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

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

Eternal God, teach us how to live our lives with wisdom, refusing to deviate from the path of integrity.

Lord, give our lawmakers the wisdom to trust in You and do good, enabling them to help our Nation become safe and secure. As our Senators commit their plans and work to You, bless their efforts with radiant success. Help them to remember the power of godliness, and may they use it to discern the difference between right and wrong.

Remind us all that Your sacred Word continues to be a lamp of wisdom, providing light for our feet and illumination for the road ahead.

We pray in Your righteous Name. Amen.

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

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 7, 2021.

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

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER
The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA
Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, the Senate returns to session with a busy and consequential work period ahead of it. We will consider landmark legislation to establish paycheck fairness, legislation to boost American innovation in the 21st century, and in the final week of June, legislation to protect voting rights and American democracy. The Senate will consider all three of these issues this month.

We will start by finishing the U.S. Innovation and Competition Act, now known as the USICA Act. The bipartisan legislation will be the largest investment in scientific research and technological innovation in generations, setting the United States on a path to lead the world in the industries of the future. It includes the input of virtually everyone in this Chamber—a product of over six committees and dozens of amendments from our Republican colleagues.

Tomorrow, the Senate will consider a couple of final amendments before passing this historic legislation. It will be one of the most important things we will have done in a very long time. It will be the largest investment in scientific research and technological innovation in generations—decades.

JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS
Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, on judges, in addition, today and tomorrow, the Senate will confirm the first of President Biden’s nominees to the Federal bench: Julien Xavier Neals of New Jersey and Regina Rodriguez of Colorado. I also look forward to confirming other highly qualified jurists later this work period, including Ketanji Brown Jackson to serve on the DC Circuit Court of Appeals. These are the first of many jurists that the Democratic Senate will consider to restore the balance to the Federal judiciary.

Under President Trump and Leader MCCONNELL, the Senate became a conveyor belt for nearly 200 judges. Many were woefully inexperienced and far outside the judicial mainstream. Some were so extreme on issues of race and voting rights that even some of our Republican colleagues joined the Democrats in rejecting those nominations.
On the flip side, President Obama appointed 320 judges, and President Biden now has the opportunity to fill more than 80 vacancies. Under this Democratic majority, the Senate will swiftly and consistently confirm President Biden’s appointments to the Federal bench, balance, the nobility, and diversity back to the judiciary. Mr. Neals and Ms. Rodriguez are two great examples, along with Ms. Brown Jackson.

In the same vein, today, I also announced two judicial recommendations to President Biden: Myrna Perez, the director of voting rights at the Brennan Center for Justice, to serve on the prestigious Second Circuit Court of Appeals, and Dale Ho, the leader of the civil rights attorneys, and Federal defenders to serve on the Southern District of New York. Ms. Perez and Mr. Ho are two of the foremost voting rights and election experts in the country. With a national focus on voting rights right now, their elevation is timely, and their perspectives will be invaluable. Ms. Perez would also be the first Latina to serve on the Second Circuit Court since now-Justice Sonia Sotomayor.

Diversity on the Federal bench is very important to me, both demographic diversity and diversity of experience. The courts have long been packed with former prosecutors and corporate lawyers. It is about time that civil rights attorneys, voting rights attorneys, and Federal defenders start getting the nod. My recommendations of Ms. Perez and Mr. Ho are part of that effort.

Last month, I also recommended Eunice Lee, an appellate attorney with the Federal Defenders of New York, to serve as a judge on the Second Circuit. Lee could become just the second Black woman to sit on this prestigious appeals court, a court that has never—never—had a former Federal defender on its roster.

Just like Ms. Perez and Mr. Ho, Eunice Lee will bring demographic and professional diversity to the Federal bench. The three of them, in tandem, will bring dynamism, brilliance, and a real diversity of experience to courts in New York.

As a Senator from New York and as majority leader, I am intent on restoring balance to a judiciary that has been thrown out of whack by 4 years of President Trump’s selections.

PAYCHECK FAIRNESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, finally, on paycheck fairness, tomorrow, the Senate will decide whether to take up legislation to address the gender pay gap.

Right now in America, women earn, roughly, 82 cents for every dollar a man makes. The gap is even wider for women of color. Even when you account for educational attainment: Black and Latina women earn only 65 to 70 percent of what a White man makes with the same degree, whether it is a bachelor’s degree or an advanced degree. Many women with advanced degrees actually make less than their male counterparts who don’t have them. So, looking at the facts, women with the same jobs, the same degrees—sometimes better degrees than their male counterparts—are making less money. That is the very definition of gender discrimination, and it is holding back women in every industry and area of the country.

The pandemic has only made matters worse. Faced with impossible choices between careers and childcare, women have fallen out of the workforce at an alarming rate. By one measure, the COVID–19 pandemic has set women’s labor force participation back by more than 30 years, leading some economists to describe the 2020 year not as a recession but as a “she-cession.”

So there is a lot of work to do to not only recover from a devastating year for women in the workplace but also establish an equal playing field where women are paid what they deserve.

Senate Democrats have put forward a bill that would make it much easier for women to petition for pay equity. It doesn’t mandate that employers set wages at a certain level. It doesn’t have the government reach into the private sector. It merely makes it easier for women to overcome pay discrimination.

In my view, this straightforward, unobjectionable piece of legislation should merit bipartisan support and should not require changes. All 50 Democratic Senators are cosponsors of the bill—all 50. Will our Republican colleagues step up to the plate and join us tomorrow to advance this commonsense legislation?

I yield the floor.

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. McCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum be declared.

The Acting President pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Acting President pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, on Friday, the U.S. job market got another monthly checkup. Hiring in May was up from the previous month but still fell short of the level experts and American employers had hoped for.

Of course, the highest expectations for our economic recovery under Democratic control were set by none other than the Democrats themselves.

Back in February, the Biden administration pointed to projections that its so-called American Rescue Plan would boost job creation in 2021 by 4 million over existing expectations. Meeting that new higher goal meant the economy would have to grow by over 900,000 new jobs a month. Needless to say, the job market is nowhere near anywhere close to meeting this target. In fact, hiring is falling short of where nonpartisan experts forecasted it would be even if—even if—Democrats hadn’t ramped through a multitrillion-dollar liberal wish list this spring.

I have been clear on the dangers of that bill from the beginning, and the data is now spelling it out very clearly. Democrats’ bloated additions to unemployment insurance haven’t just failed to help our recovery; they have actually hurt it, and the consequences on Main Street are now in full focus.

As hiring lags, employers are struggling to entice workers to rejoin and keep their facilities staffed. After a year that already tested budgets to the breaking point, small business owners are having to dig even deeper to attract staff, offering bigger bonuses and flexible hours. But even that hasn’t been enough. For the right month, one survey of small businesses came back with record-high reports of unfilled job openings. As one small business owner in London, KY, reported to me, ‘‘The current labor shortage is by far the worst’’ he has ever seen. In fact, his short staff has had such a hard time keeping up with orders that ‘‘customers are already considering moving business from this facility to other states.’’

Unfortunately, this situation isn’t unique. As I traveled the State last week, I heard the same story from employers of all sizes. Kentucky’s labor force is still 90,000 workers below prepandemic levels. Nationwide, work force participation has remained stagnant for nearly a year. All the while, prices for consumers are continuing to creep up.

This is exactly what Republicans and nonpartisan experts had warned against months ago. We urged Democrats not to force our country’s promising early recovery into a permanent defensive crouch. Now, as States and business owners grapple with the consequences, I hope Democrats in Washington are paying attention and learning from this costly mistake.

SENATE AGENDA

Mr. McCONNELL. Now, Madam President, on another matter, after a week of work with our constituents, the Senate reconvenes with a chance to refocus on the most important issues facing our folks back home.

Already on multiple occasions this year, we have demonstrated that even a narrowly divided Chamber is capable of taking productive, bipartisan steps on serious issues. Wide majorities have come together to extend access to the critical PPP loans, invest in drinking water infrastructure, and equip the justice system to better combat hate
crimes against Asian Americans. This week, the Senate is set to do the same on legislation regarding competition with China, and many of our colleagues are working hard to make further consensus possible on issues that have historically enjoyed bipartisan support, like the new infrastructure framework.

Remember, this sort of collaboration on serious priorities is what the American people insisted upon just last November. They elected a 50-50 Senate, shrank Democrats’ majority in the House, and took President Biden up on that promise to unite the country. So the question at the outset of this work period is how Democrats will use their razor-thin majority over the next few weeks. Unfortunately, the Democratic leader already signaled his answer a week ago by laying out a June agenda that is transparently designed to fail.

As I understand it, Senate Democrats intend to focus this month on the demands of their radical base: exploiting the chaos to send a windfall to trial lawyers; saddling hospitals, schools, and small businesses with crippling new legal burdens if they fail to keep pace with “woke” social norms; and opening an unprecedented new front in the left’s war on capitalism, schools, and small businesses. The legislative clerk read the nomination of Judge Xavier Neals, of New Jersey, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey.

The American people rightly expect a majority to spend its time finding serious priorities is what the American people insisted upon just last November. They elected a 50-50 Senate, shrank Democrats’ majority in the House, and took President Biden up on that promise to unite the country. So the question at the outset of this work period is how Democrats will use their razor-thin majority over the next few weeks. Unfortunately, the Democratic leader already signaled his answer a week ago by laying out a June agenda that is transparently designed to fail.

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As written, these are not proposals aimed at earning bipartisan support. They are not designed to clear the Senate’s necessarily high bar for ending debate. Bipartisanship, it appears there are being floated in order to illustrate that the bill is too high.

After a spring in which the Senate has repeatedly passed mainstream legislation by wide margins, Democrats have decided that now—now is the time to argue that the legislative process is somehow broken.

Let’s not forget the Democrats’ poster child for why the Senate should change its rules is a bill that would forcibly change the rules for elections in every State in America.

Let me say that again. Democrats’ poster child for why the Senate should change its rules is a bill that would forcibly change the rules for elections in every State in America.

Their marquee bill, S. 1, is such a brazen political power grab that the question isn’t whether it could earn bipartisan support; the question is how wide the bipartisan opposition will be. This is the Democratic leader has placed at the vanguard of his campaign to destroy the filibuster, even though multiple Members of his own majority are now on the record objecting to it.

So make no mistake: Failing to sell reckless, wholesale changes to our democracy isn’t proof that the guardrails should be removed; it is a reminder that they are there for a reason.

The American people rightly expect a 50-50 Senate to spend its time finding common ground, but our Democratic colleagues seem to believe that the most important expectations are those of their far-left fringe. They put forward an agenda that is designed to fail, and fail it will.

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 to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Judge Xavier Neals, of New Jersey, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic whip.

ELECTION PROTESTS

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President. I do. The election protests.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, imagine this. In one of the great national controversies over transition of power, the peaceful transfer of power. And in this country, those who are about to lose power are concerned—so concerned that their backers are turning to the courts, to the courts, to the courts, to the courts, to the courts, to the courts, to the courts, to the courts.

It was against this background that Nadav Argaman, the director of Shin Bet, Israel’s internal security service, made a rare public intervention on Saturday night, warning of discourse that is “liable to be interpreted by certain groups or by individuals as one that permits violent and illegal activity that is liable, heaven forbid, to reach mortal injury.” Without mentioning any politicians directly, Mr. Argaman added, “It is our duty to come out with a clear and decisive call to stop immediately the inciting and violent discourse. The responsibility for calming spirits and reining in the discourse rests on all of our shoulders.”

I bring this matter to the floor of the Senate because it parallels what we endured and experienced just a few months ago. I am sure you remember it well, Madam President, I do. The election last November which was won by Joseph Biden over Donald Trump, the incumbent President, by some 7 million votes—one of the largest turnouts, if not the largest turnout, in the history of the United States. It was a decisive electoral college victory in the same margin that Trump had triumphed over Hillary Clinton just a few years before. Yet, because of the Big Lie and the denial by Donald Trump, he inspired his followers to come to Washington, DC, and participate in a rally to protest, and not to come just any day but to come on January 6, 2021, of this year because that is when the electoral college votes would be counted.

We know what followed. We know that mob was turned loose in the streets of Washington and turned loose on the Capitol Building, and those who were here that day will never forget it. I can recall the Vice President of the United States being in that chair you are sitting in, Madam President. He was taken out that door. It was about 2:15 in the afternoon. Then a member of the Capitol Police stood before us and warned us: Stay in your seats. This will be a safe place to be. We are going to gather all the staff around the walls here. Just sit tight.

Ten minutes later, he came back and said: Change of plans. The mob is advancing on this Chamber as we speak. Leave immediately.

Everyone picked up as fast as they could and left.

It was a scene that seemed so unreal, you wouldn’t imagine it could happen in the Capitol of the United States of America. But the insurrectionist mob inspired by President Donald Trump was here for business. They were here to stop the ordinary course of business in the Senate and the House which would announce at the end of the day the selection of Joseph Biden as our new President.

Now a parallel is taking place in Israel, and a new coalition to replace Benjamin Netanyahu is being contested by those who are going to march in the streets. The Israeli leaders—at least those in the security services—are begging people not to do it.

I put that in context to think that that idea in the United States somehow has taken root in Israel. I pray it doesn’t happen. I want nothing to happen there. But we should be forewarned to take this seriously. There are forces at work in the United States and Israel and other countries to stop the orderly transfer of power in a democratic nation. We ought to take that seriously. We ought to take it so seriously that we appoint a bipartisan Commission to investigate what happened here on January 6, 2021.

Just a few weeks ago, Republican Members of the House Representatives were dismissing the January 6th events, the mob action here in the Capitol, and saying that they were somehow “orderly tourists.” That is what one of the Congressmen said, a Congressman from Georgia, a Republican. Those were “orderly tourists.” Look at those videos and imagine under any circumstance that you would describe them as “orderly tourists.” They weren’t orderly tourists when you see five people losing their lives as a result of that. Law enforcement officials being personally attacked, many of them still bearing the scars of that day.
I bring this to the attention of the Senate and the American people because I think the answer is obvious. Israel is taking it seriously. They don’t want a Trump-like mob to take control in their country.

We shouldn’t be allowing this to happen, nor should we stop with what we have done and say no more will be said. This was a direct attack on our democracy. We cannot find, unfortunately, in the leadership one Republican leader who will support this idea of a bipartisan Commission. When it comes to January 6, the job isn’t finished.

The last point I will make is, we received a letter—an anonymous letter—from the Capitol Hill Police asking us to form this Commission and to get to the bottom of it. To think that we walk through this Capitol every day and those men and women are risking their lives for us and we will not even allow a bipartisan Commission to look into that day and the threats to the lives of those policemen on that day is shameful. It is disgraceful. It is unacceptable.

Senator SCHUMER said we will vote on it again. I hope we do, and frequently, so we can remind the American people who is taking this matter very seriously and who is not.

FARM WORKERS

Madam President, on another issue, on another topic, when the pandemic was first declared in March of last year, we entered a world of uncertainty. We were confronted with the reality that hotels and our workplaces were going to be shut down in the foreseeable future, family gatherings and get-togethers were going to be restrained, and our favorite places for relaxing and fun—restaurants and shopping—a part of our life was going to be lost.

But we also knew that, while all these uncertainties, one thing remained constant and dependable: our domestic food supply. Despite the disruptions, panic buying, and supply chain bottlenecks that arose during the pandemic, our domestic food supply remained fundamentally intact every step of the way.

Over the past year, most of us had the assurance that when we stopped at a grocery store, there was plenty of food for our family, and when grocery store shelves started to run empty, we could always trust that more food was on the way because farmers were doing their job and distributing food supply were doing the same. It goes without saying that, thanks to American agriculture, we are blessed by abundance.

As we come together to commend the courageous doctors, nurses, and other frontline workers who have cared for our loved ones, it’s another group of essential workers who have toiled alongside our farmers and ranchers to keep our families fed: farm workers.

I am sure most Americans know very little about the farm workers who supply the food we eat every day. Illinois, we have 20,000 of these farm workers. They plant, harvest, and pick our State’s most lucrative crops.

Across the country, we have 2.5 million farm workers. Roughly half of these 2.5 million are undocumented. These undocumented farm workers are part of our communities, and many are parents of American children. But despite the essential work they do to keep our food supply going, their second-class status in America means that they are often subject to harassment, untenable working conditions, substandard housing, and they live under constant threat of deportation.

Last month, the Guardian News service published a piece on the working and living conditions for farm workers in southern Texas. I want to share a few passages about one worker in particular. Her name is Linda. Nina Lakhani writes that Linda “works six days a week, sometimes seven, putting food on Americans’ tables but earns barely enough to cover the bills and depends on food stamps to feed her [own] family.”

After long days in the fields, [Linda] sleeps on an old couch in a kitchen-lounge as part of the house was left uninhabitable by a fire and a hurricane.

But she calls it home.

Her 11-year-old son [who has some learning disorders] sleeps on the other couch. Two of Linda’s daughters share a bedroom where water leaks through a mouldy roof. The eldest, a 16-year-old... and her 6-month-old baby sleep in a room with a roof leak.

Last summer, [Linda] and her three teenage daughters contracted Covid-19. Rather than risk going to an emergency room, a relative drove them to a medical center where a Consequently when the borders closed, the troops crossed the border to Reynosa and purchased a small tank of oxygen for Linda.

Linda has lived in the United States of America for more than 25 years. She is one of the many undocumented farm workers who keep my family and our families fed. Yet herself she barely feeds her own family. Her experience is not an isolated one.

I want to share one last passage from the article written by Linda as I think it would be accurate to classify these working conditions as dangerous, but these essential workers don’t have the luxury of being able to advocate for themselves—because they are already under the shadow and risk of deportation.

We in the Senate can change that. We can pass a piece of bipartisan legislation that has already passed the House. It is called the Farm Workforce Modernization Act. This legislation would fundamentally change the lives of hundreds of thousands of these farm workers who came to our rescue during the darkest days of the pandemic, who kept our food supply going, and who, in the midst of COVID-19 and the fact that they had few creature comforts of their own.

This is legislation that has been in the making for years. It would provide a path to lawful, permanent residency for undocumented farm workers and their family members. That means they would be able to do the essential work they have already been doing without living in fear of being deported and losing their kids. Also means these workers could advocate for higher wages, safer working conditions, which would make our Nation’s farm labor workforce more stable and strengthen the durability of our food supply chain.

Offering these farm workers a path to permanent residency is the least that we could do to acknowledge their tireless, back-breaking work during this pandemic. Over the past year, we have heard a lot of praise for the essential workers that are among them, of course. At our time of need, they did their job, sometimes at great personal cost. Now it is time to do our job and pass the Farm Workforce Modernization Act.

Enacting this legislation is not just about doing the right thing for workers; it is about doing the right thing for our economy and doing the right thing, period.

When the pandemic hit last year, it caused the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. Twenty-two million jobs vanished in America. Millions of working families lost their source of income, and some, for the first time in their lives, struggled to put food on the table. If you want to make this crisis much worse, our Nation was saddled with a food scarcity crisis as well? Thanks to our farmers and these farm workers, I am speaking for today, we never faced it. It is one of the many examples of how immigrants make our country stronger. We take them for granted. They go to work every day and do the dirtiest, most dangerous jobs in America. Now we have to do something for them.

Enacting to last year’s census, America’s population grew at the slowest rate since the 1930s. That is a warning sign for the future of our economy. If our population growth continues to slow, our Nation’s tax base will shrink. It means we will have fewer working-age adults who can help support elderly Americans—a population that is expected to double over the next few decades. To grow our economy, we need to bring people out of the shadows so they can continue to contribute to America and to their families. Because on legislation like the Farm Workforce Modernization Act, we are really voting for our economic future.
I would like to remind my colleagues that America didn’t build the world’s greatest economy by closing our doors, crossing our fingers, and doing one another’s laundry. We did it by welcoming the workers of the world, by offering them a haven where they can earn a living, pay their fair share, and secure a brighter future for their children.

Many people say: Well, we want to get those Ph.D.s from India, China, and Asia. We want them to bring here. They are going to be good for our economy and they are going to create businesses.

That is all true. I stand behind that as well. But there are also many workers who don’t have that level of education but have a determination and a work ethic that have always been part of success in the American economy.

This unique American promise, build a brighter future for their children as well as ours, is the bedrock of our nation. No other country in the world can deprive us of it. We can only deprive ourselves by refusing to fix a broken immigration system that leaves millions of hard-working families in the shadows of our society. If we want to continue leading in the 21st century, if we want America to be in first place and not second place, we need to keep the American promise alive, and we need to do it by passing the Farm Workforce Modernization Act, joining together in a part of the comprehensive immigration reform.

Madam President, the issue of immigration, as you probably know, is a point of passion of mine. I know it is one of yours. You mentioned to me the other day in passing that you are the only true immigrant in the Senate, and it is, I guess, historic that I would give this speech and you would be presiding over the Senate as I do. I am sure you feel as I do. These people go to work person they are working for this week and they are working for this bill. We ought to pass it out of the Senate, the other chamber a farm worker provision. Now we want America to be in first place and we need to do it by passing the Farm Workforce Modernization Act, joining together in a part of the comprehensive immigration reform.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the quorum call be rescinded. The clerk will call the roll.

I yield the floor.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, I spoke recently about a serious crisis facing our economy, the workforce shortage. This is based on a fact that my colleagues from the left have spent and asked questions and brought about policies.

Today, I want to discuss another looming challenge to our economy, one where Democratic policies are adding fuel to the fire, if not starting the fire itself. I am talking about inflation.

Inflation is not an abstract idea thrown around by finance gurus. Inflation is a real threat to the pocketbooks of hard-working Americans throughout America. And it is not just the inflation levels of Jimmy Carter’s days yet, but the warning signs are here. I recently spoke with a group of homebuilders from across my home State of Alabama. They told me how they are seeing prices increase that are even higher than the ballooning national average. As an example, in Alabama and across much of the South, homebuilding materials, such as brick, are up 10 percent. Insulation prices are up 15 percent. Sheetrock prices are up nearly 50 percent. Lumber prices are up 300 percent. And particle board prices, which are used in most homes across the country, the price is up almost 600 percent.

Although demand for houses went up during the height of the pandemic, the Commerce Department reported that U.S. homebuilding actually declined in April of this year. With the demand for housing so high right now, you would think new construction would be taking up by place everywhere you turn, but that is not the case. Builders are actually delaying construction projects because material prices have hit record highs. Prices are rising so rapidly that a project costing $300,000 at the beginning ends up costing more than $350,000 at the time of completion. This eats into builders’ margins and discourages them from starting new projects, therefore, putting people out of work.

Folks back home can rest assured that I will be monitoring this closely. I will be listening to my constituents and other companies about their costs and supply chain experiences. But I shouldn’t be the only one taking all these concerns into account. These price jumps should be concerning to all of us in this building because the national numbers don’t paint a rosy picture.

In April, consumer prices jumped by 4.2 percent, the highest rise in over a decade. Energy prices went up 25 percent overall, with gas prices increasing nearly 50 percent. According to the Philadelphia Federal Reserve, price increases by one metric were the highest since 1980.

This level of inflation doesn’t just affect a select few; it affects all American families. For many folks, a 4-percent hike on grocery bills takes a serious toll. Rising prices like these are that definition of a real issue. Paying 50 percent more for gas or having a costlier electric bill forces families to make a hard choice on what they can and cannot afford for that month.

We must get our fiscal house in order before inflation gets totally out of control and reverses the economic progress we made under President Trump’s leadership.

You know there are different ways to combat inflation—a lot of different ways—but we know what makes inflation worse: massive government spending, and that is exactly what we are getting as we speak.

President Biden and congressional Democrats spent $1.9 trillion on a stimulus bill that flooded the economy with cash just 2 months ago. Think about that—1.9 trillion. Now we want to spend trillions on a package in disguise of an infrastructure bill. And they are following this up by trillions more to fund items on the progressive priority list in the future.

Well, they are being confronted by the old truth: There is no such thing as a free lunch. Simple economics show that the supply of something goes up, the value goes down. Money is no different.

President Biden’s policies are pumping our economy with money we simply don’t have to spend, and that is the definition of inflation: making money lose its value. It is the natural result of the policies that we passed in this Chamber in the last few months.

That is why Larry Summers, a former Treasury Secretary and adviser to Presidents Clinton and Obama, warned that the Biden stimulus would be “the least responsible macroeconomic policy we’ve had in the last 40 years.” Remember, he worked for...
two Democratic Presidents. I couldn’t agree more with Mr. Summers.

Democrats learned the wrong lesson from the government-shutdown crisis in 2008. They thought the recovery was slow because the government spent too little. They have been determined to spend much more than needed. The recovery from the pandemic was already well underway when the Democrats passed their massive stimulus in March—$1.9 trillion.

Thanks to the partisan emergency relief bills passed under President Trump, the economy had stabilized by yearend. We were in the middle of the most rapid economic recovery on record, but the Democrats’ out-of-control spending is putting the recovery at risk, and it is the American families who will pay the price in the end.

In addition to a reckless monetary policy, they want to raise taxes on all of us, including small businesses and family farms, to fund this spending spree. They want to undo the Tax and Jobs Cuts Act passed by the Senate Republicans and signed into law by President Trump.

These Republican tax cuts helped create the best economy in a generation. They created countless opportunities for hard-working Americans. Unemployment was at historic lows. Blue-collar wages rose faster than white-collar wages for the first time in history.

If they repeal the Republican tax cuts, this time will be encouraging American companies to move overseas. Job creators will have to pay more taxes at the same time as they are recovering from the pandemic, and the tax increases being proposed will be passed on to working Americans in the form of higher prices and lower wages.

In fact, the only people Democrats want to lower taxes for are the people who are high earners in New York, California, and New Jersey. Higher taxes combined with the Democrats’ inflation, would be a one-two knockout punch of our Nation’s economic recovery.

It only takes one match to start a brush fire. Rather than taking commonsense steps to fight inflation, Democrats are preparing for it by dumping lighter fluid on the entire field. President Biden styles himself as the second coming of FDR, but he is looking more like Jimmy Carter every day.

Americans my age will remember Carter’s Presidency and how tough those times were for working families. I hope we can avoid repeating history, but that means we need to take action, and we need to take action now. I urge my Democratic colleagues to reexamine their misplaced priorities and keep pro-worker tax and spending policies in place.

Let’s work together on practical ways to get our economy and our country back to work.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, during the first 4 months of 2021, more than a million migrants have crossed our southern border—a half a million included more than 50,000 unaccompanied children. Now, nobody really believes that those children got there all by themselves. The truth is, they have been smuggled to the border and crossed the border only to be picked up by Border Patrol, taken care of, as we would all hope they would be, and ultimately be placed with U.S. sponsors. I will have more to say about that in a moment.

In the same period of time last year, there were fewer than 125 migrants who crossed our border—cruelly called “unaccompanied children”—a number that included over 10,000 children—half a million so far this year, 125,000 last year, 50,000 children so far this year, 10,000 last year during the same period of time. Put simply, this is not normal, nor should it be. The whole procedure is for the U.S. Government.

The truth is, our country lacks the facilities, the personnel, the resources, and the policies to handle this sort of influx of humanity in a humane way.

Back on April 29th, the President tapped Vice President Harris to handle the border crisis, but we have seen no progress to date. In fact, the Vice President, I believe, is in Guatemala today, and she hasn’t even been to our southern border. She hasn’t visited the facilities where tens of thousands of migrant children have been cared for. And she hasn’t listened to the migrants’ horrifying stories of how they were treated by the human smugglers that brought them over.

We do know the Vice President is finally hitting the trail this week to talk about the border crisis. But that seems to be all it is, is talk. The only problem is, she is not visiting the border. She is not even in her home State of California, which has a border with Mexico. She is in Guatemala.

As law enforcement, nongovernmental organizations, and border communities are being overwhelmed by the surge of migrants, the Vice President is meeting with foreign leaders. Now, there is nothing inherently wrong about meeting with foreign leaders, but, surely, she can’t think that a conversation with the President of Guatemala is going to solve the human crisis at our border.

The Border Patrol will tell you, as they have told me, mass migration like this is a product of two different actions. One is the so-called push factors, which means people who lack economic opportunity; maybe they are fleeing violence; maybe they just want to come to America to be reunited with some other relatives; and certainly the human smugglers are more than happy at $5,000, and more, a head to help them. But these smugglers, as I intimated a moment ago, are a part of transnational criminal organizations that are not for these migrants. They just care about the money. And we may as well, they may do the same as the Border Patrol with unaccompanied children, for example, taking as many as 40 percent of the Border Patrol officer in the war against illegal drugs coming across the border. And when the Border Patrol officer is not in the war against illegal drugs coming across the border, they may as well be in the war against crime, drug use, and violent crime.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The time for the roll call is at an end. The legislative day is extended.

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The PRESIDING OFFICER. The time for the roll call is at an end. The legislative day is extended.
They villainize the Border Patrol and other law enforcement Agencies like ICE, Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Remember the “Abolish ICE” slogan? They are criticizing these public servants for actually enforcing the laws that Congress has passed. Congress made these laws. These brave men and women are simply executing the laws that Congress itself has passed.

Well, unfortunately, there is a lot of talk here in Washington by people who offer solutions that involve doing nothing, or very little, with solving the complex problems that exist. The fact of the matter is, my State of 29 million people has a beautiful, safe, and vibrant border region. I was there last Wednesday, last. The men and women who lead and protect these communities are doing everything they can to fairly and humanly respond to the crisis. But they are being overwhelmed, and they are not getting much help from the Federal Government.

The same is true across our entire southern border. At her invitation, I visited Tucson last Tuesday, a very different border region than we visited on Wednesday, where Senator Sinema came to McAllen, at my request, in the Rio Grande Valley.

I appreciate her and her staff taking the time to learn more about the differences in the border in my State from her State. And I believe these differences in the border region than we visited on Wednesday, where Senator Sinema came to McAllen, at my request, in the Rio Grande Valley. Last year, they processed people from 151 different countries in the Rio Grande Valley. Last year, they processed people from 151 different countries.

A couple of weeks ago, Customs and Border Protection at the Laredo Port of Entry made a seizure of hard narcotics worth more than $3.5 million of street value. This wasn’t from an entire week’s worth of drug interdictions; this came from two vehicles that they stopped. One had 20 pounds of cocaine in it; the other had more than 167 pounds of methamphetamine.

This strain on law enforcement poses serious risks to our entire country. The criminals, the drugs, the weapons, and other Illegal goods that cross our border are heading to every corner of the United States. And if you think they are stopping at the border, think again. They are traveling to all 50 of the United States.

And while unaccompanied children have become the face of this crisis, there is a ripple effect that extends far and wide. Border Patrol, ultimately, doesn’t have the capacity to provide safe and thorough care for these children and protect our borders and interdict dangerous substances and enforce our laws. Agents are spread a mile wide and an inch deep, and something has got to change.

This is where the Bipartisan Border Solutions Act comes in. We provide for two major changes in the way that migrants are processed to alleviate the strain on law enforcement and improve the way we process and care for migrants when they are in our custody. One, the bill establishes at least four regional processing centers in high-traffic areas. It also provides funding to CBP to assist in the processing of children—ICE, Customs and Border Protection; FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency; the USCIS, U.S. Customs and Immigration Service; and the Office of Refugee Resettlement will all be housed under a single roof.

These facilities can receive medical screenings, have their identities verified, and go through a criminal history check all in one place. And then they will begin the legal process of seeking asylum if, in fact, that is what they are entitled to do. Complete their asylum interviews, go through legal orientation so they know their rights, and receive the documents and information they need to appear for their future court date in front of an immigration judge.

Our bill also addresses the staffing shortages that have made this situation much more challenging. It requires the hiring of hundreds of CBP officers and Border Patrol processing coordinators so agents can get back on the frontlines. In other words, these processing coordinators aren’t going to be Border Patrol agents who are highly trained law enforcement officers. We want them back on the frontlines. But we need processing coordinators to process these cases and preparing the paperwork, we believe these processing coordinators can help.

Our legislation also calls for 150 new immigration judge teams, 300 asylum officers, and 200 asylum judge teams, and other personnel to help adjudicate these asylum claims.

Right now, the system is completely overwhelmed, and that is exactly what the human smugglers—what we call the coyotes—are planning on. Everybody in Texas along the border, everybody in Arizona, and everybody who lives or works along the border understands what is happening. Again, that is why it would be so instructive for Vice President HARRIS to actually go to the border.

In order to gain a handle on the mass movement of migrants, we need to make thesecommonsense changes. When it comes to children, it is not enough to ensure they are safely processed by Border Patrol and then transferred to Health and Human Services’ custody. We also need to make sure these children are safe after they have been placed with sponsors in the United States and told to appear for a future court hearing. In too many cases, children are released to parents or other relatives, but not always.

HHS reports that in 2021, more than 1,000 children have been released to unrelated individuals, and relatives they don’t even know. While these may be legitimate caretakers, it can also open the door for these children to be exploited or trafficked.

In 2014, the Office of Refugee Resettlement placed eight children with a human trafficking ring who posed as family or friends. These children were forced to work on an egg farm in Ohio for no pay for 12 hours a day.
day, 6 or 7 days a week. They lived in deplorable conditions, and they were threatened with violence if they didn’t comply. These distant relatives, un- 
known to these children, and these unrelated individuals are a big cause for con- 
tern. There is no vetting requirement, 
though, for other people who live in the same home. And those of us who have 
dealt with the scourge of child abuse 
know that about anybody living in the same home with a minor child—par-
ticularly, an unaccompanied child who has undergone the trauma of moving from Central America to the United States is going to be a potential vic-
tim.

You can have a trustworthy indi-
vidual identified as taking care of the 
child, but abuse could be happening 
under the roof by another person who lives there. Why do we say that? Be-
cause, sadly, it happens all the time. Or, haven’t forbidden, the parent or the rel-
ative is the one who decides to exploit 
the child themselves.

What is being done to prevent this 
abuse? As it turns out, not a lot by the 
Federal Government. The Health and 
Human Services Department requires 
safety and well-being check-in calls to 
be made to sponsors within 30 days 
after a child has been released. But in 
2021 alone, the data shows that 18 per-
cent, nearly one in five children, could not be reached after 30 days. Phone 
calls were not answered. Door knocks 
were not responded to. And that means 
that hundreds of children released to 
the care of these adults in the United States on our watch are lost to the sys-
tem. We hear that if they are in a safe home or if they are a victim of 
trafficking or abuse, or whether they 
simply disappeared, whether they have 
been recruited into a gang. The U.S. 
Government simply does not know 
where they are and what is happening to them. This is a national scandal.

Senator SINEMA and I are committed 
to passing this legislation that pro-
vides these critical protections for 
these children who already have en-
dured and are suffering—a lot more than any child should.

Our bill would require criminal back-
ground checks, not only for the child’s 
sponsor but for any other adult living 
in the household. It will bar children from being placed in the custody of anyone who has been convicted of sex 
offenses, domestic violence, human 
trafficking, child abuse, or other seri-
ous crimes. The U.S. Government sim-
ply can’t check a box once they have 
placed a child with a sponsor in the United States. When we look at the initial 
checkup, we require another 60-day checkup—as a matter of fact, every 60 
days.

Protections for children, streamlined 
processes, more personnel—these 
are commonsense reforms that will address 
the most urgent issues currently on 
our southern border.

Bipartisanship, as we know, is in 
short supply these days, especially 
when it comes to the debate sur-
rounding immigration and border secu-
ritv. We have folks in both parties and 
in both Chambers of Congress lined up 
behind this particular bill. I hope we 
can add more bipartisan cosponsors. 
This bill has been endorsed by a 
broad range of law enforcement, im-
migration, and business groups—for 
ex-
ample, the National Border Patrol 
Council, National Immigration Forum, 
and U.S. Hispanic Chamber of 
Commerce. I could go on and on. 

As I have said before, and I will say 
again in closing, if anybody has a better 
idea, I am all ears. But, right now, 
all we hear is crickets. No one is offering 
any bipartisan, bicameral solu-
tion. What we have described here. This isn’t meant to be 
comprehensive immigration reform. It is a targeted solution to the most ur-
gent problems at hand.

I would be happy to offer this legisla-
tion to Vice President HARRIS or Presi-
dent Biden as a solution to the crisis 
on our southern border. I am happy to 
meet with them. Senator SINEMA, I am 
sure, feels the same, and Congressman 
CUELLAR and Congressman GONZALEZ, 
who are working on fixing the prob-
lem, not scoring political points, and 
we can’t afford to wait years or maybe 
even decades to see the circumstances 
in Central America change. After all, 
then-Vice President Biden was tapped 
to solve this identical problem by 
President Obama. Let me say that 
again: Vice President Biden was tapped 
to solve this identical problem by 
President Obama. Not only was he un-
successful, but, as we know, it has 
gotten worse over time.

We need urgent action to address the 
crisis we are experiencing today at our 
Nation’s border and the Bipartisan 
Border Solutions Act is an important 
first step.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The sen-
ior Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, 
when I was first elected to Congress in 
the 1970s, I ran as “Grassley, the infla-
tion fighter.” Inflation was about 12 or 
13 percent at that time. When I ran for 
the Senate, it was 12 or 13 percent 
again, and it hasn’t been a major prob-
lem since then.

Those who remember that time of 
high inflation know that it is a time 
period when inflation was a real prob-
lem. It kneecaps middle-class pros-
perity and causes severe hardships for 
those already struggling. Inflation is 
nothing short of a regressive tax, as it 
hurts Americans more the less money 
that they have.

It is a stealth tax. With the income 
tax, you can see how much the govern-
ment is taking out of your paycheck. 

With a sales tax, you can see on your 
receipt what the government took for 
its cut. With inflation, the value of the 
dollar in your pocket is reduced with- 
out even leaving your billfold.

When Americans suddenly notice 
that it costs more to buy the same gro-
cerries, it can be hard to know whom to 
blame. Did the store just decide to 
raise prices or is inflation caused by 
mysterious economic forces beyond 
your control?

Recently, the Federal Government 
can directly cause inflation by printing 
too much money to feed its spending 
habits. Politicians like to promise 
freebies that someone else will pay for—maybe “the rich” will pay.

Who is “the rich,” you might ask. 
“Don’t worry; it is not you,” the big 
spenders assure us.

Well, don’t be so sure. President 
Biden suggested that if rich people pay 
themselves back high taxes, wealthy Amereics 
would spend $4 to $6 trillion. Now, 
in reality, if the government con-
snfiscated all the wealth of all the U.S. 
billionaires, it wouldn’t cover that bill. 
Just asking them to pay a little bit 
more, as the President suggests, will 
barely make a dent.

So who is going to pay the bill? Don’t 
be fooled. Each American is going to 
pay that bill. Hard-working Americans 
will be shouldering the costs of 
Biden’s spending plans in the form of lower 
wages or higher prices at the gas pump 
or the checkout lines at Hy-Vee in 
Cedar Falls, IA.

Remember, prior to the pandemic, 
tax reform and a more predictable reg-
ulatory environment contributed to 
the best economy America had seen in 
decades. Yes, prior to the pandemic, as 
a result of the policies of regulatory re-
form and of the tax bill of 2017, we did 
see that the economic recovery in America 
was stronger than anything we had seen in 50 years. Unemployment 
reached a 50-year low. Family incomes 
and workers’ wages experienced robust 
gains. In fact, wage growth was strong-
ther than we have ever had. While income inequality actually declined.

My colleagues across the aisle like to 
repeat the falsehood that tax reform 
was just “tax cuts for the rich”—not 
true. We eliminated loopholes that al-
lowed some favored corporations to 
avoid millions in taxes. By having 
more corporations paying their fair 
share, we were able to lower the overall 
corporate rate to be more in line with 
other countries, like Sweden or Den-
mark.

Tax reform meant more investments 
in America, creating good-paying jobs 
for hard-working Americans.

The prepandemic thriving economy 
is poised now to come roaring back if the 
President follows the right course. 
Raising tax rates while adding new 
giveaways for Democrats’ favored cor-
porations that sign onto the Green New 
Deal will kill the goose that laid the 
golden egg.

If the President Biden talks a good 
game about everyone paying their fair 
share, he is proposing an unprece-
dented spending binge. This will only
fuel inflation. The burden will fall hard on the middle class and be devastating to low-income Americans.

There are already signs that inflation is starting to kick in. Have you ordered a hamburger at a restaurant lately? I heard from an acquaintance in Sioux City that at one furniture store, a particular recliner that sold for $199 last year now sells for $249. A leather reclining sofa that sold for $1,899 last year, today costs $2,599. Price increases of 25 percent or more for furniture are impacting the lifestyle of Iowa families and doing it right now.

Many homebuilding supplies have doubled or even tripled in price. This is partly due to the shortage of lumber. I have called on the administration to take action to address this, but the price increases are not limited just to wood products.

President Biden’s economic advisers assure us this way inflation lowering is seeing with their own eyes is just temporary and really nothing to worry about, but it is real and it is happening.

Economists from across the political spectrum are starting to raise alarms. Larry Summers—whom you know as the former president of Harvard, former outstanding economic professor at Harvard, President Obama’s chief economist, and also secretary of Treasury under President Clinton—warned that the $2 trillion Biden stimulus that was rammed through Congress on a partisan basis was way too big.

Larry Summers is quoted as saying: “I think this is the least responsible macroeconomic policy we’ve had in the last 40 years.”

More recently, in a Time Magazine interview conducted after the release of the President’s budget, he expressed concern that “the most responsible macroeconomic policy we’ve had in the last 40 years”

In coming out of a pandemic that has caused so many hardships for American families, the last thing they need is more economic hardship caused by either inflation or a recession. That should give Congress pause.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SMITH). The Senator from Tennessee.

MRS. BLACKBURN. Madam President, it appears the White House had good reason to wait until the Friday before Memorial Day to release their budget proposal. They couldn’t afford a full week’s news cycle any more than the American people can afford to fulfill the wish list items President Biden is asking them to pay for. It is a very long list.

I think it is safe to say my Democratic colleagues are trying to make the most of the next year and a half. They know that time is not on their side nor are the American people.

There really is something for every faction of the wish list items that are contained in this Biden boondoggle of a budget.

The environmental lobby did a great job these past few months. They are more than taken care of with more electric cars, a trillion and a half million payout toward environmental justice initiatives.

We also have more funding to expand the Department of Education. If you think that more government is what your child’s educational experience has been missing, well, this is the budget for you. Yet, if you are fed up with the way teachers unions have treated children in the classroom, if you are fed up with schools that have been in lockdown, you will want to pay close attention to what I am talking about today.

Apparently, the good people over at the Department of Health and Human Services have time on their hands. Bear in mind, it is your money that is paying them to do the job at which they have time on their hands. Now, they will be switching gears from pandemic response to a new focus on environmental extremism, reparations, and gutting the Second Amendment.

What is in this budget? Bigger government, a higher deficit, and runaway inflation.

What is out? According to this budget, national defense is no longer a priority for the Biden administration or for the Department of Defense. Border security is also on the back burner along with the family-friendly tax policies we implemented under President Trump.

President Biden and the Democrats are doubling down on every mistake they have made so far. Instead of doing their jobs, they are paying lip service to struggling businesses, to struggling stores on Main Street in your hometown, to crumbling bridges—like in my state of Tennessee—and to the future generations of Americans who will come into this world owning their own, personal chunk of our skyrocketing national debt. That is right.

If you have a child or a grandchild born this year, their share of the national debt is going to be about $80,000. Think about that.

Think about what has happened to this debt. President George Bush, it was about $10.6 trillion. During the Obama-Biden years, that debt doubled. Then it was added to through the pandemic. Now one would be led to believe that this administration had decided it was going to take all this debt and swipe them so many times they would run the numbers off of them.

Yes, this is the Biden surcharge at work—forcing the American people to pay a premium just to live. Cradle to grave, daylight to dark, they have got a list of tax hikes and increased fees for you. You hard-working Americans, you cannot escape it, and what a world they have decided they want to leave for future generations. I think it is an absolute darkness.

I will tell you what—this budget is such a terrible representation of what America actually needs that, back home in Tennessee, as I was home last week, people would come up to me and say: ‘If this is what you want, we are going to get you out of office.’

Still, my colleagues across the aisle are so eager to get this done that they are prepared to, once again, throw regular order out the window.

My Democratic colleagues are living in an alternate reality. It is the only explanation for why they continue to insist that this country will be better off under a government that strips away your freedoms rather than guarantees them and one that tries to tell you how to live your life every minute of every day—from the time your feet hit the floor in the morning until the time you brush your teeth and get in bed at night.

FOR THE PEOPLE ACT OF 2021

No, Madam President, when it comes to the Biden administration, Big Government is its theme not only of the day but of every day. It is the theme when it comes to spending, to regulations, and even to intrusions into constitutionally mandated State authority.

Before the State work period, the majority leader indicated that he intended to use this month to shove through yet another wish list item. My Democratic colleagues have tried several times to skip debate and sneak through various provisions of their S. 1 election takeover bill. They tried to do this for the same reason President Biden released his disastrous budget on a Friday after everyone had already left town. It is because the bill could never pass a fair and robust debate once the American people knew what was in it.

To my Democratic colleagues, remember the American people know—
after we went through ObamaCare and the Affordable Care Act—that the current Speaker of the House had then said: Well, we have to pass this bill so we can read it and find out what is in it.

They know that this is the way you like to operate. I am sure many of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle would dispute my characterization of the bill. So, for the benefit of the record, let’s go through a few of the provisions they are absolutely convinced will somehow expand freedom and secure our elections. This is what you will find in their S. 1 election takeover bill:

It would require States to allow balloon harvesting and no-excuse mail-in ballotting, which we know from experience will open the door to fraud. We know this. So are they intentionally trying to open the door to fraud? You are not; people are correct in asking that question.

It would also overrule State-level voter ID laws—another great way to guarantee rampant fraud. So, yes, you heard it correctly. They would give the Federal Government to tell your State that you cannot require someone to prove their identity, to show an ID in order to—what?—vote in an election.

How about that?

It would weaponize the FEC against minority parties, mandate donor disclosure, and require the Federal Government to match private contributions. You heard me right. They want your tax dollars to fund people who are running for office even if you don’t agree with their opinions. Your money would be going to them to match the contributions that they are raising. By the way, it is a 6-to-1 match. Pretty convenient, isn’t it?

I call it peoplely, and anyone who has ever staffed a polling place or has helped to count ballots knows this. Yet here we are, staring down yet another attempt to put this bill on the fast track—taking away the States’ authority to regulate elections in their States.

Here is what I say to my Democratic colleagues: You are not going to get the benefit of a quiet news cycle on this. America is watching and listening, and they are paying attention.

Your attempts to whip the Senate into a state of partisan warfare over a bill you don’t have the votes to pass will not go unnoticed.

Your attempts to make another run at this, to force and invent a mandate the voters refuse to give you will not go unnoticed.

Your attempt to sneak through this unconstitutional, partisan power grab is not going to go unnoticed. People are paying attention, and my Republican colleagues and I are going to stand up against it. Members of your own caucus have said they will not stand for it.

Most importantly, the American people are paying attention, and they do not stand for what you are seeking to do.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

NOMINATION OF JULIEN XAVIER NEALS

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, I rise today with a lot of joy. I get a chance to speak about someone I have known all my life. I am going to speak about Julien Neals and my hope that he gets to serve on the U.S. District Court of the great State of New Jersey.

I have spoken to many of my colleagues on the Senate Judiciary Committee about Julien Neals. He is someone I have not just known for a long time, but even though he is not quite my height, I look up to him. We worked together when I was mayor of the city of Newark. So today what I really want to speak about is not simply his impressive career, his distinguished resume, but I really want to talk about who he is.

I am not sure how many of my colleagues know this about the city of Newark. But when I became mayor of it in 2006, we inherited a lot of very complex, very serious challenges, and for the sake of our residents, we needed to make changes quickly and very urgently. So I brought in this guy named Julien Neals. I didn’t quite know that well, but he was so well highly recommended.

He moved from the private sector, where he was with a very prestigious New Jersey law firm, and decided to lead the transformation in New Jersey’s largest municipal court. He knew that it was a court system that had to change, and he stepped up. He changed it. He changed the way our court operated. He centered it in common community values and made sure that everyone who came before that court was treated in a way that affirmed their dignity, no matter what the matter was.

He pioneered innovations that the whole State of New Jersey, and our Nation—took notice of. He created the first community court in the State of New Jersey, the first youth court, and the first veterans court. He realized that citizens all have, often, different needs, especially folks like our young people and our veterans, and that there is a different way to achieve a larger standard and a larger ideal of justice.

Well, the problem is, when you do so well in one job, you get pushed to another opportunity. I quickly moved him from being my chief judge of New Jersey’s largest municipal court to come in and be my corporation counsel in my mayoral administration.

In the wake of the recession in 2008, he became the business manager, the person who runs the city day to day, and under the most difficult, savage circumstances, he made challenging changes that helped us get through this very difficult period.

Citizens of Newark were being crushed financially, making massive amounts of layoffs, and in those financial times, he was able to get our city to be dramatically more efficient, to bring in new ideas that helped us to create everything from environmental sustainability to expanding access to municipal services to the public. He brought in innovations that became really key for the city of Newark, but Newark did them first.

Today, now, Julien serves as the counsel for the largest county in New Jersey—a county that is bigger than some of our States. I have had the privilege of knowing Julien, as I have said, now for the past couple decades, and I have watched him handle challenge after challenge, from a global recession to Hurricane Sandy. He has stood in the saddle and helped with calmness, with coolness, with an equipoise that is enviable to all, including me. I have watched him lead. I have watched him care. I have watched his love of others be reflected in the decisions he made under the most difficult circumstances. I have seen him in crisis after crisis rise not just to meet the challenge but to, in most circumstances, have us come out better off than we were before.

In so many ways, he is one of the great leaders I have had the privilege of working with in my life. Julien Neals is brilliant. He is thoughtful. He is deliberate in his decision-making. He has all of the ideals that I think we want in a Federal judge.

I have to tell you, most importantly to me, I know him. I know his parents. I know his family. I know his kids. He is one of those people who would make Washington not just a better place but a better country. I am going to ask the Senate to consider supporting him.

I have had many privileges as a U.S. Senator. God, this is one of those jobs you have to, like, give glory to God every day for just having the privilege of standing on this floor and getting to be a part of some things that, as much as we rancor back and forth, we should all be proud of, whether it is a global pandemic or just making sure we are funding critical parts of the government where public servants serve. But of all the privileges I have, I have to say this is one of the great ones, the chance to make a man whom I hold in the highest regard not just a Federal judge, but to, in the Senate, give him the chance to be a Federal judge. That is truly a privilege that I do not take lightly.

I want to thank President Biden for nominating him. I want to encourage all of my colleagues in a bipartisan way, as I said in the Judiciary Committee, to consider supporting him.

I have had many privileges as a U.S. Senator. God, this is one of those jobs you have to, like, give glory to God every day for just having the privilege of standing on this floor and getting to be a part of some things that, as much as we rancor back and forth, we should all be proud of, whether it is a global pandemic or just making sure we are funding critical parts of the government where public servants serve. But of all the privileges I have, I have to say this is one of the great ones, the chance to make a man whom I hold in the highest regard not just a Federal judge, but to, in the Senate, give him the chance to be a Federal judge. That is truly a privilege that I do not take lightly.

I see that my senior Senator, my friend—another guy I look up to even more than I am, but I think we are an equal tag team when it comes to serving our State.

I yield the floor with the fear that he does have the microphone last.
Mr. Neals will be an asset to the U.S.

of the institution, created the first

how he

partner of a Secaucus-based firm. He

his integrity, sound judgment, and

every step of the way, he

in New Jersey. Mr. Neals is an out-

But I will stop before I get called out of

That is
caseload of 2,700 pending cases. That is

New Jerseyans have waited too long

I urge my colleagues on both sides of

New Jersey for advancing his name so

We, the undersigned Senators, in accord-

while the national average.

tire country. As of last year, more than

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, is there a pending vote now on the clout-

I yield the floor.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The following Senators

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The

to be United States District Judge for

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, is there a pending vote now on the clout-

I am sorry. There is a quorum call, correct?

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. No.

I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The vote is to occur in 3 minutes.

I appreciate the 180 seconds, and I will be patient and wait.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there object to the quorum call?

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Duly noted.

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 nomi-

President Obama first nominated him to the U.S. District Court in New

Unfortunately, the politics of the time didn’t get him a vote, and he

Mr. Neals already commands enor-
mous respect in our legal community. From serving on the Supreme Court of

Parliament.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The yeas and nays are mandatory

brought to a close?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 66,

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from Iowa (Ms. E RNST), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE) would have voted ‘‘nay.’’

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 66, nays 28, as follows:

\[\text{[Roolcall Vote No. 219 Ex.]}\]

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk in New Jersey.

Mr. Neals is an outstanding nominee who has devoted his entire career to the practice of law in my home State of New Jersey. Throughout his three decades in the legal profession, he has served in many diverse roles. Every step of the way, he has impressed those around him with his integrity, sound judgment, and commitment to equal justice and fair administration of the law.

He clerked on the Superior Court of New Jersey, practiced civil rights, em-

pension plan, and intellectual property law as an associate and partner of a Secaucus-based firm. He served the city of Newark during my distinguished colleague Senator Book-

er’s time as the mayor of that great
city.

As you heard, my colleague still speaks glowingly of Mr. Neals’ achieve-

ments during his time as chief judge of the Newark Municipal Court, how he

improved the efficiency and the culture of the institution, created the first
classroom in the State of New Jersey, and in less than 2 years pre-
sided over more than 6,000 cases, while supervising 11 full-time judges.

There is no doubt in my mind that Mr. Neals will be an asset to the U.S.

District Court in New Jersey as it emerges from this pandemic and works

to reduce its backlog of pending cases. He is qualified, and he was qualified to

serve on the Federal bench back in 2015 when President Obama first nominated him to the U.S. District Court in New Jersey.
The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from New York.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I rise to ask that the Senate be given the chance to consider and vote on the Military Justice Improvement and Increased Accountability Act.

Before I discuss the bill, I would like to first acknowledge that we have just returned from Memorial Day recess and to recognize the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our country and to protect our freedom. They got on a plane or they got on a ship; they went to countries they may never have been to before; they fought for our country; and they didn’t come home.

We ask so much of our servicemembers and their families, and we owe it to them to take action when they are in danger. That is why I want to talk about this bill right now.

Sexual assault in the military is an epidemic. Year after year, reports of sexual assault have gone up, but conviction rates and prosecution rates have actually come down. This stems from a fundamental problem which has to be addressed: There is bias in our military justice system.

Right now, if you are a victim of sexual assault or another serious crime, the decision to prosecute goes to a commander, not to a trained military prosecutor. And while our commanders are exceptional leaders and exceptional warfighters, they are not legal experts, nor should they be asked to be. Nor can commanders be truly independent when considering charges against a subordinate or charges made by a subordinate.

This bill removes the decision of whether to prosecute sexual assaults or any other serious crime out of the chain of command and gives it to trained military prosecutors, where it belongs.

One year after another, reports of sexual assault have been up, in 2019, we heard about 12,000 sexual assault reports, and in 2020, we heard about 17,000. The issue that is emerging is an issue of military justice. We have to make the military justice system as good as its leaders and structures.

So I think it is incumbent upon us to take action.

Mr. President, as if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that, at a time to be determined by the majority leader in consultation with the Republican leader, the Senate Armed Services Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 1530 and the Senate proceed to its consideration;

In another debate, we have a bill that has LIZ WARREN and TED CRUZ on them or MITCH MCCONNELL and CHUCK SCHUMER in support of? It doesn’t happen very often.

But this is something that I and many Senators in this Chamber have been working on for 8 years, holding hearings on for 8 years, making amendments in the NDAA for 8 years, making the case that this change is needed for warfighters, and it is a change that the military has in the past done every piece of major legislation, has that data has been collected, and the second data point we have, which has been developed over the last 3 years, is the existence of racial bias.

Further undermining this argument is the fact that, or very similar to it, are being used today by our allies that we fight side by side, allies like the UK or Israel or Germany or Netherlands or Australia or Canada. They did not see a degradation of good order and discipline. They told us so.

Finally, in addition to the opposition to this bill being a weak argument, the support for this bill is strong, and that support continues to grow. How many bills have you heard of in this Congress, or the last, or the last, or the last, or the last that have 66 cosponsors? Widely bipartisan. How many bills have LIZ WARREN and TED CRUZ on them or MITCH MCCONNELL and CHUCK SCHUMER in support of? It doesn’t happen very often.

So I think it is incumbent upon us to take action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection?

The Senator from New York.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, while the chairman does agree that the serious crime of sexual assault should be taken out of the chain of command, our bill requests and requires that all serious crimes be taken out of the chain of command because of the existence of bias. And we have two data points that prove that bias. One is the poor results we have seen for survivors of sexual assault in the last 10 years, that data has been collected, and the second data point we have, which has been developed over the last 3 years, is the existence of racial bias.

Protect Our Defenders did a serious report in 2017, and it determined that across all services, looking at all punishments, Black and Brown service members were punished approximately two times more often than White servicemembers, looking at both non-judicial and court-martials. And that show of bias means that the military justice system isn’t working for many people. It is not working for plaintiffs, and it is not working for defendants.

And, in fact, when our allies looked at this same issue, particularly defendants’ rights over the last 60 years, they determined that bias in the system was incompatible with their views of justice, and they decided that for defendants’ rights, specifically, all serious crimes should be decided by trained military prosecutors.

So this solution is one we have been debating in the committee for 8 years, and, in fact, we have used compromises
and smaller steps and small-ball measures over the last 8 years to address this problem. Unfortunately, despite putting in place approximately 250 new measures over the last 8 years, the rate of conviction and the rate of prosecution has stagnated, but the rate of sexual assault has stayed persistent at approximately 20,000 incidents a year.

So while I appreciate that my colleagues are coming to the conclusion that one serious crime should be taken out of the chain of command, military experts disagree that a line should be drawn around only one crime because they believe that that will result in unfair systems of justice—two systems of justice and one that does not meet the needs of bias that we see in the current system.

Second, we have many combat veterans on this legislation. JONI ERNST is one of our lead sponsors, who is the only female Republican combat veteran and who has also experienced sexual assault. MARK KELLY is on our bill. And who has also experienced sexual assault is one of our lead sponsors, who is the only female Republican combat veteran and who has also experienced sexual assault. MARK KELLY is on our bill. And we also have many of our colleagues on this bill and the people who have looked at the law from a perspective of civil rights and civil liberties, such as RICHARD BLUMENTHAL.

This matters, and I believe that we have given the committee 8 years to solve this problem.

Third, when we have given the opportunity to the committee to solve this problem and pass meaningful—meaningful—reforms, if the DOD disagreed with those reforms, despite passing in the House and in the Senate, they have seen fit to make sure those reforms have been taken out in conference. One such example was legislation we passed in 2019 creating a ‘safe to report’ provision. It was the Ohio Christian Alliance who have allowed survivors of sexual assault to come forward to report the crime but not be prosecuted for related smaller crimes, such as drinking or being off base.

That language passed the Senate. It passed. And, miraculously, because the DOD didn’t approve, it was taken out in conference. In 2020, the Senators who worked on that provision, Senator ERNST and I, made very clear that we did not appreciate staff members taking out work and provisions that had been considered and voted on by Senators as part of their responsibility. And we were able to pass it the second time.

So, Mr. President, I don’t have faith that if we allow the committee to look at this bill and pass it in the Senate and the House, that it will not be watered down or taken out in conference without the consent of all those who voted for it.

Therefore, I urge this body to allow for an up-or-down vote on this Senate floor. That is a privilege that was given ‘don’t ask, don’t tell’ repeal because of similar filibuster by members of the Armed Services Committee. When we voted on ‘don’t ask, don’t tell,’ it was an up-or-down Senate vote. This deserves the same opportunity.

I yield the floor. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SMITH). Without objection, it is so ordered.

77TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

Mr. PORTMAN. Madam President, I am here on the floor of the Senate this evening to commemorate the 77th anniversary of D-Day. This was a huge turning point in World War II. Of course, the invasion of Normandy occurred 77 years ago yesterday.

Historian Douglas Brinkley wrote that D-Day was the single most important moment in the 20th century and one of the most tragic, too, in terms of loss of life. I think he was right. There were 160,000 soldiers who crossed the Channel that day to begin the campaign to recapture Europe from Hitler’s rule. On their backs were rucksacks with 80 pounds of gear, but so too was the fate of all of us—our allies in Europe and, really, the fate of the free world.

Many of our best and brightest young Americans did fall that day. We lost more than 10,000 men in 1 day. The Nazis had spent 2 years fortifying the coastline to make this day as brutal as possible. It was Hitler’s so-called Atlantic Wall.

The beautiful coastline of Northern France was covered in barbed wire, land mines, and bunkers, but at the end of the largest amphibious invasion in history, we stood victorious, battered but not broken. On we marched through France, through Belgium, and, finally, into Germany itself.

But even today, amid the flowers and fields of Normandy—I have been there, and many of you have been there, too—who are listening tonight—you can feel, even today, the lingering presence of those who died that day in the service of liberating Europe, and you can see it in the stark, orderly U.S. military cemeteries, where row after row of white crosses and Stars of David commemorate those brave souls who were lost—representing lives lost in a noble cause. Though much has happened in the following 77 years, we can never lose sight of the sacrifice by our Armed Forces on that I Day.

On Memorial Day, about a week ago, I spoke at the National Veterans Memorial and Museum in Columbus, OH. It was a hopeful day for me not just to honor the best of the best of our countrymen, but for those who were listening tonight—you can feel, even today, the lingering presence of those who died that day in the service of liberating Europe, and you can see it in the stark, orderly U.S. military cemeteries, where row after row of white crosses and Stars of David commemorate those brave souls who were lost—representing lives lost in a noble cause.

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the taxpayers, meaning private fund-raising, not taxpayer dollars, will be used. We had hoped to have the final plaque in place for the 75th anniversary. In the meantime, in 2019, we were able to have a temporary plaque in place with the words of the prayer at the permanent location for the permanent plaque, which is at the Circle of Remembrance, next to the World War II Memorial.

If you are on The Mall and you are coming from the Capitol, it will be on your right. At the World War II Memorial but right next to it. In this very beautiful place, the Circle of Remembrance—a good place to sit and reflect—you will see, right now, the plaque is there, and you can read the prayer. The permanent plaque will be even bigger and will allow even more people to have access to it. I encourage people to go see that plaque. By the way, I think it is the only prayer on display on our National Mall.

The plaque, by the way, was generously donated by the Friends of the National World War II Memorial. We are very hopeful that the permanent plaque will be placed at the circle next year. I want to thank the Lilly Endowment for its generous support of this project, by the way. Last October, it provided a $2 million grant for the construction and installation of the permanent plaque. This committed financial support will be critical to finally bringing the project across the line.

The fact that a prayer was offered that day by our Commander in Chief is historic in and of itself, but it is the content of the prayer that makes it so worthy of remembrance. I would now like to read this World War II D-Day Prayer, if I may.

My fellow Americans [FDR began]: Last night, when I spoke with you about the fall of Rome, I knew at that moment that troops of the United States and our allies were crossing the Channel in another and greater operation. It has come to pass with success thus far.

And so, in this poignant hour, I ask you to join in me in prayer:

Amen.

A powerful prayer. I love the part about they come not to conquer; they come to liberate. The same can be said for our Armed Forces throughout the ages.

I look forward to seeing these words of prayer permanently displayed on the National Mall to help us memorialize such a noble day we must never forget.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

CONFIRMATION OF ERIC S. LANDER

Mr. LEE. Madam President, per an agreement that was reached with my colleagues, Dr. Eric Lander, the President’s nominee for the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, was not subject to a rollcall vote on the Senate floor, but was instead considered under a voice vote.

I would like to be on the record that I am opposed to the nomination of Dr. Lander. As OSTP Director, Dr. Lander will advise the President and the administration on all the scientific, technological, and engineering aspects of federal policy, including research. Dr. Lander should receive even further scrutiny for this position after President Biden has chosen to elevate the Director of the OSTP to a Cabinet-level position.

The nomination comes at a critical time as the Senate seeks to pass the Endless Frontier Act, which would increase Federal scientific research and development funding—imprudently in my opinion—by over $100 billion. As I have weighed the nomination of Dr. Lander both in the Senate Commerce Committee and in the weeks leading up to his consideration by the full Senate, Dr. Lander has failed to provide the guarantees that he supports appropriate guardrails around federally funded research, including protections for unborn life through the prohibition of experimenting with aborted fetal tissue, embryonic stem cells, or live embryos.

With the consideration of the Endless Frontier Act and the greater role that OSTP will take in directing the direction of our Federal research and development, I am very concerned that Dr. Lander has not assured me that he will put in place protections for the unborn or institute appropriate ethical guardrails to protect such life.

For these reasons, I opposed the nomination of Dr. Lander.

TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL NEIL R. RICHARDSON

Mr. INHOFE. Madam President, today I honor a servant leader, liaison, and combat warrior. After 2 years of service as Director of the Air Force Senate Liaison Office, Brig. Gen. Neil Richardson is deservedly moving on after serving the 18 members of the Senate’s Deputy Director of Operations of Air Mobility Command at Scott Air Force Base, IL. On this occasion, I believe it is fitting to recognize General Richardson’s distinguished service and dedication to fostering the relationship between the U.S. Air Force and this Chamber.

A C-130 weapons officer and navigator by designation, General Richardson has led our Nation’s men and women in combat overseas, and at home. He has led at every level with distinction, including the positions of Deputy Director of Operations of the Air Mobility Command at Scott Air Force Base.

On this occasion, I believe it is fitting to recognize General Richardson’s distinguished service and dedication to fostering the relationship between the U.S. Air Force and this Chamber.

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A C-130 weapons officer and navigator by designation, General Richardson has led our Nation’s men and women in combat overseas, and at home. He has led at every level with distinction, including the positions of Deputy Director of Operations of the Air Mobility Command at Scott Air Force Base.
General Richardson has excelled in numerous other leadership positions in the Air Force, most recently as the Director, Air Force Senate Liaison. In the Russell Senate Office Building and around the globe, General Richardson facilitated communications between the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force in establishing the U.S. Space Force. He supported the Department of the Air Force in twice gaining confirmation of the Secretary of the Air Force and the Chief of Staff of the Air Force.

General Richardson and his team twice supported successful legislation of the National Defense Authorization Act despite challenges resulting from the unprecedented coronavirus pandemic and heightened security on Capitol Hill. His team facilitated 200 congressional engagements with Air Force and Space Force senior leaders to include seven Air Force Caucus events and the establishment of our new Space Force Caucus. Furthermore, his team escorted congressional delegations for more than 84 Members of Congress on visits both statewide and abroad to include our annual trip to the Ronald Reagan National Defense Forum.

Next month, General Richardson departs Washington for Scott Air Force Base, IL, to serve as the deputy director of the greatest airlift, aerial refueling, and aeromedical evacuation logistical force in the world. This Chamber will feel General Richardson’s absence. I join many past and present Members of Congress in my gratitude and appreciation to General Richardson for his outstanding leadership and unwavering support of the missions of the U.S. Air Force and especially recognizing his patient and supportive family, Mrs. Melissa Richardson, their daughter Megan, her husband Air Force SSgt Nathan Brock, along with the rest of his children; Katie, Garrett, and Gage. I wish this Air Force family safe travels and endless gratitude for their dedicated service to our Nation.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DR. HEBER SIMMONS, JR.

• Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Madam President, the American Academy of Pediatrict Dentists, AAPD, last month named Dr. Heber Simmons, Jr., of Jackson, MS, as its 2021 Pediatric Dentist of the Year. I commend him for his decades of service and for the significant contributions he has made to the dental profession. His lifetime commitment to the specialty of pediatric dentistry has helped advance children’s health in Mississippi and around the country. Dr. Simmons’ many years of clinical practice, his dedication to improving pediatric dentistry, and his passion for public policy make him a deserving recipient of the Pediatric Dentist of the Year honor.

Dr. Simmons received his dental degree from the University of Tennessee and completed his pediatric dentistry training there after serving our Nation for 3 years in the U.S. Army Dental Corps. Following his training and military service, Dr. Simmons practiced for 57 years in Jackson before retiring recently from active practice. His passion and dedication have made him a national leader in dentistry, proven by his past presidencies of the AAPD, the American Academy of Dental Practice Administration, the Pierre Fauchard Academy, and the Mississippi Dental Association. Furthermore, he received the AAPD Distinguished Service Award in 1994 and the Ann Page Griffin Humanitarian Award in 2011. For many years, he served on the Board of Trustees of the American Dental Association. An advocate for the ADA from 1981 to 2019. In this role, he was featured on nationally televised programs such as “60 Minutes” and “Good Morning, America.”

Dr. Simmons currently serves as a special consultant to the AAPD Board of Trustees after serving as the academy’s congressional liaison since 1997. As a special consultant to the AAPD Board of Trustees, he has helped educate Members of Congress and their staffs concerning oral health issues for children, testified before Congress, and served in a key leadership role in AAPD advocacy efforts. This includes helping to allocate more than $158 million for pediatric dentistry to the title VII program at the Health Resources and Services Administration. For this work, Heber was awarded an AAPD Presidential Citation in 2001, and more recently, his keynote speech at the College of Dentistry at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, recreated an endowed professorship in his name. Last year, at the AAPD Pediatric Oral Health Advocacy Conference, Dr. Simmons was the keynote speaker and received another key recognition of his contributions to all children and appreciation for his tireless and dedicated national advocacy for his profession and the oral health of America’s children.

I commend Dr. Heber Simmons, Jr., for his many accomplishments and well-deserved recognition of his advocacy, dedication, and leadership. My State is fortunate to have him as a leader focused on the health and wellness of all Mississippians. I congratulate him on being recognized for his many years of service by being named the 2021 Pediatric Dentist of the Year.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT ON MAY 27, 2021

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED ON MAY 27, 2021

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees. (The messages received on May 27, 2021 are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS ON MAY 28, 2021

SA 2110. Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. STabenow (for herself, Mr. Boozman, and Mr. Grassley)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 409, to provide for the availability of amounts for customer education initiatives and non-awards expenses of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission Whistleblower Program, and for other purposes; as follows:

 Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION WHISTLEBLOWER PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Commission includes in the report with respect to the Fund, to the extent the information with respect to the account as the “account”.

(b) FROM THE COMMODOITY EXCHANGE ACT (7 U.S.C. 26) (referred to in this section as the “Fund”) into the account.

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Commission shall transfer up to $10,000,000 from the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (referred to in this section as the “Commission”) in carrying out section 23 of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 26) (referred to in this section as the “Fund”).

(2) AVAILABILITY.—The account in the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 26) (referred to in this section as the “Fund”).

(c) REQUIREMENT FOR OBLIGATIONS.—The Commission may make obligations from the account only when the unobligated balance of the Fund is insufficient to pay non-awards expenses and expenses for customer education initiatives due to awards that the Commission has ordered under section 23(b) of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 26).

(d) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—The Commission shall include in each report required under section 23(g)(5) of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 26) (the same information with respect to the account as the Commission includes in each report with respect to the Fund, to the extent the information is relevant to the account.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE S3957
SA 2111. Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. GRASSLEY)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 409, to provide for the availability of amounts for customer education initiatives and non-awards expenses of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission Whistleblower Program, and for other purposes; as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to provide for the availability of amounts for customer education initiatives and non-awards expenses of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission Whistleblower Program, and for other purposes.”

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE
ENROLLED BILL SIGNED
At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. RAUSCHENBERG) has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 2533. An act to amend the American Rescue Plan of 2021 to improve the COVID–19 Response, Resilience, and Resiliency of Our Communities and Economy, to provide for the availability of amounts for customer education initiatives and non-awards expenses of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission Whistleblower Program, and for other purposes.

PRIVILEGED NOMINATION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE
On request by Senator RON Wyden, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on Finance: Jonathan Davidson, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of the Treasury, vice Brian McGuire, resigned.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS
The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC–1107. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “C18–23 Alkyl Group-containing Alkali-Soluble Acrylic Emulsion Resin; Approval; 1501–0022–Region 1 Order” received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2021; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–1108. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Holding Foreign Companies Accountable Act Disclosure” (RIN2310–AM51) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–1109. A communication from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Final Rule amending the OFAC Narcotics Trafficking Sanctions Regulations, and Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Sanctions Regulations” (31 CFR Parts 538 and 589) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–1110. A communication from the Associate Director of the Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Clean Air Plans; 1995 Phases II and III Area Requirements; Western Nevada County, California” (FRL No. 10022–39–Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1111. A communication from the Associate Director of the Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Approval and Proclamation of Implementation Plans; State of Utah; Logan, Utah-Idaho PM2.5 Redesignation to Attainment; Maintenance Plan, and Rule Revisions” (FRL No. 10023–84–Region 8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS
The following communications were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent:

EC–1112. A communication from the Associate Director of the Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; General Assessment of 2015 of the Nebraska Administrative Code; Rules of Practice and Procedure” (FRL No. 10023–93–Region 7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1113. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Air Plan Approval; ID: Logan Utah-Idaho PM2.5 Redesignation to Attainment and Maintenance Plan” (FRL No. 10023–66–Region 10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1114. A communication from the Wildlife Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Harvest Regulations for Migratory Birds in the 2021 Hunting Season” (RIN1625–AA87) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1115. A communication from the Acting Director, Human Resources Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Taxation of Dependent Care Benefits Subject to the Affordable Care Act” (RIN0058–BF08) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1116. A communication from the Director of the Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Medicare and Medicaid Programs; COVID–19 Vaccine Requirements for Long-Term Care (LTC) Facilities and Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICFs-IID) Residents, Clients, Patients, and Inmates” (RIN0058–AC67) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2021; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–1117. A communication from the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds” (RIN1505–AC77) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 25, 2021; to the Committee on Finance.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS
The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mrs. MURRAY:
S. 1958. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to require the program payments to teaching health centers that operate graduate medical education programs;
to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KENNEDY:
S. 169. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the age for required mandatory distributions from retirement accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KENNEDY:
S. 169. A bill to restrict the ability of the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to adjust the rates for flood insurance coverage under the National Flood Insurance Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

S. 161. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase IRA contribution limits for individuals without an employer retirement plan; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):
S. 162. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide grant funding to States for mental health and substance use disorder parity implementation; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 40, a bill to address the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality, and inhumanity of slavery in the United States and the 13 American colonies between 1619 and 1865 and to establish a commission to study and consider a national apology and proposal for reparations for the institution of slavery, its subsequent de jure and de facto racial and economic discrimination against African Americans, and the impact of these forces on living African Americans, to make recommendations to the Congress on appropriate remedies, and for other purposes.

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 56, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants for training and support services for families and caregivers of people living with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia.

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 75, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit discrimination by abortion against an unborn child on the basis of Down syndrome.

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 150, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require the inclusion of certain audio-only diagnoses in the determination of risk adjustment for Medicare Advantage plans, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 168, a bill to provide temporary licensing reciprocity for telehealth and interstate health care treatment.

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) 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.

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 377, a bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors.

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBERY) was added as a cosponsor 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.

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 497, a bill to establish the American Fisheries Advisory Committee to assist in the awarding of fisheries research and development grants, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 611, a bill to deposit certain funds into the Treasury and to waive matching requirements, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 659, a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to promulgate regulations relating to commercial motor vehicle drivers under the age of 21, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 674, 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.

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 674, a bill to support public health infrastructure.

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) 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”.

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENEZDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 747, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for the adjustment of status of essential workers, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of S. 932, a bill to amend the United States Code to provide for a presumption of service connection for certain diseases associated with exposure to toxins, and for other purposes.

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1019, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to limit the presence of toxic elements in, and otherwise regulate, infant and toddler food, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1061, a bill to encourage the normalization of relations with Israel, and for other purposes.

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1125, a bill to recommend that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation test the effect of a dementia care management model, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1296, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for increased investment in clean energy.

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1383, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop best practices for the establishment and use of behavioral intervention teams at schools, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1385, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to establish additional requirements for dealers, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSER) was added as a cosponsor...
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. 1710

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1710, a bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to ensure that Federal-aid highways, bridges, and tunnels are more resilient, and for other purposes.

S. 1788

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1788, a bill to provide appropriations for the Internal Revenue Service to overhaul technology and strengthen enforcement, and for other purposes.

S. 1813

At the request of Mr. COONS, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1813, a bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to support research on, and expanded access to, investigational drugs for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, and for other purposes.

S. 1825

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1825, a bill to amend the Consumer Product Safety Act to direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to establish consumer product safety standards for firearm locks and firearm safes, and for other purposes.

S. 1848

At the request of Ms. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1848, a bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of religion, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), and marital status in the administration and provision of child welfare services, to improve safety, well-being, and permanency for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer or questioning foster youth, and for other purposes.

S. 1877

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALKOWSKY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1877, a bill to amend title 4 of the United States Code to limit the extent to which States may tax the compensation earned by non-military, non-State workers.

S. 1912

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1912, a bill to clarify the rights of certain persons who are held or detained at a port of entry or at any facility chosen by U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

S. CON. RES. 9

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 9, a concurrent resolution supporting the Local Radio Freedom Act.

S. RES. 67

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 67, a resolution calling for the immediate release of Trevor Reed, a United States citizen who was unjustly found guilty and sentenced to 9 years in a Russian prison.

S. RES. 134

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 134, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the President should work with the Government of the United Kingdom to conclude negotiations for a comprehensive free trade agreement between the United States and the United Kingdom.

S. RES. 182

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 182, a resolution recognizing the late Gilbert Metz, the last Holocaust survivor who lived in Mississippi, and commending all educators who teach about the Holocaust and all genocide.

S. RES. 224

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 224, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States must seize the opportunity to create millions of jobs, become a net exporter of clean energy, and secure a better, more equitable future by accelerating the electrification of households, buildings, and businesses in the United States, modernizing the United States electricity grid, and continuing on the path towards decarbonizing electricity generation in the United States by 2035.

S. RES. 250

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. Cramer), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 250, a resolution condemning the rise in anti-Semitic violence and harassment targeting Jewish Americans, and standing in solidarity with those affected by antisemitism, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2112. Mr. PETERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2113. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1260, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2114. Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. KELLY, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. PETERS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill S. 1260, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2115. Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1260, to make Federal law enforcement officer peer support communications confidential, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2112. Mr. PETERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1502 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill 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, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 61, on line 20, insert “Appointment as a program director under this section shall be voluntary.” after “tor.”

Beginning on page 113, strike line 24 and all that follows through line 3 on page 115 and insert the following:

(3) DIRECT HIRE AUTHORITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—During fiscal year 2021 and any fiscal year thereafter, the head of any Federal agency may appoint, without regard to the provisions of subchapter I of chapter 33 of title 5, United States Code, section 3323 of that title, a qualified candidate described in subparagraph (B) directly to a position in the competitive service with the Federal agency for which the candidate meets Office of Personnel Management qualification standards.

(B) FELLOWSHIP OR TEMPORARY ROTATIONAL POST.—Subparagraph (A) applies with respect to a former recipient of an award under this subsection who—
(i) earned a doctoral degree in a STEM field from an institution of higher education; and
(ii) successfully fulfilled the requirements of the PhD or equivalent or temporary rotational posting within a Federal agency.

(C) LIMITATION.—The direct hire authority under this paragraph shall be exercised with respect to a qualified candidate no less than 2 years after the date that the candidate completed the requirements related to the fellowship or temporary rotational posting described under this subsection.

(D) NUMBER.—The number of employees appointed and retained by the Federal Government in each of the first 2 fiscal years and in each fiscal year thereafter shall not exceed 10 at any time.

Strike section 2204 and insert the following:

SEC. 2665. APPOINTMENT AND COMPENSATION PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITION.—In section 3521—

(1) in section 3521—

(A) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting

(1) in section 3521; and

(B) in subparagraph (A), in the matter preceding paragraph (1) and inserting “a foreign jurisdiction”; and

(2) in section 3523(b)(3); by inserting “(or, during the 7-year period beginning on January 1, 2021, an employee of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration appointed in accordance with paragraph (1) of section 20113(b) of title 51, without regard to any other provision of such section 20113(b))” after “employee of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration”;

(b) EARLY RETIREMENT.—Title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 8336(d), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting “(includ- ing such amount as is necessary)” after “$25,000”; and

(2) in section 8339(g), by inserting “(and $40,000)” after “$25,000”.

(c) ADMINISTRATOR RESPONSIBILITIES.—In carrying out the pilot program established under this section, the Administrator shall ensure that the pilot program—

(1) uses—

(A) state-of-the-art recruitment techniques;

(B) simplified classification methods with respect to personnel of the Administration; and

(C) broad banding; and

(2) offers—

(A) competitive compensation; and

(B) the opportunity for career mobility.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this division, the Administrator shall submit to the appro- priate committees of Congress a report that—

(1) describes in detail—

(A) the use of the pilot program hiring au- thority under this section, including the qualifications, and classification of individu- als hired under such authority;

(B) the methods for recruitment under the program; and

(C) efforts being made by the NASA to ad- dress any compensation equity issue that may arise as a result of the program;

(2) analyzes the impact of the program on participants, disaggregated by demographic factors including age, race, ethnicity, gender, education, compensation, and job classifi- cation;

(3) compares the demographics of the program participants with the demographics of NASA employees outside the program;

(4) evaluates and makes recommendations to the NASA Academy of Public Administration to conduct a study on the organizational and man- agement structure of the Foundation, to—

(1) evaluate and make recommendations to efficiently and effectively implement the Di- rectorate for Technology and Innovation; and

(2) evaluate and make recommendations to ensure that the pilot program—

(A) makes recommendations for the manage- ment of the Foundation’s business and per- sonnel practices, including implementation of the new hiring authorities and program directorates provided in section 2302.

(b) REVIEW.—Upon completion of the study under paragraph (1), the Foundation shall re- view the recommendations from the Na- tional Academy of Public Administration and provide a brief to Congress on the plans of the Foundation to implement any such recommendations.

Strike section 2665 and insert the fol- lowing:

SEC. 2669. SEPARATIONS AND RETIREMENT INCENTIVES.

(a) VOLUNTARY SEPARATION INCENTIVE PAYMENTS.—Subchapter II of chapter 35 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 3521—

(A) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

(1) ‘‘agency’’ means an Executive agency as defined under section 105 (other than the Government Accountability Office); and

(B) includes the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; and

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and” and inserting “; and”;

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

(iii) by striking “the period at the end and inserting “;” and

(iv) at the end inserting “and”;

(b) ADMINISTRATOR RESPONSIBILITIES.—In carrying out the purposes of subsection (a), the Administrator shall ensure that the pilot program—

(i) uses—

(A) state-of-the-art recruitment techniques;

(B) simplified classification methods with respect to personnel of the Administration; and

(C) broad banding; and

(ii) offers—

(A) competitive compensation; and

(B) the opportunity for career mobility.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this division, the Administrator shall submit to the appro- priate committees of Congress a report that—

(1) describes in detail—

(A) the use of the pilot program hiring au- thority under this section, including the qualifications, and classification of individu- als hired under such authority;

(B) the methods for recruitment under the program; and

(C) efforts being made by the NASA to ad- dress any compensation equity issue that may arise as a result of the program;

(2) analyzes the impact of the program on participants, disaggregated by demographic factors including age, race, ethnicity, gender, education, compensation, and job classifi- cation;

(3) compares the demographics of the program participants with the demographics of NASA employees outside the program;

(4) evaluates and makes recommendations to the NASA Academy of Public Administration to conduct a study on the organizational and man- age...
On page 535, between lines 15 and 16, insert the following:

SEC. 2621A. TRANSITION STRATEGY FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION.

(a) In General.—Not later than 300 days after the date of the enactment of this division, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a strategy that—

(1) describes the manner in which the Administration will ensure a stepwise transition to an eventual successor platform consistent with the ISS Transition Principles specified in the International Space Station Transition Report issued pursuant to section 5011(c)(2) of title 51, United States Code, on March 30, 2018;

(2) includes capability-driven milestones and timelines leading to such a transition;

(3) takes into account the importance of maintaining workforce continuity, capabilities, and continuity at the centers of the Administration, including such centers that are primarily focused on human spaceflight;

(4) considers how any transition described in paragraph (1) affects international and commercial partnerships; and

(5) presents opportunities for future engagement with—

(A) international partners;

(B) countries with growing spaceflight capabilities that are not precluded by other provisions of law;

(C) the scientific community, including the microgravity research community;

(D) the private sector; and

(E) other United States Government users; and

(b) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—The strategy required by subsection (a) shall include an implementation plan describing the manner in which the Administration plans to carry out such strategy.

(c) REPORT.—Not less frequently than biennially, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the implementation of the strategy required by subsection (a).

SEC. 2629A. HUMAN SPACE FACILITIES IN AND BEYOND LOW-EARTH ORBIT.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that human space facilities play a significant role in the long-term pursuit by the Administration of the exploration goals under section 202(a)(2) of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 13121(a)).

(b) REPORT ON CROWED AND UNCREWED HUMAN SPACE FACILITIES.—

(1) COVERED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this division, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the potential development of 1 or more human space facilities.

(2) CONTENTS.—With respect to the potential development of each human space facility referred to in paragraph (1), the report required under such paragraph shall include a description of the following:

(A) The capacity of the human space facility to support the research, development, testing, validation, operation, and launch of space exploration systems and technologies.

(B) The impact of workforce expertise in and core capabilities at NASA centers, including NASA centers that are primarily focused on human spaceflight, in the development of that infrastructure and systems for each human space facility.

(C) The capacity of the human space facility to support the research, development, testing, validation, operation, and launch of space exploration systems and technologies. 

(D) The impact of workforce expertise in and core capabilities at NASA centers, including NASA centers that are primarily focused on human spaceflight, in the development of that infrastructure and systems for each human space facility.

(E) Opportunities and strategies for commercial operation or public-private partnerships with respect to the human space facility that protect taxpayer interests and foster competition.

(F) The role of the human space facility in encouraging further crewed and uncrewed exploration investments.

(G) The manner in which the development and maintenance of the International Space Station would reduce the cost of, and time necessary for, the development of the human space facility.

On page 531, strike lines 17 and 18 and insert the following:

(1) a report on the research and development of the Administration relating to technical systems for the self-sufficient sustainment of life in and beyond low-Earth orbit; and

(2) a 10-year plan for achieving a power supply on the Moon that includes—

(A) a consideration of the resources necessary to accomplish such plan;

(B) collaboration and input from industry and the Department of Energy;

(C) the use of a variety of types of energy, including solar and nuclear; and

(D) a detailed description of the resources necessary for the Administration to build a lunar power facility with human-tended maintenance requirements during the subsequent 10-year period.

SA 2115. Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. Cortez Masto) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1502, to make Federal law enforcement officer peer support counseling program.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.—The term "law enforcement agency" means a law enforcement agency to provide the services described in subparagraph (A).

(B) an admission of criminal conduct;

(C) a record of a peer support counseling session of which the peer support communication is a part.

(D) an admission of criminal conduct;

(E) a child; or

(F) a plan for a suicide attempt or the means by which the individual plans to carry out a suicide attempt; and

(G) The manner in which the development and maintenance of the International Space Station would reduce the cost of, and time necessary for, the development of the human space facility.

On page 583, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

(e) REPORT ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT RELATING TO LIFE-SUSTAINING TECHNICAL SYSTEMS FOR THE ISS TRANSITION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this division, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the research and development of the Administration relating to technical systems for the self-sufficient sustainment of life in and beyond low-Earth orbit.

(g) TIMELINES.—The Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a description of the following:

(1) the peer support communication contains—

(A) an explicit threat of suicide by an individual in which the individual—

(i) shares—

(ii) a staff member of a peer support counseling program;

(iii) an attempt by an individual to make an actual or imminent and serious physical bodily harm to another individual; and

(iv) a child; or

(v) an older or vulnerable individual; and

(vi) that is required by law to be reported; or

(B) a note or report arising out of a peer support counseling session;

(C) a record of a peer support counseling session; or

(D) a note or report arising out of a peer support counseling session;

(E) the peer support communication made in the course of a peer support counseling session that the peer support communication is regarding;
(3) a court of competent jurisdiction issues an order or subpoena requiring the disclosure of the peer support communication; or
(4) the peer support communication contains information that is required by law to be disclosed.

(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in subsection (b) shall be construed to prohibit the disclosure of—
(1) an observation made by a law enforcement officer of a peer support participant outside of a peer support counseling session; or
(2) knowledge of a law enforcement officer about a peer support participant not gained from a peer support communication.

(e) DISCLOSURE OF RIGHTS.—Before the initial peer support counseling session of a peer support participant, a peer support specialist shall inform the peer support participant in writing of the confidentiality requirement under subsection (b) and the exceptions to the requirement under subsection (c).

SEC. 3. BEST PRACTICES AND SUPPORT.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:
(1) FIRST RESPONDER.—The term ‘‘first responder’’ has the meaning given the term ‘‘public safety officer’’ in section 1204 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10284).
(2) FIRST RESPONDER AGENCY.—The term ‘‘first responder agency’’ means a Federal, State, local, or Tribal agency that employs or otherwise engages the services of a first responder.
(3) PEER SUPPORT COUNSELING PROGRAM.—The term ‘‘peer support counseling program’’ means a program provided by a first responder agency that provides counseling services from a peer support specialist to a first responder of the first responder agency.
(4) PEER SUPPORT PARTICIPANT.—The term ‘‘peer support participant’’ means a first responder who receives counseling services from a peer support specialist.
(5) PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST.—The term ‘‘peer support specialist’’ means a first responder who—
(A) has received training in—
(i) peer support counseling; and
(ii) providing emotional and moral support to first responders who have been involved in or exposed to an emotionally traumatic experience in the course of the duties of those first responders;
(B) is designated by a first responder agency to provide the services described in subparagraph (A);
(C) is a qualified peer support counselor; and
(D) is enrolled in a peer support counseling program.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Attorney General shall support and encourage the implementation of peer support counseling programs in first responder agencies by—
(1) making the report developed under section (b) publicly available on the website of the Department of Justice; and
(2) providing a list of peer support specialist training programs on the website of the Department of Justice.

(c) RECOGNIZING THE DEVASTATING ATTACK ON A GIRLS’ SCHOOL IN KABUL, AFGHANISTAN, ON MAY 8, 2021, AND EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH THE AFGHAN PEOPLE.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 3.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 229) recognizing the devastating attack on a girls’ school in Kabul, Afghanistan, on May 8, 2021, and expressing solidarity with the Afghan people. There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I know of no further debate on the measure.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on adoption of the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 229) was agreed to.

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

The preamble was agreed to.

The bill (S. 1828) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read a third time, and passed as follows:

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 ‘‘Helping American Victims Afflicted by Neurological Attacks Act of 2021’’ or the ‘‘Havana Act of 2021’’.

SEC. 2. AUTHORITY TO PAY PERSONNEL OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY FOR CERTAIN INJURIES TO THE BRAIN.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:
(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE.—The term ‘‘appropriate congressional committee’’ means—
(A) the congressional intelligence committees that term is defined in section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003);
(B) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and
(C) the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) COVERED DILEEPEND.—The term ‘‘covered dependent’’ has the meaning given such term in section (d)(1) of section 19 of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 (50 U.S.C. 3519), as added by subsection (b).

(3) COVERED EMPLOYEE.—The term ‘‘covered employee’’ has the meaning given such term in section 19A(a) of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 (50 U.S.C. 3519h). The bill (S. 1828) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

‘‘(d) AUTHORITY TO MAKE PAYMENTS FOR QUALIFYING INJURIES TO THE BRAIN.—
(1) QUALIFYING INJURY.—The term ‘‘qualifying injury’’ has the meaning given such term in section (d)(1) of section 19 of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 (50 U.S.C. 3519), as added by subsection (b).

(2) PAYMENT AUTHORIZED.—Section 19A of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 (50 U.S.C. 3519h) is amended by adding at the end the following:

‘‘(4) AUTHORITY TO MAKE PAYMENTS FOR QUALIFYING INJURIES TO THE BRAIN.—
(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:
(A) COVERED DEPENDENT.—The term ‘‘covered dependent’’ has the meaning given such term in subsection (a), except that the assigned duty station need not be in a foreign country.

(B) QUALIFYING INJURY.—The term ‘‘qualifying injury’’ has the meaning given such term in subsection (a), except that the assigned duty station need not be in a foreign country.

(2) AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law but subject to paragraph (1), the Director may provide payment to a covered dependent, a covered employee, and a covered individual for a qualifying injury to the brain.

(3) LIMITATIONS.—
(A) APPROPRIATIONS REQUIRED.—Payment under paragraph (2) in a fiscal year may only
be made using amounts appropriated in advance specifically for payments under such paragraph in such fiscal year.

"(B) MATTER OF PAYMENTS.—Payments under paragraph (2) using amounts appropriated for such purpose shall be made on a first come, first serve, or pro rata basis.

"(C) AMOUNTS OF PAYMENTS.—The total amount obligated for payments under paragraph (2) may not exceed the amount specifically appropriated for providing payments under such paragraph during its period of availability.

"(4) REGULATIONS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall prescribe regulations to carry out this subsection.

"(B) ELEMENTS.—The regulations prescribed under subparagraph (A) shall include regulations detailing fair and equitable criteria for payment under paragraph (2).

"(C) APPROPRIATIONS REQUIRED.—Payment under paragraph (2) using amounts appropriated for such purpose shall be made on a first come, first serve, or pro rata basis.

"(E) MATTER OF PAYMENTS.—Payments under paragraph (2) using amounts appropriated for such purpose shall be made on a first come, first serve, or pro rata basis.

"(F) AMOUNTS OF PAYMENTS.—The total amount obligated for payments under paragraph (2) may not exceed the amount specifically appropriated for providing payments under such paragraph during its period of availability.

"(4) REGULATIONS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary or other agency head described in paragraph (2) that makes a payment under subparagraph (A) shall prescribe regulations to carry out this subsection.

"(B) ELEMENTS.—The regulations prescribed under subparagraph (A) shall include regulations detailing fair and equitable criteria for payment under paragraph (2).

"(E) MATTER OF PAYMENTS.—Payments under paragraph (2) using amounts appropriated for such purpose shall be made on a first come, first serve, or pro rata basis.

"(F) AMOUNTS OF PAYMENTS.—The total amount obligated for payments under paragraph (2) may not exceed the amount specifically appropriated for providing payments under such paragraph during its period of availability.

"(4) REGULATIONS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary or other agency head described in paragraph (2) that makes a payment under subparagraph (A) shall prescribe regulations to carry out this subsection.

"(B) ELEMENTS.—The regulations prescribed under subparagraph (A) shall include regulations detailing fair and equitable criteria for payment under paragraph (2).

"(C) APPROPRIATIONS REQUIRED.—Payment under paragraph (2) using amounts appropriated for such purpose shall be made on a first come, first serve, or pro rata basis.

"(E) MATTER OF PAYMENTS.—Payments under paragraph (2) using amounts appropriated for such purpose shall be made on a first come, first serve, or pro rata basis.

"(F) AMOUNTS OF PAYMENTS.—The total amount obligated for payments under paragraph (2) may not exceed the amount specifically appropriated for providing payments under such paragraph during its period of availability.
CONFIDENTIALITY OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEER SUPPORT COUNSELING ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. 1502 and S. Res. 82 to proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title. The amendment (No. 2115) to make Federal law enforcement officer peer support communications confidential, and for other purposes. There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the Cortez Masto substitute amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and placed upon the table.

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

The amendment (No. 2115), in the nature of a substitute, was agreed to as the "Confidentiality Opportunities for Peer Support Counseling Act" or the "COPS Counseling Act".

SEC. 2. CONFIDENTIALITY OF PEER SUPPORT COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.—The term "law enforcement agency" means a Federal agency that employs a law enforcement officer.

(2) LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.—The term "law enforcement officer" has the meaning given the term "federal law enforcement officer" in section 115 of title 18, United States Code.

(3) PEER SUPPORT COMMUNICATION.—The term "peer support communication" includes—

(A) an oral or written communication made in the course of a peer support counseling session; or

(B) a note or report arising out of a peer support counseling session;

(C) a record of a peer support counseling session; or

(D) with respect to a communication made by a peer support participant in the course of a peer support counseling session, another communication, regarding the first communication, that is made between a peer support specialist and—

(i) another peer support specialist;

(ii) a staff member of a peer support counseling program; or

(iii) a supervisor of the peer support specialist;

(4) PEER SUPPORT COUNSELING PROGRAM.—

The term "peer support counseling program" means a program provided by a law enforcement agency that provides counseling services from a peer support specialist to a law enforcement officer of the agency.

(5) PEER SUPPORT COUNSELING SESSION.—

The term "peer support counseling session" means any counseling formally provided through a peer support counseling program between a peer support specialist and 1 or more law enforcement officers.

(6) PEER SUPPORT PARTICIPANT.—The term "peer support participant" means a law enforcement officer who receives counseling services from a peer support specialist.

(7) PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST.—The term "peer support specialist" means a law enforcement officer who—

(A) has received training in—

(i) peer support counseling; and

(ii) providing emotional and moral support to law enforcement officers who have been involved in or exposed to an emotionally traumatic experience in the course of employment; and

(B) is designated by a law enforcement agency to provide the services described in subparagraph (A).

(b) PROHIBITION.—Except as provided in subsection (c), a peer support specialist or a peer support participant may not disclose the contents of a peer support communication to an individual who was not a party to the peer support communication.

(c) EXCEPTIONS.—

(1) the peer support communication contains—

(A) an explicit threat of suicide by an individual in which the individual—

(i) shares;

(ii) an intent to die by suicide; and

(iii) a plan for a suicide attempt or the means by which the individual plans to carry out a suicide attempt; and

(b) the peer support communication was made involving an individual who is experiencing suicidal thoughts;

(B) an explicit threat by an individual of imminent and serious physical bodily harm or death to another individual; or

(c) information—

(i) relating to the abuse or neglect of—

(I) a child; or

(II) an older or vulnerable individual; or

(ii) that is required by law to be reported; or

(D) an admission of criminal conduct;

(2) the disclosure by each peer support participant who was a party to, as applicable—

(A) the peer support communication;

(B) the peer support counseling session out of which the peer support communication arose;

(C) the peer support counseling session of which the peer support communication is a record; or

(D) the communication made in the course of a peer support counseling session the peer support communication was regarding;

(3) a court of competent jurisdiction issues an order or subpoena requiring the disclosure of the peer support communication; or

(4) the peer support communication contains information that is required by law to be disclosed.

(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in subsection (b) shall be construed to prohibit the disclosure of—

(1) an observation made by a law enforcement officer of a peer support participant; or

(2) knowledge of a law enforcement officer about a peer support participant not gained from a peer support communication.

(e) DISCLOSURE RIGHTS.—Before the initial peer support counseling session of a peer support participant, a peer support specialist shall inform the peer support participant in writing of the confidentiality requirement under subsection (b) and the exceptions to the requirement under subsection (c).

SEC. 3. BEST PRACTICES AND SUPPORT.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) FIRST RESPONDER.—The term "first responder" has the meaning given the term "public safety officer" in section 1204 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10291).

(2) FIRST RESPONDER AGENCY.—The term "first responder agency" means a Federal, State, local, or Tribal agency that employs or otherwise engages the services of a first responder.

(3) PEER SUPPORT COUNSELING PROGRAM.—The term "peer support counseling program" means a program provided by a first responder agency that provides counseling services from a peer support specialist to a first responder of the first responder agency.

(4) PEER SUPPORT PARTICIPANT.—The term "peer support participant" means a first responder who receives counseling services from a peer support specialist.

(5) PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST.—The term "peer support specialist" means a first responder who—

(A) has received training in—

(i) peer support counseling; and

(ii) providing emotional and moral support to first responders who have been involved in or exposed to an emotionally traumatic experience in the course of the duties of those first responders; and

(B) is designated by a first responder agency to provide the services described in subparagraph (A).

(b) REPORT ON BEST PRACTICES.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, in coordination with the Secretaries of Health and Human Services, shall develop a report on best practices and professional standards for peer support counseling programs for first responder agencies that includes—

(1) advice on—

(A) establishing and operating peer support counseling programs; and

(B) training and certifying peer support specialists;

(2) a code of ethics for peer support specialists;

(3) recommendations for continuing education for peer support specialists;

(4) advice on disclosing to first responders any confidentiality rights of peer support participants; and

(5) information on—

(A) the different types of peer support counseling programs in use by first responder agencies;

(B) any differences in peer support counseling programs offered across categories of first responders; and

(C) the important role senior first responders play in supporting access to mental health resources.

(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Attorney General shall support and encourage the implementation of peer support counseling programs in first responder agencies by—
ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 2021

Mr. SCHUMER. Finally, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, June 8; 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 the conclusion of morning business, the Senate resume consideration of the Neals nomination postcloture; that at 11:30 a.m., all postcloture time expire; that following the cloture vote on the Rodriguez nomination, the Senate recess until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; further, that the postcloture time on the Rodriguez nomination expire at 3 p.m.; that the order of Friday, May 28, with respect to S. 1260 be executed immediately following the disposition of the Rodriguez nomination; that the cloture motion on the motion to proceed to H.R. 7 ripen following the disposition of S. 1260; and finally, that if any of the nominations are confirmed, that the cloture motion on the Rodriguez nomination expire at 3 p.m.; that the order of Friday, May 28, with respect to S. 1260 be executed immediately following the disposition of the Rodriguez nomination; that the cloture motion on the motion to proceed to H.R. 7 ripen following the disposition of S. 1260; and finally, that if any of the nominations are confirmed, that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:18 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, June 8, 2021, at 10 a.m.
SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, June 8, 2021 may be found in the Daily Digest of today’s RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 9

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.
SD-342

10 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Bureau of Reclamation.
SD-192

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Environmental Protection Agency.
SD-138

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of Health and Human Services.
SD-124

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine NCAA athlete NIL rights.
SD-G50

Committee on Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine PFAS, focusing on the view from affected citizens and states.
SD-406

Committee on Finance
Business meeting to consider the nominations of Lily Lawrence Batchelder, of Massachusetts, and Benjamin Harrison of Virginia, both to be an Assistant Secretary, J. Nellie Liang, of Maryland, to be an Under Secretary, and Jonathan Davidson, of Maryland, to be Deputy Under Secretary, all of the Department of the Treasury.
SD-215

Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine United states policy in Belarus.
SD-106/VTC

Committee on the Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Eunice C. Lee, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, Veronica S. Rossman, of Colorado, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, and David G. Estudillo, Lauren J. King, and Tana Lin, each to be a United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington.
SH-216

2 p.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of Justice.
SD-192

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Subcommittee on Economic Policy
To hold hearings to examine building a stronger financial system, focusing on opportunities of a central bank digital currency.
WEBEX

Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Larry Edward Andre, Jr., of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Somalia, Maria E. Brewer, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Lesotho, Tullibao S. Mushingi, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Angola, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, Elizabeth Moore Aubin, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria, Eugene S. Young, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Congo, and Christopher John Lamora, of Rhode Island, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cameroon, all of the Department of State, and other pending nominations.
VTC

Committee on Indian Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Bryan Todd Newland, of Michigan, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior.
SD-628

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship
To hold hearings to examine a review of the small business investment company program.
SD-215

Select Committee on Intelligence
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Christine Abraild, of Maryland, to be Director of the National Counterterrorism Center, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, and Robin C. Ashton, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Central Intelligence Agency.
SH-216

Joint Economic Committee
To hold hearings to examine the gender wage gap, focusing on breaking through stalled progress.
VTC

3 p.m.
Committee on Veterans’ Affairs
To hold hearings to examine a system to better serve America’s veterans, focusing on investing in the Department of Veterans Affairs infrastructure.
SR-301

4:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Strategic Forces
To hold hearings to examine missile defense strategy, policies, and programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2022 and the Future Years Defense Program.
SR-232A

JUNE 10

9 a.m.
Committee on the Judiciary
Business meeting to consider S. 601, to amend section 3961 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the consideration of acquitted conduct at sentencing, S. 1014, to reform sentencing laws and correctional institutions, and the nominations of Deborah L. Boardman, and Lylya Kay Grigsbye, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Maryland, Tiffany F. Cunningham, of Illinois, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit, Margaret Irene Strickland, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico, Ur Mendoza Jaddou, of California, to be Director of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, and Ronald L. Davis, of California, to be Director of the United States Marshals Service, David H. Chipman, of Virginia, to be Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, Anne Milgram, of New Jersey, to be Administrator of Drug Enforcement, and Kenneth Allen Poite, Jr., of Louisiana, to be an Assistant Attorney General, all of the Department of Justice.
SH-216

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold open and closed hearings to examine the Department of Defense budget posture in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2022.
SD-G50

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

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.
10 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Food and Drug Administration.
SD–124

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.
SD–192

Committee on Finance
To hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of Health and Human Services.
SD–215

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider S. 1927, to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, and other pending calendar business.
SD–106

10:15 a.m.
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Robin Carnahan, of Missouri, to be Administrator of General Services, Jen Easterly, of New York, to be Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, Department of Homeland Security, and Chris Inglis, of Maryland, to be National Cyber Director.
SD–342

11 a.m.
Committee on Foreign Relations
Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women’s Issues
To hold a joint hearing to examine atrocities in Xinjiang.
SD–419

JUNE 17
10 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of Defense.
SD–106
Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3943–S3966

Measures Introduced: Five bills were introduced, as follows: S. 1958–1962. Pages S3958–59

Measures Passed:

Recognizing the Devastating Attack on a Girls' School in Kabul, Afghanistan: Senate agreed to S. Res. 229, recognizing the devastating attack on a girls' school in Kabul, Afghanistan, on May 8, 2021, and expressing solidarity with the Afghan people. Page S3963

HAVANA Act: Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs was discharged from further consideration of S. 1828, to amend the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 to authorize the provision of payment to personnel of the Central Intelligence Agency who incur qualifying injuries to the brain, to authorize the provision of payment to personnel of the Department of State who incur similar injuries, and the bill was then passed. Pages S3963–65

COPS Counseling Act: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. 1502, to make Federal law enforcement officer peer support communications confidential, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: Schuerm (for Cortez Masto) Amendment No. 2115, in the nature of a substitute. Pages S3965–66

National Cancer Research Month: Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 253, supporting the designation of May 2021 as "National Cancer Research Month", and the resolution was then agreed to. Page S3966

Endless Frontier Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that post-cloture time on the nomination of Regina M. Rodriguez, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado, expire at 3 p.m., on Tuesday, June 8, 2021; if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Regina M. Rodriguez, the order of Friday, May 28, 2021 with respect to 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, be executed immediately following the disposition of the nomination of Regina M. Rodriguez; and that the cloture motion on the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 7, to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, ripen following disposition of S. 1260. Page S3966

Nominations Received: On Thursday, May 27, 2021, Senate received the following nominations:

Brian Eddie Nelson, of California, to be Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Crimes.

Elizabeth Rosenberg, of Vermont, to be Assistant Secretary for Terrorist Financing, Department of the Treasury.

Arun Venkataraman, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service.

Sarah Bianchi, of Virginia, to be Deputy United States Trade Representative (Asia, Africa, Investment, Services, Textiles, and Industrial Competitiveness), with the rank of Ambassador.
Elizabeth Merrill Brown, of Maryland, to be General Counsel, Department of Education.

Gwynne A. Wilcox, of New York, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board for the term of five years expiring August 27, 2023.

Matthew G. Olsen, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

6 Army nominations in the rank of general.

Messages from the House:

Executive Communications:

Additional Cosponsors:

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Additional Statements:

Amendments Submitted:

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—219)

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 7:18 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 8, 2021. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S3966.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House is scheduled to meet in Pro Forma session at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 8, 2021.

Committee Meetings

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND RELATED PROGRAMS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs held a budget hearing on the Department of State and Related Programs. Testimony was heard from Antony Blinken, Secretary, Department of State.

FISCAL YEAR 2022 ARMY AND MARINE CORPS GROUND SYSTEMS MODERNIZATION PROGRAMS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces held a hearing entitled “Fiscal Year 2022 Army and Marine Corps Ground Systems Modernization Programs”. Testimony was heard from Douglas Bush, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology (ASA(ALT)), Department of the Army; General John M. Murray, U.S. Army, Commanding General, Army Futures Command; Frederick Stefany, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development, and Acquisition, Department of the Navy; and Lieutenant General Eric M. Smith, Commanding General, Marine Corps Combat Development Command and Deputy Commandant for Combat Development and Integration, U.S. Marine Corps.

THE STATE DEPARTMENT’S FOREIGN POLICY STRATEGY AND FY22 BUDGET REQUEST

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The State Department’s Foreign Policy Strategy and FY22 Budget Request”. Testimony was heard from Antony Blinken, Secretary, Department of State.

SLEEPING DANGER: THE ROCK ’N PLAY AND FAILURES IN INFANT PRODUCT SAFETY

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Sleeping Danger: The Rock ‘n Play and Failures in Infant Product Safety”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

DEFINING A NATIONAL ‘OCEANSHOT’: ACCELERATING OCEAN AND GREAT LAKES SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Environment held a hearing entitled “Defining a National ‘Oceanshot’: Accelerating Ocean and Great Lakes Science and Technology”. Testimony was heard from Craig McLean, Assistant Administrator for Oceanic and Atmospheric Research and Acting Chief Scientist, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.
COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 2021
(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of State, 10 a.m., SD–106.

Subcommittee on Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Air Force and Space Force, 2 p.m., SD–192.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine United States’ strategic competition with China, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Subcommittee on SeaPower, to hold hearings to examine Navy and Marine Corps investment programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2022, 2:30 p.m., SR–222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development, to hold hearings to examine rural transit, focusing on opportunities and challenges for connecting communities, 2:30 p.m., WEBEX.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2022, 11 a.m., SD–608.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Tracy Stone-Manning, of Montana, to be Director of the Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, and Shalanda H. Baker, of Texas, to be Director of the Office of Minority Economic Impact, Samuel T. Walsh, of New York, to be General Counsel, and Andrew Eilperin Light, of Georgia, to be an Assistant Secretary (International Affairs), all of the Department of Energy, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2022 for the Internal Revenue Service, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of State, 2:15 p.m., SH–216/VTC.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Dawn Myers O’Connell, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, and Miriam E. Delphin-Rittmon, of Connecticut, to be Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, both of the Department of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine threats to critical infrastructure, focusing on examining the Colonial Pipeline cyber attack, 10 a.m., SD–342/VTC.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, hearing entitled “Air Force Projection Forces Aviation Programs and Capabilities Related to the 2022 President’s Budget Request”, 11 a.m., Webex.


Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet, hearing entitled “Civil Enforcement of Congressional Authorities”, 10 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, hearing on H.R. 3113, the “Modernizing Access to Our Public Land Act”; H.R. 3670, the “Simplifying Outdoor Access for Recreation Act”; H.R. 3686, the “Ski Hill Resources for Economic Development Act”; and H.R. 3687, the “Environmental Justice in Recreation Permitting Act”, 12 p.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife, hearing entitled “DDT Dumping Off the Southern California Coast: Ecological Impacts, Scientific Needs, and Next Steps”, 3 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The SACKLER Act and Other Policies to Promote Accountability for the Sackler Family’s Role in the Opioid Epidemic”, 12 p.m., 2154 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled “U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2022”, 10 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The President’s Proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Budget with the Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra”, 10 a.m., Webex.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of June 8 through June 11, 2021

Senate Chamber

On Tuesday, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Julien Xavier Neals, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m.
Following disposition of the nomination of Julien Xavier Neals, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Regina M. Rodriguez, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 3 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Regina M. Rodriguez, Senate will vote on or in relation to amendments to S. 1260, Endless Frontier Act, and on passage of the bill.

Following disposition of S. 1260, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 7, Paycheck Fairness Act.

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:** June 8, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of State, 10 a.m., SD–106.

June 8, Subcommittee on Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Air Force and Space Force, 2 p.m., SD–192.

June 9, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD–124.

June 9, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Environmental Protection Agency, 10 a.m., SD–138.

June 9, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Bureau of Reclamation, 10 a.m., SD–192.

June 9, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of Justice, 2 p.m., SD–192.

June 10, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, 10 a.m., SD–192.

June 10, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Food and Drug Administration, 10 a.m., SD–124.

**Committee on Armed Services:** June 8, to hold hearings to examine United States’ strategic competition with China, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

June 8, Subcommittee on SeaPower, to hold hearings to examine Navy and Marine Corps investment programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2022, 2:30 p.m., SR–222.

June 9, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold hearings to examine missile defense strategy, policies, and programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2022 and the Future Years Defense Program, 4:30 p.m., SR–232A.

June 10, Full Committee, to hold open and closed hearings to examine the Department of Defense budget posture in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2022, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

**Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:** June 8, Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development, to hold hearings to examine rural transit, focusing on opportunities and challenges for connecting communities, 2:30 p.m., WEBEX.

June 9, Subcommittee on Economic Policy, to hold hearings to examine building a stronger financial system, focusing on opportunities of a central bank digital currency, 2:30 p.m., WWEBEX.

**Committee on the Budget:** June 8, to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2022, 11 a.m., SD–608.

**Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:** June 9, to hold hearings to examine NCAA athlete NIL rights, 10 a.m., SD–G50.

**Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:** June 8, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Tracy Stone-Manning, of Montana, to be Director of the Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, and Shalanda H. Baker, of Texas, to be Director of the Office of Minority Economic Impact, Samuel T. Walsh, of New York, to be General Counsel, and Andrew Eilperin Light, of Georgia, to be an Assistant Secretary (International Affairs), all of the Department of Energy, 10 a.m., SD–366.

**Committee on Environment and Public Works:** June 9, to hold hearings to examine PFAS, focusing on the view from affected citizens and states, 10 a.m., SD–406.

**Committee on Finance:** June 8, to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2022 for the Internal Revenue Service, 10 a.m., SD–215.

June 9, Full Committee, business meeting to consider the nominations of Lily Lawrence Batchelder, of Massachusetts, and Benjamin Harris, of Virginia, both to be an Assistant Secretary, J. Nellie Liang, of Maryland, to be an Under Secretary, and Jonathan Davidson, of Maryland, to be Deputy Under Secretary, all of the Department of the Treasury, 10 a.m., SD–215.

June 10, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD–215.

**Committee on Foreign Relations:** June 8, to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of State, 2:15 p.m., SH–216/VTC.

June 9, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine United States policy in Belarus, 10 a.m., SD–106/VTC.
June 9, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Larry Edward Andre, Jr., of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Somalia, Maria E. Brewer, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Lesotho, Tulinabo S. Mushingi, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Angola, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, Elizabeth Moore Aubin, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria, Eugene S. Young, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Congo, and Christopher John Lamora, of Rhode Island, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cameroon, all of the Department of State, and other pending nominations, 2:30 p.m., VTC.

June 10, Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy, with the Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women’s Issues, to hold a joint hearing to examine atrocities in Xinjiang, 11 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: June 8, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Dawn Myers O’Connell, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, and Miriam E. Delphin-Rittmon, of Connecticut, to be Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, both of the Department of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., SD–430.

June 10, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 1927, to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Corrections Act, 9 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: June 8, to hold hearings to examine threats to critical infrastructure, focusing on examining the Colonial Pipeline cyber attack, 10 a.m., SD–342/VTC.

June 9, Full Committee, business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 9:30 a.m., SD–342.

June 10, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Robin Carnahan, of Missouri, to be Administrator of General Services, Jen Easterly, of New York, to be Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, Department of Homeland Security, and Chris Inglis, of Maryland, to be National Cyber Director, 10:15 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: June 9, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Bryan Todd Newland, of Michigan, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior, 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on the Judiciary: June 9, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Eunice C. Lee, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, Veronica S. Rossman, of Colorado, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, and David G. Estudillo, Lauren J. King, and Tana Lin, each to be a United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington, 10 a.m., SH–216.

June 10, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 601, to amend section 3661 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the consideration of acquitted conduct at sentencing, S. 1014, to reform sentencing laws and correctional institutions, and the nominations of Deborah L. Boardman, and Lydia Kay Griggsby, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Maryland, Tiffany P. Cunningham, of Illinois, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit, Margaret Irene Strickland, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico, Ur Mendoza Jaddou, of California, to be Director of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, and Ronald L. Davis, of California, to be Director of the United States Marshals Service, David H. Chipman, of Virginia, to be Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, Anne Milgram, of New Jersey, to be Administrator of Drug Enforcement, and Kenneth Allen Polite, Jr., of Louisiana, to be an Assistant Attorney General, all of the Department of Justice, 9 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: June 9, to hold hearings to examine a review of the small business investment company program, 2:30 p.m., SD–215.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: June 9, to hold hearings to examine a system to better serve America’s veterans, focusing on investing in the Department of Veterans Affairs infrastructure, 3 p.m., SR–301.

Select Committee on Intelligence: June 8, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

June 9, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Christine Abizaid, of Maryland, to be Director of the National Counterterrorism Center, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, and Robin C. Ashton, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Central Intelligence Agency, 2:30 p.m., SH–216.

House Committees

Committee on Appropriations, June 9, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Member Day”, 10 a.m., Webex.

June 9, Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, budget hearing on the Office of Management and Budget, 3 p.m., Webex.

June 10, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, budget hearing on the Department of the Treasury, 2 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Armed Services, June 9, Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing entitled “Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Request for Military Readiness”, 3 p.m., Webex.

June 10, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing entitled “FY22 Budget Request for Nuclear Forces and Atomic Energy Defense Activities”, 11 a.m., Webex.

June 11, Subcommittee on Intelligence and Special Operations, hearing entitled “FY22 Defense Intelligence Enterprise Posture Hearing”, 11 a.m., Webex.

Committee on the Budget, June 9, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The President’s Fiscal Year 2022 Budget”, 11 a.m., 210 Cannon and Zoom.

Committee on Education and Labor, June 9, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Examining the Policies and Priorities of the U.S. Department of Labor”, 12 p.m., Zoom.
June 10, Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Human Services, hearing entitled “Ending Child Hunger: Priorities for Child Nutrition Reauthorization”, 12 p.m., Zoom.


Committee on Financial Services, June 9, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Universal Vouchers: Ending Homelessness and Expanding Economic Opportunity in America”, 12 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, June 9, Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, Central Asia, and Nonproliferation, hearing entitled “Democratic Values in the Indo-Pacific in an Era of Strategic Cooperation”, 11 a.m., Webex.


June 11, Subcommittee on Europe, Energy, the Environment, and Cyber, hearing entitled “Understanding the Fight to Protect LGBTQI+ Rights in Europe and Eurasia”, 11 a.m., Webex.


Committee on House Administration, June 11, Subcommittee on Elections, hearing entitled “Voting in America: The Potential for Polling Place Quality and Restrictions on Opportunities to Vote to Interfere with Free and Fair Access to the Ballot”, 11 a.m., Webex.

Committee on the Judiciary, June 10, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Oversight of the Federal Bureau of Investigation”, 10 a.m., CVC–200 and Zoom.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, June 9, Subcommittee on Research and Technology, hearing entitled “Building Regional Innovation Economies”, 10 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Small Business, June 10, Subcommittee on Contracting and Infrastructure, hearing entitled “Utilization of Small Contractors in the Infrastructure Plan”, 1 p.m., Zoom.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, June 9, Full Committee, markup on updated subcommittee roster; H.R. 1915, the “Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act of 2021”; and H.R. 3684, the “INVEST in America Act”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Ways and Means, June 10, Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures; and Subcommittee on Oversight, joint hearing entitled “Minding the Tax Gap: Improving Tax Administration for the 21st Century”, 12 p.m., Webex.

Select Committee on the Climate Crisis, June 11, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Building Climate Resilient Communities”, 12:30 p.m., Zoom.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: June 9, to hold hearings to examine the gender wage gap, focusing on breaking through stalled progress, 2:30 p.m., VTC.
Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, June 8

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Julien Xavier Neals, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Julien Xavier Neals, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Regina M. Rodriguez, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 3 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Regina M. Rodriguez, Senate will vote on or in relation to amendments to S. 1260, Endless Frontier Act, and on passage of the bill.

Following disposition of S. 1260, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 7, Paycheck Fairness Act.

(Senate will recess following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Regina M. Rodriguez, until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Tuesday, June 8

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 10 a.m.