 2021 report on duplication, overlap, fragmentation and opportunities to achieve financial benefits.

SD–342/VTC

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the COVID–19 response in native communities, focusing on tourism economies one year later.

SD–628

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, and Border Safety

To hold hearings to examine the essential role of immigrant workers in America.

SD–226

3 p.m.

Committee on Finance

Subcommittee on Health Care

To hold hearings to examine the COVID–19 pandemic and beyond, focusing on improving mental health and addiction services in our communities.

SD–215

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine supporting disabled veterans, focusing on the state

of claims processing during and after COVID–19.

SR–253

4:30 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces

To hold hearings to examine the Department of Defense budget posture for nuclear forces in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2022 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR–232A

MAY 13

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Christine Elizabeth Wormuth, of Virginia, to be Secretary of the Army, Department of Defense.

SD–G50

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine preventing mass atrocities.

VTC

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine rethinking disaster recovery and resiliency, focusing on protecting our nation's transportation systems

SD–192

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider the nomination of Tommy P. Beaudreau, of Alaska, to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine offshore energy development in federal waters and leasing under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act.

SD–366

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine retirement security, focusing on building a better future.

SD–106

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 228, to promote antitrust enforcement and protect competition through adjusting premerger filing fees, and increasing antitrust enforcement resources, S. 1511, to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 with respect to payments to certain public safety officers who have become permanently and totally disabled as a result of personal injuries sustain in the line of duty, S. 921, to amend title 18, United States Code, to further protect officers and employees of the United States, S. 1502, to make Federal law enforcement officer peer support communications confidential, and the nominations of Kristen M. Clarke, and Todd Sunhwae Kim, both of the District of Columbia, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, Ketanji Brown Jackson, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, Candace Jackson-Akiwumi, of Illinois, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, Julien Xavier Neals, and Zahid N. Quraishi, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, and Regina M. Rodriguez, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado.

SD–216

10:15 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine Department of Homeland Security actions to address unaccompanied minors at the southern border.

SD–342/VTC

MAY 17

6 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To receive a closed briefing on the challenges and opportunities for the United States in the Horn of Africa.

SVC–217

MAY 18

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Defense

To hold hearings to examine the National Guard and Reserve.

SH–216

MAY 19

10 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine biodiversity loss, focusing on drivers, impacts, and potential solutions.

SD–G50

MAY 25

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of State.

SD–106

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2397–S2422

Measures Introduced: Sixteen bills were introduced, as follows: S. 1528–1543. **Pages S2412–13**

Measures Reported:

Report to accompany S. 914, to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize programs under those Acts. (S. Rept. No. 117–20)

S. 231, 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, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–21)

S. 636, to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to submit to Congress an annual report on projects that are over budget and behind schedule, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 117–22)

S. 1169, to address issues involving the People's Republic of China, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S2412**

Measures Passed:

Condemning attack in Indianapolis: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 203, condemning the horrific attack in Indianapolis, Indiana, on April 15, 2021, and expressing support and prayers for all of those impacted by that tragedy, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S2422**

Stroman Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Ronald Stroman, of the District of Columbia, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2021. **Page S2399**

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 on Wednesday, May 12, 2021. **Page S2399**

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 S2399**

Stroman Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Ronald Stroman, of the District of Columbia, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2028. **Page S2399**

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 Ronald Stroman, of the District of Columbia, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2021. **Page S2399**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S2399**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S2399**

McReynolds Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Amber Faye McReynolds, of Colorado, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2026. **Pages S2399–S2400**

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 Ronald Stroman, of the District of Columbia, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2028. **Page S2400**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S2399**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S2399**

Graves, Jr. Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Donet Dominic

Graves, Jr., of Ohio, to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce. **Page S2400**

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 Amber Faye McReynolds, of Colorado, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2026. **Page S2400**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S2400**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S2400**

Palm Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Andrea Joan Palm, of Wisconsin, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services. **Pages S2400–09**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 62 yeas to 35 nays (Vote No. EX. 179), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S2408**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, May 11, 2021; that at 11:30 a.m., all post-cloture time on the nomination be considered expired; that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Cynthia Minette Marten, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Education, all post-cloture debate time be considered expired at 2:30 p.m. **Page S2422**

Nomination Received: Senate received the following nomination:

Thomas Andrew Monheim, of Virginia, to be Inspector General of the Intelligence Community, Office of the Director of National Intelligence. **Page S2422**

Messages from the House: **Page S2412**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S2412**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S2413–14**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S2414–21**

Additional Statements: **Pages S2411–12**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S2421**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—179) **Page S2408**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3:00 p.m. and adjourned at 6:27 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, May 11, 2021. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2422.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Jewel Hairston Bronaugh, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Agriculture.

House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, May 11, 2021.

Committee Meetings

OVERSIGHT OF THE JANUARY 6TH ATTACK: UNITED STATES CAPITOL POLICE THREAT ASSESSMENT AND COUNTER-SURVEILLANCE BEFORE AND DURING THE ATTACK

Committee on House Administration: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Oversight of the January 6th Attack: United States Capitol Police Threat Assessment and Counter-Surveillance Before and During the Attack''. Testimony was heard from Michael Bolton, Inspector General, U.S. Capitol Police.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, *p. D424)*

H.R. 2630, to amend the Temporary Reauthorization and Study of the Emergency Scheduling of Fentanyl Analogues Act to extend until October

2021, a temporary order for fentanyl-related substances. Signed on May 4, 2021. (Public Law 117–12)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2021

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Michael J. McCord, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary (Comptroller), and Ronald S. Moultrie, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary for Intelligence and Security, both of the Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Adrianne Todman, of the Virgin Islands, to be Deputy Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and Nuria I. Fernandez, of California, to be Federal Transit Administrator, 10 a.m., WEBEX.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Surface Transportation, Maritime, Freight, and Ports, to hold hearings to examine freight mobility, focusing on strengthening America's supply chains and competitiveness, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to hold hearings to examine equity in transportation infrastructure, focusing on connecting communities, removing barriers, and repairing networks across America, 10 a.m., SD–216.

Committee on Finance: Subcommittee on Taxation and IRS Oversight, to hold hearings to examine closing the tax gap, focusing on lost revenue from noncompliance and the role of offshore tax evasion, 2:30 p.m., SD–215.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine an update from Federal officials on efforts to combat COVID–19, 10 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine improving Federal cybersecurity post-SolarWinds, focusing on prevention, response, and recovery, 10 a.m., SD–342/VTC.

Committee on Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution, to hold hearings to examine stopping gun violence, focusing on ghost guns, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Rules and Administration: business meeting to consider S. 1, to expand Americans' access to the ballot box, reduce the influence of big money in politics, strengthen ethics rules for public servants, and implement other anti-corruption measures for the purpose of fortifying our democracy, 10 a.m., SR–301.

House

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 2547, the "Comprehensive Debt Collection Improvement Act"; and H.R. 1065, the "Pregnant Workers Fairness Act", 3:30 p.m., Webex.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of May 11 through May 14, 2021

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Andrea Joan Palm, of Wisconsin, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Andrea Joan Palm, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Cynthia Minette Marten, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Education. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 2:30 p.m.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Appropriations: May 12, to hold hearings to examine domestic violent extremism in America, 10 a.m., SH–216.

May 13, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine rethinking disaster recovery and resiliency, focusing on protecting our nation's transportation systems, 10 a.m., SD–192.

Committee on Armed Services: May 11, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Michael J. McCord, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary (Comptroller), and Ronald S. Moultrie, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary for Intelligence and Security, both of the Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

May 12, Subcommittee on Personnel, to hold hearings to examine military and civilian personnel programs in the Department of Defense in review on the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2022 and the Future Years Defense Program, 2:30 p.m., SD–106.

May 12, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold hearings to examine the Department of Defense budget posture for nuclear forces in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2022 and the Future Years Defense Program, 4:30 p.m., SR–232A.

May 13, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Christine Elizabeth Wormuth, of Virginia, to be Secretary of the Army, Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: May 11, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Adrianne Todman, of the Virgin Islands, to be Deputy Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and Nuria I. Fernandez, of California, to be Federal Transit Administrator, 10 a.m., WEBEX.

Committee on the Budget: May 12, to hold hearings to examine waste, fraud, cost overruns, and auditing at the Pentagon, 11 a.m., SD–608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: May 11, Subcommittee on Surface Transportation, Maritime,

Freight, and Ports, to hold hearings to examine freight mobility, focusing on strengthening America's supply chains and competitiveness, 2:30 p.m., SR–253.

May 12, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 82, to require a joint task force on air travel during and after the COVID–19 Public Health Emergency, S. 140, to improve data collection and monitoring of the Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries, and coasts, S. 316, to establish a temperature checks pilot program for air transportation, S. 497, to establish the American Fisheries Advisory Committee to assist in the awarding of fisheries research and development grants, S. 516, to plan for and coordinate efforts to integrate advanced air mobility aircraft into the national airspace system, S. 1037, to provide for the establishment of a section of the website of the Department of Commerce that shall serve as the primary hub for information relating to Federal manufacturing programs, S. 1106, to prohibit the sale of shark fins, S. 1260, to establish a new Directorate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, innovation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program, S. 1289, to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to reauthorize and modify the John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant Program, an original bill entitled, ''COVID–19 Home Safety Act'', and the nominations of Leslie B. Kiernan, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Department of Commerce, and Lina M. Khan, of New York, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner, 10 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: May 13, business meeting to consider the nomination of Tommy P. Beaudreau, of Alaska, to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine offshore energy development in federal waters and leasing under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: May 11, Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to hold hearings to examine equity in transportation infrastructure, focusing on connecting communities, removing barriers, and repairing networks across America, 10 a.m., SD–216.

May 12, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Shannon Aneal Estenoz, of Florida, to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife, and Radhika Fox, of California, to be an Assistant Administrator and Michal Ilana Freedhoff, of Maryland, to be Assistant Administrator for Toxic Substances, both of the Environmental Protection Agency, 10 a.m., SR–301.

Committee on Finance: May 11, Subcommittee on Taxation and IRS Oversight, to hold hearings to examine closing the tax gap, focusing on lost revenue from noncompliance and the role of offshore tax evasion, 2:30 p.m., SD–215.

May 12, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the President's 2021 trade policy agenda, 9:30 a.m., SD–215.

May 12, Subcommittee on Health Care, to hold hearings to examine the COVID–19 pandemic and beyond, focusing on improving mental health and addiction services in our communities, 3 p.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: May 12, to hold hearings to examine COVID–19 pandemic and the United States international response, 10 a.m., SD–419/VTC.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: May 11, to hold hearings to examine an update from Federal officials on efforts to combat COVID–19, 10 a.m., SD–106.

May 12, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nominations of Jocelyn Samuels, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Jennifer Ann Abruzzo, of New York, to be General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, Seema Nanda, of Virginia, to be Solicitor for the Department of Labor, and other pending calendar business, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

May 13, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine retirement security, focusing on building a better future, 10 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: May 11, to hold hearings to examine improving Federal cybersecurity post-SolarWinds, focusing on prevention, response, and recovery, 10 a.m., SD–342/VTC.

May 12, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 1351, to strengthen the security and integrity of the United States scientific and research enterprise, S. 1316, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to make a declaration of a significant incident, S. 1097, to establish a Federal rotational cyber workforce program for the Federal cyber workforce, S. 1353, to promote United States values and fulfill agency missions through the use of innovative applied artificial intelligence technologies, S. 1324, 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, S. 73, to ban the Federal procurement of certain drones and other unmanned aircraft systems, S. 1143, to prohibit certain individuals from downloading or using TikTok on any device issued by the United States or a government corporation, S. 1330, to facilitate the reskilling of Federal employees, S. 1350, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a national risk management cycle, S. 1306, to provide for domestic sourcing of personal protective equipment, S. 732, to strengthen Buy American requirements, S. 1303, to ensure that certain Federal infrastructure programs require the use of materials produced in the United States, S. 363, to amend chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code, to increase the requirement for American-made content, to strengthen the waiver provisions, and S. 1094, to ensure that certain materials used in carrying out Federal infrastructure aid programs are made in the United States, 9:30 a.m., SD–342.

May 12, Emerging Threats and Spending Oversight, to hold hearings to examine the findings and recommendations of the Government Accountability Office's 2021 report on duplication, overlap, fragmentation and opportunities to achieve financial benefits, 2:30 p.m., SD–342/VTC.

May 13, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine Department of Homeland Security actions to address unaccompanied minors at the southern border, 10:15 a.m., SD–342/VTC.

Committee on Indian Affairs: May 12, to hold hearings to examine the COVID–19 response in native communities, focusing on tourism economies one year later, 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on Judiciary: May 11, Subcommittee on the Constitution, to hold hearings to examine stopping gun violence, focusing on ghost guns, 10 a.m., SD–226.

May 12, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Deborah L. Boardman, and Lydia Kay Griggsby, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Maryland, and Ronald L. Davis, of California, to be Director of the United States Marshals Service, Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD–G50.

May 12, Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, and Border Safety, to hold hearings to examine the essential role of immigrant workers in America, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.

May 13, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 228, to promote antitrust enforcement and protect competition through adjusting premerger filing fees, and increasing antitrust enforcement resources, S. 1511, to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 with respect to payments to certain public safety officers who have become permanently and totally disabled as a result of personal injuries sustain in the line of duty, S. 921, to amend title 18, United States Code, to further protect officers and employees of the United States, S. 1502, to make Federal law enforcement officer peer support communications confidential, and the nominations of Kristen M. Clarke, and Todd Sunhwae Kim, both of the District of Columbia, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, Ketanji Brown Jackson, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, Candace Jackson-Akiwumi, of Illinois, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, Julien Xavier Neals, and Zahid N. Quraishi, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, and Regina M. Rodriguez, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado, 10 a.m., SD–216.

Committee on Rules and Administration: May 11, business meeting to consider S. 1, to expand Americans' access to the ballot box, reduce the influence of big money in politics, strengthen ethics rules for public servants, and implement other anti-corruption measures for the purpose of fortifying our democracy, 10 a.m., SR–301.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: May 12, to hold hearings to examine supporting disabled veterans, focusing on the state of claims processing during and after COVID–19, 3 p.m., SR–253.

Select Committee on Intelligence: May 12, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH–219.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, May 12, Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry, hearing entitled ''Title II Conservation Programs: Exploring Climate Smart Practices'', 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth and Zoom.

Committee on Appropriations, May 12, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled ''USDA Research, Education and Economics Mission Area'', 10 a.m., Webex.

May 12, Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, oversight hearing on Federal Aviation Administration Safety, 10 a.m., Webex.

May 13, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, hearing entitled ''U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Resource Management and Operational Priorities'', 10 a.m., Webex.

May 13, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled ''Mental Health Emergencies: Building a Robust Crisis Response System'', 10 a.m., Webex.

May 13, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled ''Navy and Marine Corps Quality of Life and Installations Update'', 10 a.m., Webex.

May 13, Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled ''Member Day'', 1 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Armed Services May 12, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''An Update on Afghanistan'', 11 a.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

May 14, Subcommittee on Cyber, Innovative Technologies, and Information Systems, hearing entitled ''Operations in Cyberspace and Building Cyber Capabilities Across the Department of Defense'', 11 a.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Education and Labor, May 12, Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Human Services, hearing entitled ''Examining the Policies and Priorities of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service'', 12 p.m., Zoom.

May 13, Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Investment, hearing entitled ''Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Reauthorization: Creating Opportunities for Youth Employment'', 10:15 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, May 12, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled ''The Fiscal Year 2022 HHS Budget'', 10:30 a.m., Webex.

May 13, Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change, hearing entitled ''The CLEAN Future Act: Superfund Proposals to Advance Cleanups, Equity, and Climate Resilience'', 10:30 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Financial Services, May 12, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 166 the ''The Fair Lending for All Act''; H.R. 1188, the ''Greater Accountability in Pay

Act''; H.R. 1443, the ''LGBTQ Business Equal Credit Enforcement and Investment Act''; H.R. 2570, the ''Climate Risk Disclosure Act''; H.R. 3007, the ''Disclosure of Tax Havens and Offshoring Act''; and H.R. 3009, the ''Improving Language Access in Mortgage Servicing Act'', 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, May 12, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Driving a Global, Whole-of-Society Response to Climate Action'', 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.

May 13, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, Civilian Security, Migration and International Economic Policy, hearing entitled ''A Race Against Time: Deploying Vaccines and Addressing the Disproportionate Impacts of COVID–19 in Latin America and the Caribbean'', 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on House Administration, May 12, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Oversight of the January 6th Attack: United States Capitol Police Threat Assessment and Counter-Surveillance Before and During the Attack'', 12 p.m., Webex.

Committee on the Judiciary, May 13, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, hearing entitled ''Juvenile Justice Pipeline and the Road Back to Integration'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Natural Resources, May 12, Office of Insular Affairs Full Committee, hearing on H. Res. 279, the ''Insular Cases Resolution'', 1 p.m., Webex.

May 13, Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States, hearing entitled ''Environmental Justice in Indigenous Communities'', 10 a.m., Webex.

May 13, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled ''Protecting Coastal Communities and Ocean Resources from Offshore Drilling'', 1 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, May 12, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''The Capitol Insurrection: Unexplained Delays and Unanswered Questions'', 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, May 12, Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, hearing entitled ''COVID–19 Variants and Evolving Research Needs'', 10 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Small Business, May 13, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Overview of the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer Programs'', 11 a.m., 2360 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, May 13, Subcommittee on Research and Technology, markup on H.R. 2225, the ''National Science Foundation for the Future Act'', 10 a.m., Zoom.

May 13, Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, hearing entitled ''Federal Real Estate Post-COVID–19 Part One: A View from The Private Sector'', 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, May 12, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing entitled ''Military Transition During the COVID–19 Pandemic'', 10 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Ways and Means, May 12, Subcommittee on Worker and Family Support, hearing entitled ''Making a Difference for Families and Foster Youth'', 10 a.m., Webex.

May 12, Subcommittee on Revenue Measures, hearing entitled ''Funding Our Nation's Priorities: Reforming the Tax Code's Advantageous Treatment of the Wealthy'', 2 p.m., Webex.

May 13, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''The Biden Administration's 2021 Trade Policy Agenda'', 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth and Webex.

Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress, May 13, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Recruiting, Empowering and Retaining a Diverse Congressional Staff'', 9 a.m., Zoom.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: May 12, to hold hearings to examine the racial wealth gap in the United States, 10 a.m., VTC.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: May 13, to hold hearings to examine preventing mass atrocities, 9:30 a.m., VTC.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, May 11

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Andrea Joan Palm, of Wisconsin, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Andrea Joan Palm, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Cynthia Minette Marten, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Education. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 2:30 p.m.

(Senate will recess following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Cynthia Minette Marten until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 p.m., Tuesday, May 11

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

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