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 legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,

To the Senate:
Under the provisions of rule 1, 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...
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 the economy right away. The 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 coast to coast. We should not still be funding 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 circumstances, 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 officers who face threats every day and get hurt or killed. But 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. 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 technological capabilities and help the United States outcompete China and other nations in a number of emerging industries. There have been extremely productive 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 in 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 move forward. 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 clear.

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 respecting that 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, adding to and not 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 today, 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 work 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 using 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 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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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:

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

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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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 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. (Re-appointment)

Charles E. Schumer, Margaret Wood Has-
san, 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 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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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.
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE  May 10, 2021

CLOSURE 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:

CLOSURE 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 Paye 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 Hasan, 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 nominations, which the clerk will report.

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

CLOSURE 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:

CLOSURE 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. 112, Donet Dominic Graves, Jr., of Ohio, to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce.


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.

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

The motion was agreed to.

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 color, the nations 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 were 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 lifesaver. 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 voting 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 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, 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 and families. The truth is—the real truth is—that 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, it 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 put forth 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—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 going 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 a check that had been promised 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—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 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, 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 have enough and able families and children? Are they sure that they are 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 from helping our families. That is 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 he could 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 people 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 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 the first in the country 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 from the Federal government, about building 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 going to build the heavy trucks and buses that are needed—electric vehicles for the future.

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 about their 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 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.

And we have to 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 also about taking 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 150 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 our schools and childcare, our workforce and our families. That is why the American Jobs Plan would invest in building 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 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 do more to help 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 the 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 brighter 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.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, President Biden promised united 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 the 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 freedom, a fundamental freedom to worship differently, freedom to worship different ways, freedom for you and your family to live differently, freedom to spend your hard-earned money the way you want to spend it.

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 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 with 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 at 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 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 are designed 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? 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 if 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 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 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee will 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 an early 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 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 could sign 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 seniors’自My colleagues—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, passed the Medicare Advantage and Medicare Improvement 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 proposals, 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 to change that, and I am encouraged. 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 of 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, the case is different. 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.

While we are not 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 to produce enough health professionals who are 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 way it was going to be. 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 donate 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 prepartation by those hospitals or healthcare workers but because of our reliance on other countries to produce that essential medical gear.

In China, as we have told the Senate, 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 that 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 that has an on-off switch. These are small integrated circuits that keep getting 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. That is 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. An executive from 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. And 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, the most 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 contractor, 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 one of 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 fifth-generation stealth fighter, down to your cell phone, agriculture. Some have shifted production to focus on semiconductors that is creating serious supply. There is a global shortage of semiconductors, and that is 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. Semiconductors that were not used were replaced in the auto chip capacity with other in-demand things like personal computers for kids learning at home or ventilators. 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 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? We’ve talked about 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 specialized manufacturing facility. 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. That is with a “.” 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, it 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 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 a 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’s why I introduced the CHIPS for America Act. The purpose 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 spur 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, geostategic 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. These countries, 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 the 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.

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.

The PRESIDENTING 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 concurrent resolution be waived.

The PRESIDENTING 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’s police officers 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 2019. By the 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. A little more than 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 previous year. Arsons 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 for Police Departments 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 same consequence, but 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, “Defund the police; 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, 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 you look at another video that 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 deputy calls the driver 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 acts with utter professionalism. I suspect nearly all law 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 their 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 scattering 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 the peace. When the whole 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 and, in my 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 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 spread by 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 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. Simultaneously, there are real concerns.

The centerpiece of the bill I just described is disclosure and transparency. And we all know that transparency brings accountability. The people absolutely have a right to know if our educational institutions are tied to the Communist regime and we all know that transparency is the key issue that brings accountability.

China is a national security threat. It is a propaganda machine, and Confucius Institutes here brings accountability. We the people absolutely have a right to know if our educational institutions are tied to the Chinese regime and if we all know that transparency is the key issue that brings accountability.

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China is a national security threat. It is 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 universities. 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 a 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 gains from mandate bills 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 what I am, in Georgia, in 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 do 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.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, last week, let me just say, 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 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, not 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: It is not the virus that is the obstacle to growth. It is the stimulus there is, the very best economic stimulus there 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 temporary. Yet, as 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 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 every 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 are higher than what they would get, but there is where 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 the unknown, and the hook does not even have to be the $300, but it is the reality that Congress created.

What are we 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 the 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 no link to 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, an outlandishly 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 real, let the facts 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 while 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 PRESIDENTING 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, shall be brought to a close by unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum which the clerk will state.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate be brought to a close on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 69, Andrea Joan Palm, of Wisconsin, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall be brought to a close by unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum which the clerk will state.

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 Pennsylvania (Mr. Toomey).

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

[Roll Call Vote No. 179 Ex.]

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

The motion is agreed to.

The PRESIDENTING 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, I was 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 355 million taxpayer dollars were lost.

The bankruptcy 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 rail? Well, this was a high-speed rail 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 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 booming, because of 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. oil 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 price tag.

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 university, 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 and 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 child’s home, putting his fellow soldiers’ safety before his own was practically second nature. As a patrolman, 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 almost a hero and 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 that 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 talking to any of the men 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 remembered West as being a plain-speaking and easygoing man, and not at all what one might expect from a war hero. Clay said he’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. “He grew up and created his life 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 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, Division of the Republic of Korea. During a patrol, West’s unit was ambushed and took heavy casualties.

Unit commander Captain George Gividen was shot and West helped evacuate those not wounded to retreat from the enemy’s larger force. West himself, however, didn’t retreat, but instead repeatedly faced a hail 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 personnel, 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 reluctant to speak of such things at his time of 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. He married 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 rode on the railroad, she was very humble and didn’t talk about his service.

“But his wife persuaded him to talk to schoolchildren, and he thought the 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 was immortalized in a painting that now hangs in the Greenup County Courthouse. A committee comprised of Soc Clay, Tom Crump and Emily Cantrell photographed the painting, which was then made into a print from Greenup High School art teacher Brian Moer, and then sold prints of the painting signed by West, with the proceeds going to the education of 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 served in the administration of the late Governor Freudenthal as a pilot program known as Healthy Frontiers. Her talent and expertise to the boards of numerous non-profit 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 and the programs she works 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 Curry.

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 and proud she 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 serve 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 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 visiting the Department of Commerce in 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, Bennie 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 at 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 short of 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, duffle 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...
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 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 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.

(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 extend 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 authorize programs under those Acts, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117–20).

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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. 1396. 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. PERDUE):

S. 1396. 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. 1397. 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. 1398. 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. 1399. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act to require 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. 1400. 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. DUDWORTH (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. 1401. 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. 1402. 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. SHABEEB, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 1403. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide best practices on student suicide awareness and prevention training and suicide education services, local educational agencies, and tribal educational agencies receiving funds under section 502A 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

At the request of Mr. 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.

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 amend Title 38, United States Code, to amend Title 38, United States Code, to address 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. 566.

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DALLAS) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 566, 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 Ms. 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.

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. 294.

At the request of Mr. Sanders, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. Warren) was added as a cosponsor of S. 294, 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, the bill taken 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. 1169.

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. 1167.

At the request of Mr. Menendez, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. Cardin) and 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. 1261, 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. 1261.

At the request of Mrs. Stabenow, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Ms. Sanders) 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. 1279.

At the request of Mrs. Stabenow, 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. 1283.

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 Relocation and Assistance Grant Program, and for other purposes.
S. 1289.

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. 1298.

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. 1308.

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. 1389.

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. 1417.

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. 1466.

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. 1501.

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. 1511.

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. Lujan), 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. 1520.

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.
SAFETY STANDARDS.—

This Act may be cited as the “Safety, Accountability, and Federal Enforcement of Limousin Act of 2021” or the “SAFE Limos Act”.

SEC. 2. LIMOUSINE COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL SAFETY STANDARDS.

(a) LIMOUSINE STANDARDS.—

(1) REAR 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 Standards 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, or 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; and

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

and

(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 Act, each limousine remodeler shall 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 limousine 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 verify occupant restraint systems and results of the most recent inspection of the limousine.

(4) 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)).

(e) REVIEW.—The Secretary may inspect any vehicle remodeler plan submitted by a manufacturer to determine whether the plan complies, or is complying, with this chapter or a regulation prescribed or order issued pursuant to this chapter.

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

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

(1) CERTIFIED PASSENGER VEHICLE.—The term ‘certified passenger vehicle’ means a passenger vehicle 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 32101.

(3) PASSENGER CAR.—The term ‘passenger car’ means a vehicle with a seating capacity of 9 or more persons (including the driver).

(4) TRUCK.—The term ‘truck’ has the meaning given such term in section 32101.

(5) LIMOUSINE REMODELER.—The term ‘limousine remodeler’ means a person who alters or modifies a vehicle or its components (other than readily attachable components) to make an incomplete vehicle, a vehicle manufactured in two or more stages, or a certified passenger motor vehicle into a limousine by substantially changing the vehicle to manufacture a limousine.

(6) MULTIPURPOSE PASSENGER VEHICLE.—The term ‘multipurpose passenger vehicle’ means a vehicle that meets the 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) LIMOUSINE.—The term ‘limousine’ means a vehicle that is a trailer, motor vehicle, or import into the United States for introduction into interstate commerce unless the limousine operator has properly disclosed in a clear and conspicuous notice, including on the website of the operator if the operator has a website, the following:

(i) a notice of the most recent inspection of the limousine required under or pursuant to Federal law.

(9) LIMOUSINE CRASHWORTHINESS.—

(I) 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 arrangements, including perimeter seating arrangements.

(II) RULEMAKING OR REPORT.—

(A) CRASHWORTHINESS STANDARDS.—

(I) 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, for the protection of occupants in limousines with alternative seating arrangements, 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) 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, or the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report describing the reasons for not prescribing such standard.

(e) LIMOUSINE EVACUATION.—

(I) 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 of occupants in the passenger compartment of a limousine.

(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).

(I) LIMOUSINE AND LIMOUSINE REMODELER.—

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

(II) a notice of the present model’s crashworthiness.
S. 1532

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—(1) $5,000,000; and (2) $50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2024.

(b) Federal Trade Commission Enforcement.—The Federal Trade Commission shall enforce this section in the same manner, by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction as it exercises with respect to the provisions set forth in sections 563.5 and 571 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).

(c) Privacy Protections.—Any standard prescribed by the Federal Trade Commission under subsection (a) shall be consistent with the collection and sharing requirements under the FAST Act (Public Law 114-94) and any other applicable law.

(d) Definitions.—In this section—

(1) "in general."—Not later than 2 years after 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) "limousine."—The term "limousine" has the meaning given such term in section 30102(a) of title 49, United States Code.

(3) "limousine operator."—The term "limousine operator" has the meaning given such term in section 30129 of title 49, United States Code.

(4) "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).

(5) "passenger motor vehicle."—The term "passenger motor vehicle" has the meaning given such term in section 32101.

(6) "motor vehicle safety standard."—The term "motor vehicle safety standard" is a Federal motor vehicle safety standard.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Act shall take effect 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SECTION 4. SAVINGS PROVISION

Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to limit the authority of the Federal Trade Commission under any other provision of law.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Act shall take effect 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Mr. SCHUMER. 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 our nation 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 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, which are widely available in the private sector would allow military families to contribute pre-tax dollars to accounts...

"(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.

"(4) 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 subsection 4 of section 311 of title 49 is amended by inserting in lieu of the item relating to section 31161 the following: "31161. 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 our nation 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.

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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:

SEC. 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.
SEC. 5. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.
SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.
SEC. 7. DESIGNATION OF WILDERNESS AREAS.
SEC. 8. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.
SEC. 9. DEFINITIONS.
SEC. 10. GRAND STAIRCASE-ESCALANTE WILDERNESS AREAS.

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SEC. 10. GRAND STAIRCASE-ESCALANTE WILDERNESS AREAS.
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 5,000,000,000 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.

DEFINITIONS.—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 Coxe (approximately 17,000 acres). (P) The Blues (approximately 22,000 acres). (Q) The Cockscamb (approximately 12,000 acres). (R) Warm Creek (approximately 24,000 acres). (S) Wide Hollow (approximately 7,700 acres). (T) ESCALANTE CANYONS.—(1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that— (A) glens and caves 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) Archs 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 Penwell 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).
canyons and on the pinon-covered mesas of southern Utah; and

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 Devil Dirty 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) Glen Canyon (approximately 180,000 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 pillow-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 bennchlands;

(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 10,000 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 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) Gooseeneck (approximately 9,400 acres).

(7) Hatch Point Canyons/Lockhart Basin (approximately 150,000 acres).

(8) Horsehoe Canyon (approximately 83,500 acres).

(9) Horseshief 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; and

(3) among other places, the San Rafael wilderness offers exceptional back country opportunities in the colorful Wild Horse Badlands, the monoliths of North Canyenne Mountain, 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) Honda 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 21,500 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) Sides 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 adventures 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; and

(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).
TITLE I—Utah BLM Wilderness Proposed by H.R. 204

(a) RESERVATION.—The Sec- 
yetary shall—

(b) MINERAL INTERESTS.—The Secretary shall not transfer any mineral interests without a transition unless the State trans- 

(c) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary may delineate the boundary so as to exclude the disturbance from the wilderness area.

(b) LIMITATION ON EXCLUSION OF DISRU-

BARDANCES.—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 para- graph from the setbacks required under in paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection (a) shall be the minimum necessary to exclude the disturbance.

DESIGNATION WITHIN SETBACK AREA.— The Secretary may delineate a wilderness boundary at a location within a setback area as determined by the Secretary, if, as determined by the Secretary, the delineation would enhance wilderness management goals.

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SEC. 206. LIVESTOCK.

Within the wilderness areas designated under title I, the grazing of livestock author- ized on the date of enactment of this Act shall be permitted to continue so long as 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 Wild- 


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
Imagine his surprise upon arriving for transitioned onto Medicare. You can same week, this patient turned 65 and appointment the following week. That ice, and he booked the first available cian for MNT at age 64. At that time, was referred by his primary care physi- One of her patients with prediabetes access to medically necessary MNT. Marcy Kyle, a RDN from Rockport, Maine, has seen many patients denied under the current Medicare policy. This is especially critical for a rural team. It is evidenced-based and proven as part of a collaborative health care practitioners, physician assistants, clinical nurse specialists, and psych-ologists—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 pro-vider.

MNT counseling is provided by Reg-istered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) as part of a collaborative health care team, and is provided in a patient-centered and provider-based and provided 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 ad-herence to an individualized, heart-healthy diet. Through MNT, individ-uals benefit from in-depth, individual-ized nutrition assessments. Follow-up visits help reinforce important behav-ior 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 physi-cian for MNT at age 64. At that time, his private insurance covered the serv-ice, 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. Fortu-nately 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 se-vere weight loss. His private insurance covered MNT as Celiac Disease is a controllable disease with proper nutrition. But when transitioning from pri-ate insurance to Medicare, this pa-tient, 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 im-portant. Seniors with diet-related condi-tions have suffered more than any other population in terms of experi-encing the worst health outcomes, in-cluding 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 diabe-tes, and 35 percent of patients were obese. Tragically, many of these pa-tients were never able to leave the hos-pital because they passed away. In ad-dition to the human cost, there is a fi-nancial one: the impact on the Medi-care program.

This should not come as a surprise since the health and economic impact of chronic diseases is staggering. Ac-cording 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 man-aging 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 dol-lar 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 bud-gets.”

The Medical Nutrition Therapy Act of 2021 is supported by nearly 50 na-tional organizations, including the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, the Endocrine Society, the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, and UsAgainstAlzheimer’s.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation to improve ac-cess to cost-effective medical treat-ment 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 dur-ing 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 Sen-ate, the following committee is author-ized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

**COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY**

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutri-tion, and Forestry is authorized to meet during 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 provi-sions of Public Law 101–509, 104 Stat. 1369 (1990), the Secretary of the Senate is author-ized to recommend one appointee to the Ad-visory Committee on the Records of Con-gress.

Tanya Marshall has served as the State of Vermont’s Archivist and Chief Records Offi-cer since 2012, where she also directs the Vermont State Archives and Records Admin-istration, a division within the Vermont Of-fice of the Secretary of State responsible for administering the Statewide Records and In-formation Management Program. I am pleased to nominate her to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress.

Congress established the Advisory Com-mittee “to review the management and pres-ervation of the records of Congress [and to] report to and advise the Congress and the Archivist of the United States on such manage-ment 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 ap-pointees “shall have knowledge or expertise in United States history, archival manage-ment, publishing, library science, or use of legislative records.” These appointees serve “for a term of two years, and may be re-appointed 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 Sec-retery 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 Sen-ator 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.

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
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, 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 their 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 Homeland Security Committee to make a declaration of a significant incident, S. 1097, to establish a Federal rotational cyber workforce program for the Federal cyber workforce, S. 1303, 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. 146, 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. 1097, 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. 1126, to prohibit the sale of shark fins, S. 1290, to establish a new United States 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 Hans 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 Liz Davidson, to be Members of the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, and Ronald L. Davis, of California, to be Director of the United States Marshals Service, Department of Justice.

SD–650

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 Security

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.

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–253

MAY 10

6:45 a.m.
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, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, Ketanji Brown Jackson, to be United States Circuit Judge for 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, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, Ketanji Brown Jackson, to be United States Circuit Judge for 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, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, Ketanji Brown Jackson, to be United States Circuit Judge for 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, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, Ketanji Brown Jackson, to be United States Circuit Judge for 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, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, Ketanji Brown Jackson, to be United States Circuit Judge for 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, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, Ketanji Brown Jackson, to be United States Circuit Judge for 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, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, Ketanji Brown Jackson, to be United States Circuit Judge for 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, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, Ketanji Brown Jackson, to be United States Circuit Judge for 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, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, Ketanji Brown Jackson, to be United States Circuit Judge for 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, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, Ketanji Brown Jackson, to be United States Circuit Judge for 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 Colorado.

SD–216

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Defense
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
Monday, May 10, 2021

**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, 2028. 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. 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

- **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. 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. Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:
  - Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. Page S2399

- **Graves, Jr. Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Donet Dominic...
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...
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 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 competitive, 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.
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 non-compliance 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 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.


Committee on Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, oversight hearing on Federal Aviation Administration Safety, 10 a.m., Webex.

Committee 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.

Committee on Armed Services May 12, Full Committee, hearing entitled “An Update on Afghanistan”, 11 a.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee 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.

Committee 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 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
May 10, 2021

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—DAILY DIGEST

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 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 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.

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.


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.