The House met at 5 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER
Chaplain (Lieutenant Colonel) Bobby R. Patton, Jr., District of Columbia National Guard, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Most Holy and Merciful God, we come to You today in gratitude and celebration.

Beginning with the Army, our Nation’s military has stood for 246 years against all who sought to harm our democracy and citizens. Men and women from all backgrounds and all services demonstrated their dedication to our Nation by paying for our freedoms and safety with their tears, sweat, blood, and too often, lives.

God, we pray and are grateful, particularly for our National Guard soldiers and airmen who protected us in our Nation’s Capital. We could not have done our work without their service and the sacrifice of their families.

Grant us wisdom to remember that we share a common home, and give us courage so that our words and actions will reflect what is truly best for that common home, our great Nation.

Finally, we thank You for the ability and the capacity to serve the people of the United States.

Amen.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from California (Ms. Lee) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. LEE of California led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
The SPEAKER. The Chair will take this occasion to update her announced policies of January 4, 2021, with respect to protocols in the Hall of the House related to the coronavirus pandemic.

Consistent with updated guidance from the Attending Physician, the Chair wishes to inform Members that masks are no longer required in the Hall of the House for Members and staff who have been fully vaccinated. All Members and staff who have not been fully vaccinated are required to wear masks, and the Chair would note that all Members and staff may continue to wear masks at their discretion.

This announcement is incorporated within the policy on conduct during a covered period of January 4, 2021, and supersedes all other announced policies that are in conflict. The Sergeant at Arms is directed to enforce mask requirements consistent with this announcement.

The Chair would also inform Members that, consistent with the Attending Physician’s updated guidance, the announced policies of January 4, 2021, and November 18, 2020, concerning group voting and Chamber capacity are no longer in effect.

The Chair appreciates the attention of Members to this matter and expects Members to continue to respect the health and safety of other Members and staff during this ongoing pandemic, including by following the guidance of the Attending Physician with respect to masks, social distancing, and other COVID-related health and safety protocols.

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN REMEMBRANCE OF 600,000 AMERICANS WHO PASSED AWAY FROM THE COVID-19 VIRUS
The SPEAKER. The Chair asks all Members in the Chamber, as well as Members and staff throughout the Capitol, to rise for a moment of silence in remembrance of the 600,000 Americans who have passed away from the COVID-19 virus.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 256, REPEALING THE AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE AGAINST IRAQ RESOLUTION OF 2002; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1187, ESG DISCLOSURE SIMPLIFICATION ACT OF 2021; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES
Mr. McGOVERN, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 117–59) on the resolution (H. Res. 473) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 256) to repeal the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1187) to provide for disclosure of additional material information about public companies and establish a Sustainable Finance Advisory Committee, and for other purposes; and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

☐ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., ☐ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.
Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 473 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. Res. 473

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 256) to repeal the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or their designees, and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 1187) to provide for disclosure of additional material information about public companies and establish a Sustainable Finance Advisory Committee, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services and a motion to recommit.

SEC. 3. After debate pursuant to section 2 of this resolution, each further amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules not earlier considered as part of amendments pursuant to section 2 of this resolution shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, and may not be debated for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before the time yielded is for the purpose of debate is exhausted, shall be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

SEC. 4. If, in order at any time after debate pursuant to section 2 of this resolution for the chair of the Committee on Financial Services or her designee to offer amendments consisting of further amendments printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc offered pursuant to this section shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, any member of the Committee on Financial Services or their respective designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

SEC. 5. All points of order against the further amendments printed in the report of the Committee on Rules or amendments en bloc described in section 4 of this resolution are waived.

SEC. 6. The provisions of section 302 of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622) shall not apply to H.J. Res. 46. The previous question shall be considered as read, shall be debated for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on House the bill (H.R. 256) to repeal the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002, and shall not be subject to amendment.

SEC. 7. House Resolution 467 is hereby adopted.

SEC. 8. (a) At any time through the legislative day of Thursday, June 17, 2021, the Speaker may entertain motions offered by the Majority Leader or a designee that the House suspend the rules as though under a closed rule, and for purposes of section 9(a) of the House Rules (H.R. 115), all time yielded is for the purpose of debate, and after debate pursuant to section 2 of this resolution, the Speaker may entertain motions offered by the Majority Leader or a designee that the House suspend the rules as though under a closed rule. The Speaker may entertain motions offered by the Majority Leader or a designee to the effect that the Committee on Rules or amendments en bloc described in section 4 of this resolution are waived. The Speaker may entertain motions offered by the Majority Leader or a designee that the House suspend the rules as though under a closed rule.

(b) A measure referred to in subsection (a) includes any measure that was the object of a motion to suspend the rules on the legislative day June 14, 2021, in the form as so offered, on which the yeas and nays were ordered and further proceedings postponed pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX.

(c) At any time through the legislative day of Thursday, June 17, 2021, the Speaker may entertain motions offered by the Majority Leader or a designee to the effect that the Speaker, or a Member designated by the Speaker, shall put the question on any such motion without debate or intervening motion.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, today, the Rules Committee met and reported a rule, House Resolution 473, providing for consideration of H.R. 256, to repeal the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq resolution of 2002, under a closed rule. The rule provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and one motion to recommit.

The rule also provides for consideration of H.R. 1187, the Corporate Governance Improvement and Investor Protection Act of 2021, providing for Use of Military Force.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days to review and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. LEE of California). The gentlewoman from California, because this is an important day for protecting this country.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield the floor to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. RESCHENTHALER), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. There is objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. There is objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

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The SPEAKER pro tempore. There is objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield the floor to the gentleman from California, because this is an important day for protecting this country.
But each of us was elected and sent here to do more than just make the easy calls. We were sent here to make tough decisions, especially when it involves sending our uniformed men and women, the people we represent, into harm's way and shoveling billions upon billions of taxpayer dollars overseas.

A growing number of Members, both Democrats and Republicans, have been working to reclaim Congress' Article I powers. There is now a bipartisan, bicameral consensus that we not only have to end endless wars, but we have to reexamine the shrinking congressional authority and the expanding executive powers that get us into global conflicts in the first place and, in doing so, keep us there for decades.

The Rules Committee has been working with the House Foreign Affairs Committee to do just that because everything has changed since Congress enacted the War Powers Resolution over President Nixon's veto more than 50 years ago.

When we fight, how we fight, and why we fight, these are big issues that merit our most engaged attention and resolution. We need to reengage in the responsibility to make sure that these laws and authorities work in the modern age.

I want to thank, in particular, Ranking Member Cole on the Rules Committee for working with me in this effort, as well as Rep. McGovern, who has been pushing to reclaim Congress' Article I responsibilities, no matter which party controls Congress or who sits in the White House. I know that sometimes it has been a lonely journey, but he has never stopped fighting because it is the right thing to do for this country and for this institution.

I also want to thank Chairman Meeks and Ranking Member McCaul for working with us on this bipartisan effort.

Again, I want to thank Congresswoman Barbara Lee for being consistent and never giving up in her effort not only to end endless wars but to make sure that Congress lives up to its constitutional responsibilities.

I am grateful that we also have a President in office today who supports reevaluating executive war powers. I have to be honest, Madam Speaker, I never thought I would see that day. But as we speak, the President is working to push to reassert Congress' Article I responsibilities, no matter which party controls Congress or who sits in the White House. I know that sometimes it has been a lonely journey, but he has never stopped fighting because it is the right thing to do for this country and for this institution.

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policy, allowing four presidential administrations to exploit the 2001 and 2002 AUMFs and stretch their Article II authorities. Multiple military conflicts have been expanded or initiated that are beyond the original congressional oversight and debate.

It is past time for Congress to firmly reassert its role in shaping U.S. foreign policy. After 20 years of endless war, it owes its constituents—including our men and women in uniform—a better foreign policy that prioritizes keeping Americans safe. Rather than using outdated language, Congress must inquire, “Why, at what cost, and toward what end?” are young American servicemembers sent to fight and die for imperial desires that are fundamentally disconnected from vital national interests.

Further evasion of these hard questions cheapens the “true faith and allegiance” they swore to uphold when elected.

Over 7,000 Americans have lost their lives and tens of thousands more wounded in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Yemen, and Africa. These conflicts have cost the American taxpayer over $6.4 trillion dollars—a number that will surely continue to grow as wars drag on and the cost of caring for veterans of these wars is tallied.

Congress has several ways it can help bring an end to our endless wars while helping shape peace.

First, in the coming months the House of Representatives will likely have an opportunity to repeal the 2002 AUMF by passing legislation by Representatives Barbara Lee (D-Calif.)—a stalwart champion of Congress reclaiming its powers in matters of war and peace. A similar bill has been introduced in the Senate by Senators Todd Young (R-Ind.) and Tim Kaine (D-Va.), which has been endorsed by the Biden administration. Additionally, legislation repealing the 2001 AUMF was introduced by Representatives Peter Meijer (R-Mich.) and Abigail Spanberger (D-Va.). Passing such bills should be a no-brainer for a Congress bitterly divided on other issues and an important first step toward Congress reclaiming its most important prerogative.

Congress should also consider revision—or outright repeal—of the 2001 AUMF. More than the 2002 AUMF, this law has been stretched far beyond its original intent of authorizing operations against Al-Qaeda and the Taliban in Afghanistan after 9/11. It is worth acknowledging that the purpose of the 2001 AUMF has been satisfied: Osama bin Laden is dead, Al-Qaeda has been decimated and the Taliban severely punished. And despite never being amended, this authorization has been cited to account for operations against groups that didn’t even exist on 9/11 in places such as Somalia and Libya.

If Congress repeals the 2001 AUMF, the executive branch still has the authority to authorize military operations to repel imminent threats to the national security. It does not make our national security less robust to allow the 2002 AUMF to stand. It does not make any American safer.

There is no reason to allow the 2002 AUMF to stand. It does not enhance our national security. It does not make Americans any safer. It does not make the mission of our men and women in uniform any easier.

We must act so that Congress again asserts its responsibility in authorizing war.

I urge my colleagues to adopt the rule and H.R. 256. Again, I thank Congresswoman Lee for her extraordinary leadership.

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Madam Speaker, in addition to making H.R. 256 and H.R. 1187 in order, the rule before us today includes a budget-deeming resolution that puts the House on track for a $1.5 trillion spending spree. I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SMITH), my good friend and ranking member of the Budget Committee, to discuss this reckless spending spree.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Madam Speaker, this is complete madness that the Democrats are trying to push through a deeming resolution to spend $1.5 trillion, and they have yet to even begin to explain what is in it.

They want the American people to believe that what we are about to vote on this floor right now is a bill that
Speaker, I will just plead to the House. The time of the gentleman has expired. 

Why are you trying to hide? Why don’t you want debate over $1.5 trillion of spending? Why are you hiding it from the American people? Why are you being so dishonest? $1.5 trillion is a lot of money. Your President submitted a budget just 2 weeks ago, the latest budget in the history of the United States. Are you not wanting to debate it? Are you not wanting to discuss it? Because the Speaker said the budget is a statement of your values?

You don’t want the American people to see your values because in the President’s budget, the largest amount of spending in the history of this country, $69 trillion, you will not put it in the House floor. Don’t try to put it in one sentence in a rule. The people see it. They see right through it. And history will definitely, definitely not read well for the House of Representatives.

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

Madam Speaker, what a crock. I mean, it is hard to hear anybody on the other side of the aisle talk about government shutdowns. I remember when they lost this place 3 years ago. What did they do? They left us with a government shutdown. First time ever in history, the Republican majority did that.

The gentleman is saying we are not going to vote on this stuff. Maybe he doesn’t understand the legislative process. Let me remind everybody that we have to vote on every single cent that we put forward here.

We have the appropriations process. Maybe the gentleman doesn’t understand that. But every cent that we spend has to be voted on by people in this Chamber. So nobody is going to vote on anything.

Let me just put this in perspective. Yes, the President’s budget was late, and given the timing of the President’s budget, the Appropriations Committee needs to get started to start doing their work, unless my friends don’t want the Appropriations Committee to do their job. Deeming a top-line number for appropriators is a housekeeping item that we can take care of so they can move forward, and we can then turn our attention to a budget resolution and enacting the transformational policies included in the President’s American Jobs Plan and American Families Plan.

Here’s the thing that really gets me when I hear people have meltdowns on the floor. This process has been used by Republicans many, many, many times in order to allow appropriators to get started on their work. Ever since the first deeming resolution in fiscal year 1999, when Republicans were in charge, overall House Republican majorities used deemers nine times, including for fiscal years 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2019. Boy, how convenient it is to forget about all of that. But, then, again, facts don’t seem to matter.

Just one other thing. When the gentleman used the term “big lie,” I don’t want to be lectured by anybody about a big lie, especially by individuals who voted deliberately to overturn the will of the American people, to undermine our democracy. I will not be lectured by anybody on that matter.

I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCANLON), a distinguished member of the Rules Committee. 

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the rule we are considering and to speak to the necessity of Congress repealing the 2002 Authorization for Use of Military Force against Iraq.

Repealing the 2002 Authorization for Use of Military Force is a good first step towards Congress reasserting its constitutional authority over when and if the United States goes to war. This country has been in a state of perpetual war for almost 20 years. We now have members of the Armed Forces deployed overseas who are the children of soldiers who were sent to war under the 2002 AUMF.

Article I of the Constitution, Congress has the sole authority to decide whether to allow the President to take the country into a prolonged war. Before this Nation sends our children, our veterans, our families into harm’s way, Members of Congress have the duty to consider and approve or disapprove such use of force. Americans have the right to hold us accountable for those decisions.

Repealing the 2002 AUMF does not impede the President’s ability to use military force without congressional approval in the event of a sudden threat or imminent attack, but we cannot continue to operate under a system where U.S. Presidents can place American troops in harm’s way with no checks or balances. That is unacceptable.

Congress’ failure to repeal or replace the 2001 and 2002 AUMFs for two decades has done lasting damage to the constitutional separation of powers between Congress and President. It is time for this practice to end.

I urge all of my colleagues to approve this rule and vote to repeal the 2002 AUMF.

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

Madam Speaker, last month there were over 180,000 encounters at the southern border, almost 200,000 encounters at the southern border. That is a new 20-year record for illegal border crossings, 20-year record. CBP has seized more deadly fentanyl so far in 2021 than in all of 2020. Based on our current trends, we can expect overdose deaths in 2021 to rise, if not exceed, the 90,000 Americans who lost their lives between September 2019 and September 2020, 90,000 Americans.

Yet Vice President HARRIS, who President Biden put in charge of dealing with illegal migration at our southern border, refuses to go firsthand to see the crisis in person. In Vice President HARRIS’ own words, “If you want to fix the problem, you have to go where the problem exists.” That is what the Vice President said.

is in Financial Services or a bill that is in Foreign Affairs. But yet they are trying to pass a resolution to bypass the budget process to spend $1.5 trillion. The Democrats have been in power for almost 900 days, and they have yet to put a real budget on the floor of the House of Representatives, even though the Budget Control Act of 1974 clearly states the process. 

What is it? What are you trying to hide? Why don’t you want debate over $1.5 trillion of spending? Why are you trying to hide $1.5 trillion. 

April 15. Let’s prevent this government shutdown.

The House has been in a state of perpetual war for almost 20 years. We now have members of the Armed Forces deployed overseas who are the children of soldiers who were sent to war under the 2002 AUMF.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

In the history of the United States, $55 trillion. Tax increases on the American people. The largest tax increases in the history of the United States. Are you not wanting to discuss it? Because the Speaker said the budget is a statement of your values?

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

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Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Madam Speaker, I
Alarming, she hasn’t gone to the southern border at all.

It would be laughable if this wasn’t a humanitarian crisis. It would be laughable if Americans weren’t going to die of overdoses because of fentanyl crossing our border.

That is why, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to immediately consider Congresswoman Ashley Hinson’s See the Crisis Act. This legislation would strip Vice President Harris from using taxpayer dollars to travel internationally until she actually visits our southern border.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment in the RECORD, along with any extraneous material, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Iowa (Ms. Hinson) to explain the amendment.

Mrs. HINSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call for immediate consideration of my See the Crisis Act. This legislation would prevent Vice President Kamala Harris from using taxpayer dollars to travel internationally before seeing the southern border crisis firsthand.

Vice President Harris was named as the administration’s point person on the illegal immigration crisis at our southern border 80 days ago, and this crisis is worsening by the day. Yet the Vice President has refused to go to the border herself and talk to the brave law enforcement officers, the men and women who are fighting this on the front lines.

This out-of-sight, out-of-mind approach is a disgrace, Madam Speaker, but let’s back up and look at how this crisis developed on the Biden administration’s watch.

On day one of this administration, President Biden stopped construction of the border wall. Shortly after, he reinstated catch-and-release. Now, this turned on the green light at our border. It incentivized the historic surge of illegal immigration that we are currently experiencing in this country.

Open border policies are music to the ears of the cartels, the drug smugglers, and the traffickers who make their living on human suffering. Make no mistake, business is good for cartels and drug smugglers under this administration right now.

Snuck into this rule here tonight is a provision to set the spending levels for Congress, and these historic spending levels rise in nearly every category except for one, the Department of Homeland Security. This sends a pretty clear message to the cartels that the U.S. Government doesn’t think it is a priority to stop them.

Madam Speaker, I recently visited the border to see the crisis for myself, hear what those on the front lines are facing every day. They told me they are completely overwhelmed. There are major vulnerabilities along our border. These are vulnerabilities that the cartels and the drug smugglers are exploiting every day.

Border Patrol officers are apprehending sex offenders, gang members, even people on the terrorist watch list trying to come into our country illegally, and these are just the people that they are catching. Deadly drugs are pouring across our border. Fentanyl seizures at the border have increased by 233 percent this year. 233 percent.

When I was at the border I heard from both Democratic sheriffs and Republican sheriffs about these devastating realities and the damage that is being inflicted on our communities.

But apparently, even as the administration’s point person on the illegal immigration crisis, hearing from those on the ground is too much to ask for the Vice President.

She has been the border czar for 80 days. She has been to yarn shops, she has been to bakeries, and she just flew right over the crisis at our southern border to meet with foreign countries, with the taxpayers’ Facebook in hand.

When asked why she hasn’t visited the southern border, she laughed. She laughed, and this is not a laughing matter.

The border crisis impacts the safety and security of every Iowan, of every American. Every State is a border State right now.

As Members of Congress, regardless of our party, it is our job to hold the administration accountable when it is failing the American people.

Right now, Vice President Harris, Madam Speaker, is failing the American people. She is failing law enforcement at the border. She is failing the families who will suffer because of the drugs coming across our border and falling into the wrong hands.

Vice President Harris needs to see the crisis for herself and take action. That is exactly what my See the Crisis Act will force her to do. This bill will prevent the Vice President from traveling internationally on the taxpayers’ dime until she visits the southern border and reports back to the American people on how the administration will secure our border.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in defeating the previous question and holding this administration accountable for the border crisis.

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

I don’t even know what to say. The response that the Republicans just with basically is saying we are going to withhold any money for Vice President Harris’ travel budget unless she goes to the border and does a photo op. That is what this is.

We are supposed to be a serious legislative body. We are supposed to be the most serious, most deliberative legislative body in the world, and my friends say we are going to withhold her travel budget unless she goes to the border and does a photo op. That is what this is.

Never mind that Vice President Harris represented California as a United States Senator, which is a border state. Never mind that she just went to Central America because people are coming to our border from places like El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala.

Never mind she went to some of these countries where people are fleeing so we can try to figure out how to deal with this issue.

My Republican friends have brought to the House floor a bill that basically says: You know what? Our solution is you either go and do a photo op at the border or we are going to withhold your travel budget.

I mean, really? That is a serious legislative proposal?

I don’t even know how to respond to that other than to say, that, you could have come up with something better. This isn’t even worth any more of my time talking about it.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. Roy), my very good friend.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I note that the gentleman from Massachusetts just referred to the possibility of the Vice President of the United States going to the border for a photo op. Well, if she can find the border on a map and actually use her taxpayer-funded airplane, go to Andrews Air Force Base, fly to the great State of Texas, fly directly to the border at the Rio Grande and actually find the time in her duty as the Vice President of the United States to give a white about the people of Texas, then maybe she could actually have a photo op.

Perhaps the people of this country and the State of Texas, which I represent, would like a photo op. Perhaps we would like a Vice President who actually cared about the people of Texas, who actually cared about the ranchers.

Perhaps my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are muttering under their breath right now, how dare I speak up about the people of Texas who want to be protected? How dare I stand up about the ranchers whose fences are being torn down?

The narcotics flying up I-35, running through Boerne, Texas, running through San Antonio. The nine immigrants found in a car being driven by
June 14, 2021

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

H2721

an American citizen, being paid by the Cartel Del Noreste of Los Zetas out of Nuevo Laredo; the two that were bound in a trunk. The boy that paid $4,000 to pick grapes but was being sent to a stash house in Houston, Texas, to be put in the trunk; and little girls to be put into the trunk trade.

The 7-year-old girl who I talked to on the border at the Rio Grande at 1 o’clock in the morning, when I don’t know where my colleagues were, but I can tell you that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle were not with me. They were not down on the Rio Grande River. They were not talking to that 7-year-old girl who had a phone number written on her arm, or talking to any of the others who were being potentially abused, as many NGOs and nonprofits estimate up to 25 to 30 percent of the women on this journey are abused by dangerous cartels.

It is not the Mexican Government that operates Tamaulipas or the state across the Rio Grande. It is the dangerous cartels making tens of millions of dollars moving human beings for profit.

That is what my colleagues on the other side of the aisle sell as compassion? Then I watch the Vice President of the United States go down to another country to say, well, what could we possibly do to stem the tide?

How about actually secure the border of the United States?

How about actually use Title 42 in the middle of a global pandemic to make sure that we control the flow at the border?

How about actually have the infrastructure in place that we know works?

How about a return to Mexico policy where we can work with our friends in Mexico to stop the flow?

How about not putting a big neon sign on the border saying: ‘Come on in. Don’t worry if the cartels abuse you on the way.’

Meanwhile, Texas takes the brunt of it: an 800 percent increase over the last 4 years total in fentanyl; 800 percent more this year alone.

Do you know how dangerous fentanyl is, Madam Speaker?

We have had 7,500 pounds of fentanyl. 7,500 pounds that have been acquired by border patrol. Imagine what they might acquire if they weren’t limited in resources to stop what they might acquire if they weren’t undertaking processing in McAllen instead of having wide open spaces between our ports of entry. 7,500 pounds, an 800 percent increase in Texas. My State is under siege. My State is taking it on the chin because Democrats refuse to secure the border of the United States.

It is the fundamental duty of a nation to secure its border. The fundamental duty. I come back here after 3 weeks talking to ranchers and people in my State who are getting abused, losing their ranches, losing their homes, watching their kids die in overdoses, all while migrants get put in stash houses and get abused running up through our neighborhood and my community.

Well, forgive me if I am not all that bothered by a resolution on this floor by my colleague from Iowa. And I think it is a good idea to try to call into question what the Vice President of the United States is actually spending her time doing.

What on Earth is more important than securing the border of the United States? And how hard is it to get on your taxpayer-funded plane and fly to south Texas and go meet with the border patrol and meet with the ranchers and meet with the migrants and meet with the business owners who are getting killed?

It is happening every single day in our State. It is our duty in the people’s House to secure the border of this Nation. And I have constituents and people in my State who are getting abused, as many NGOs and nonprofits estimate up to 25 to 30 percent of the women on this journey are abused by dangerous cartels.

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

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

I don’t know what the gentleman was talking about, about woke yuppies and all this other kind of stuff he was talking about here today, but Democrats actually believe in science. We believe that climate change is real. We believe that we ought to have some accountability and transparency in the corporate world, as to what they are doing and how they are reporting their actions.

I find this so concerning that we can’t even have a debate on what, in fact, the underlying legislation is. I think the bill that Congresswoman Waters has brought to the floor is a commonsense bill that I hope even some Republicans might support.

I would also say that the other piece of legislation that we were talking about here today is BARBARA LEE’s bill to repeal the 2002 Authorization for Use of Military Force. Many of us have been urging that we repeal that 2002 Authorization for Use of Military Force for quite a while now. It has passed the House and it has passed the Senate. Yet we are here again, and now we have a President of the United States that says that he no longer wants that, that he actually supports what we are trying to do here. Yet we still have people on the House floor who say, no, we need to hold onto it, an Authorization for Use of Military Force that we passed almost 20 years ago that somehow is applicable today.

That just doesn’t make any sense to me.

People like Congresswoman LEE; Congressman ADAM SMITH; the late Republican Congressman, Walter Jones; and Congressman TOM COLK have talked about the need for us to reclaim our constitutional powers when it comes to committing American forces into harm’s way.

Quite frankly, many of us have been raising this issue—didn’t matter who was in the White House, whether it was a Democrat or a Republican—because we think it is the right thing to do. We think somehow the Authorization of Congress to just keep on kicking the can down the road to ignoring these important debates.

You have those debates, and if people decide to continue the same old, same old, fine. That is what the majority of people here vote for. If people decide to end it, that ought to be fine, too. That is what we are here for.
I think this institution would be better served if we took our constitutional responsibilities with regard to war and peace more seriously.

Today, I hope we will pass this rule and we will then pass the Lee bill. But it isn’t the end of our work. We are going to need to continue to review and repeal and reform outdated Authorizations for Use of Military Force, and we need to reimagine the broader issues embedded in the War Powers Resolution, because never again should we acquiesce and allow Congress to sit on the sidelines as wars are crafted and carried out by the White House, wars that never end, wars that sacrifice lives and sacrificed treasure.

Let’s respect our troops. Let’s respect their families. Let’s respect this institution. Let’s finally get back to doing our jobs, taking responsibility and voting on issues of war and peace. And let’s start today by supporting this rule and the underlying measures.

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

AMENDMENT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 473
At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 9. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall proceed to the consideration in the House of the bill (H.R. 3403) to limit travel by the Vice President until after certain activities are undertaken with respect to the southwest border, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill be waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Reform; and (2) one motion to recommit.

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

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

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

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

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

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the last preceding clause of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 6 p.m.), the House stood in recess.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE MELANIE A. STANSBURY TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. HERRELL) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Ms. HERRELL. Madam Speaker, I have the distinct honor to rise today as the dean of our delegation to introduce the newest Member of the House of Representatives from New Mexico’s First Congressional District: MELANIE STANSBURY.

Melanie was born in Farmington and grew up in the North Valley and west side of Albuquerque. She is from a hardworking family that typifies millions of New Mexicans. MELANIE’s mother supported her family as a seamstress and heavy equipment operator. Her family owned a landscaping and irrigation business, where she worked growing up. After graduating from Cibola High School, she attended St. Mary’s College in California and went on to graduate studies at Cornell University. She came home and served our State as a science instructor through the Museum of Natural History, visiting schools across the State.

Before she was elected to office, MELANIE served our Nation here in Washington at the Office of Management and Budget, and the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Congresswoman STANSBURY has been shown to be a dedicated public servant, and I know she does not take her new role lightly. I pray that God will guide her in her decisions, strengthen her during the trials, and bless all of us in public service with wisdom and grace.

Today, please help me welcome the newest Member of the House from the Land of Enchantment, Congresswoman MELANIE STANSBURY.

The SPEAKER. We welcome back to the House three other Members of the House: Senator HEINRICH; Senator BEN RAY Luján; and visiting from Washington State, Senator CANTWELL.
The gentlewoman from New Mexico is recognized.

Ms. STANSBURY. Madam Speaker, I rise today as the newest Representative for New Mexico’s First Congressional District.

As Secretary Deb Haaland said in her farewell before this body: ‘We are called to serve in different ways. I stand here today because I believe that we are called to build a world that is more just, more equitable, and more resilient.’

I ran for Congress because I believe deeply in our communities and our ability to bring meaningful change, and that the weight of history and all future generations is on us to do so.

As a New Mexican, I know that we are strong and we are proud and that our work is to lift up our communities to fight for the dignity and well-being of our people, to rebuild our economy, and to tackle the biggest challenges of our day. We are called to do this work because the moment is now, and our future depends upon it, which is why I, Madam Speaker, am so proud to be able to serve alongside you as New Mexico’s next Congresswoman.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentlewoman from New Mexico, the whole number of the House is 431.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 256, REPEALING THE AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE AGAINST IRAQ RESOLUTION OF 2002; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1187, ESG DISCLOSURE SIMPLIFICATION ACT OF 2021; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 473) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 256) to repeal the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1187) to provide for disclosure of additional material information about public companies and establish a Sustainable Finance Advisory Committee, and for other purposes; and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). The question is on the previous question.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 217, nays 203, not voting 10, as follows:

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

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

The Speaker pro tempore. The question is on the resolution. The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.
The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 216, nays 206, not voting 8, as follows:

(Roll No. 158)

The result of the vote was announced by the Clerk.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RULE 8, 117TH CONGRESS

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that such formula shall be applied by substituting “fiscal years 2012 through 2022” for “fiscal years 2012 through 2021”.

(2) DEFINITION.—As used in this subsection, the term “additional new budget authority” means an advance appropriation carried out pursuant to a determination under section 102(2) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), for the cost associated with conducting redeterminations of eligibility under title XVI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1315 et seq.), for the cost associated with the prosecution of fraud in the programs and operations of the Social Security Administration by specified United States Attorneys, then the adjustment shall be the additional new budget authority specified in such measure for such expenses for fiscal year 2022, but shall not exceed $2,450,000,000.

(2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this subsection—
(a) the term “continuing disability reviews” means continuing disability reviews under sections 221(i) and 1614(a)(4) of the Social Security Act, including work-related continuing disability reviews to determine whether earnings derived from services performed on or after the date of a redetermination of eligibility under sections 216(i)(1) and 223(i)(1)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1382c(i)(1), 1382c(a)(3)(H); and
(b) the term “redetermination” means re-determination of eligibility under section 226(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1382c(a)(3)(H))

(3) LIMITATION.—The chair of the Committee on the Budget may adjust the allocations included in the statement referred to in subsection (b) as follows:

(1) IN GENERAL.—If a bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report making discretionary appropriations for fiscal year 2022 specifies an amount for wildfire suppression operations in the Wildland Fire Management Account at the Department of Agriculture or the Department of the Interior, then the adjustment shall be the amount of additional new budget authority specified in such measure as being for wildfire suppression operations for fiscal year 2022, but shall not exceed $417,000,000.

(2) DEFINITION.—As used in this subsection, the term “additional new budget authority” and “wildfire suppression operations” have the meanings specified in subclauses (I) and (II), respectively, of section 253(b)(1) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)(K)(i) and (II)).

(1) ADJUSTMENT FOR INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE.—The chair of the Committee on the Budget may adjust the allocations included in the statement referred to in subsection (b) as follows:

(1) IN GENERAL.—If a bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report making discretionary appropriations for fiscal year 2022 specifies an amount for tax enforcement activities, including tax compliance to address the Federal tax gap, in the Enforcement account and the Operations Support account included under the Internal Revenue Service of the Department of the Treasury, then the adjustment shall be the additional new budget authority provided in such measure for such purpose, but shall not exceed $2,450,000,000.

(2) DEFINITION.—As used in this subsection, the term “additional new budget authority” means the amount provided for fiscal year 2022, in excess of $273,000,000, in a bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report and specified to pay for the costs of continuing disability reviews, redeterminations, co-operative disability investigation units, and fraud prosecutions under the heading “Veterans Accounts Identified for Advance Appropriations”.

(3) LIMITATION.—The chair of the Committee on the Budget may adjust the allocations included in the statement referred to in subsection (b) as follows:

(1) IN GENERAL.—If a bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report making discretionary appropriations for fiscal year 2022 specifies an amount for the cost of continuing disability reviews under sections 221(i) and 1614(a)(4) of the Social Security Act, including work-related continuing disability reviews to determine whether earnings derived from services performed on or after the date of a redetermination of eligibility under sections 216(i)(1) and 223(i)(1)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1382c(i)(1), 1382c(a)(3)(H); and
(b) The term “redetermination” means re-determination of eligibility under section 226(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1382c(a)(3)(H))

(c) DEFINITION.—The term “advance appropriation” means any new discretionary budget authority provided in a general appropriation bill or bill or joint resolution containing discretionary appropriations for fiscal year 2022, or any amendment thereto or conference report thereon, that first becomes available following fiscal year 2022.

SEC. 2. APPLICATION.

(a) ALLOCATIONS.—Upon submission of the statement referred to in section 1(b), all references to allocations in “this concurrent resolution” in sections 4002, 4003, and 4004 of the Senate Concurrent Resolution 5 (117th Congress) shall be treated for all purposes in the House of Representatives as references to the allocations contained in the statement referred to in section 1(b), as adjusted in accordance with this resolution or any Act.

(b) DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENTS.—The chair of the Committee on the Budget may make appropriate budgetary adjustments of new budget authority and the outlays flowing therefrom pursuant to the adjustment authorities provided by section 1.

SEC. 3. LIMITATION ON ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), any general appropriation bill or bill or joint resolution continuing appropriations, or amendment thereto or conference report thereon, may not provide an advance appropriation.

(b) EXCEPTIONS.—An advance appropriation may be provided for programs, activities, or accounts identified in lists submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the chair of the Committee on the Budget:

(1) for fiscal year 2023, under the heading “Accounts Identified for Advance Appropriations” in aggregate amount not to exceed $28,852,000,000 in new budget authority, and for fiscal year 2024, accounts separately identified under the same heading; and
(2) for fiscal year 2023, under the heading “Veterans Accounts Identified for Advance Appropriations”.

(c) DEFINITION.—The term “advance appropriation” means any new discretionary budget authority provided in a general appropriation bill or bill or joint resolution containing discretionary appropriations for fiscal year 2022, or any amendment thereto or conference report thereon, that first becomes available following fiscal year 2022.

SEC. 4. EXPIRATION.

The provisions of this resolution shall expire upon the adoption of a concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2022 by the House of Representatives and the Senate.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
H. R. 9380, House of Representatives,

Hon. Nancy Pelosi,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on June 14, 2021, at 1:42 p.m.:

That the Senate agreed to without amendment H.J. Res. 27.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,
Cheryl L. Johnson,
Clerk.

TRIUMPH INCORPORATED PROVIDES QUALITY CHILDCARE

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

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of investing in our care economy.

Recently, I visited Triumph Incorporated, a Head Start program in the city of Taunton in my district. Triumph provides low-cost and high-quality early education and childcare for children in our community.

Senator WARREN and I heard from parents about the impact Triumph made on their lives. In addition to caring for their children, the facility provided a space for community and friendship for young families. From kindergarten readiness to nurturing children with developmental differences, the educators and administrators at Triumph show up for those in need.

Every family in America deserves access to high-quality, affordable, and accessible early childhood education and childcare. By investing in caregiving, we will help Americans get back to work, create good-paying jobs, and build an economy that works for everyone.

□ 1930

RECOGNIZING BECKY AMES

(Mr. WEBER of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)
Mr. WEBER of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding work of Mayor Becky Ames, the 41st mayor of Beaumont, Texas.

Since being elected, Mayor Becky Ames has spearheaded several initiatives in the Beaumont area, such as establishing the One Stop Shop in city hall to help businesses and homeowners with their various needs.

Becky has also helped develop the 311 call centers to help residents with non-emergency issues.

Mayor Ames’ most significant contributions to our district include the emergency preparation and management before and after several tropical storms and hurricanes that have impacted Beaumont. Mayor Ames’ experience and leadership during these storms were instrumental to recovery efforts and restoring Beaumont’s infrastructure. I have seen them up close and personal.

I recognize and I thank Mayor Becky Ames for her many years of selfless service to Beaumont and our 14th Congressional District of Texas.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Becky on her well-earned retirement.

RECOGNIZING SHERIFF CRAIG NOBLES

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sheriff Craig Nobles of Long County, Georgia, for his heroic actions saving 22 dogs on May 24, 2021.

Sheriff Nobles was responding to a brush fire and discovered 22 dogs tied to trees in the wood line. After containing the scene, first responders successfully saved all 22 dogs that are now safe and healthy.

The First Congressional District is fortunate to have Sheriff Nobles serving and protecting not only the people in the community, but man’s best friend as well.

After seeing the faces of the 22 dogs, I am thankful for the first responders who rescued these dogs that are now able to find a loving home.

I am proud to rise today to congratulate Sheriff Nobles, the Long County Sheriff’s Office, and the Long County Fire Department for their great work in saving these precious animals.

RECOGNIZING CHASE GROGAN

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, recently, my friend Jean Donaldson was driving home late one afternoon and had a tire blow out.

Jean stopped in the parking lot of the business Clean & Dry, where Chase Grogan, an employee of the business, noticed her plight and offered to help.

Despite it being near quitting time, Chase insisted on helping Jean and proceeded to change her tire so that she could get home. Jean was, of course, grateful and offered compensation, which he declined.

We often come to the floor to praise people who have done extraordinary acts, and we should continue to do that. However, it is good for us to acknowledge all the Chase Grogans of the world who, every day, do extraordinary acts of kindness with little recognition.

By acknowledging Mr. Grogan, we are acknowledging all who do those kindnesses every day.

CONGRATULATING VICKI CHRISTIANSEN

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and congratulate USDA Forest Service Chief Vicki Christiansen on her recently announced retirement.

Chief Christiansen has dedicated 40 years as a professional forester, wildland firefighter, and land manager. I have had the great privilege of working with Vicki and appreciated her visit to the Allegheny National Forest.

While visiting, it was made clear her passion for problem-solving, connecting people with their natural resources, and her commitment to local collaboration.

The ANF is Pennsylvania’s only national forest, and it plays a vital role in our communities throughout the region.

Vicki’s work as USDA Forest Service chief focused on saved natural resources in ways that promote lasting economic, ecological, and social vitality for all communities.

Madam Speaker, I thank Vicki Christiansen for her leadership, dedication, passion, and advocacy for our Nation’s national forests in rural areas. May she enjoy her retirement.

RECOGNIZING FLAG DAY

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, today we celebrate the adoption of the stars and stripes as the official flag of our Nation. In 1777, six years before the end of the Revolutionary War, is when it was adopted by Congress.

Over the past year, however, we have seen a constant stream of disrespect for our stars and stripes.

We expect the flag to perhaps be beaten and burned on the streets of Beijing or in the Middle East or other cities of our global adversaries, but we do not expect that to happen within the United States.

This past year, we have all fought against the raising of political flags in military bases and atop our embassies and consulates. Our flag is the only flag that belongs above those buildings.

Our flag is a symbol of hope and unity.

I hope today, of all days, we can remember who fought to raise the flag and why.

REAFFIRMING TRANSATLANTIC SOLIDARITY

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, as co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional Ukraine Caucus, I rise to reaffirm transatlantic solidarity in advance of President Biden’s meeting with Russian dictator Vladimir Putin.

I am so thankful to President Biden, who is personally committed to liberty in Ukraine. I was proud to travel with him and Senator McCain to Ukraine in 2015, for President Poroshenko’s inauguration.

As President Biden knows well, Vladimir Putin is an enemy of liberty. Ukraine faces its seventh year of brutal Russian aggression that has led to over 14,000 deaths. Putin’s thugs have targeted liberty defenders like Boris Nemtsov and so many more freedom lovers.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD Amnesty International’s deeply troubling human rights report on Russia.

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed chronic under-resourcing in health care. The authorities used the pandemic as a pretext to continue the crackdown on all dissent, including through amendments to a vaguely worded law on “fake news” and tightening restrictions on public gatherings. Peaceful protesters, human rights defenders and civic and political activists faced arrest and prosecution. Persecution of LGBTI people intensified. Torture remained endemic, as did near total impunity for perpetrators. The right to a fair trial was routinely violated while legal amendments resulted in a further reduction in judicial independence. Reports of domestic violence rose sharply during COVID-19 lockdown measures, although the draft law on domestic violence remained stalled in Parliament. LGBTI people continued to face discrimination and persecution. Thousands of labour migrants lost their jobs during the pandemic but were unable to leave because of border closures. Evidence emerged to corroborate allegations of war crimes by Russian forces in Syria.

Background

The economic downturn, underpinned by falling oil prices, dwindling investment and foreign sanctions, and exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, led to a further impoverishment of a growing proportion of the population. Discontent widened, with a slow but steady increase in protests. The government continually faced and ignored mounting allegations of corruption at all levels. Measures announced by President Vladimir Putin and his government, like extended lockdown leave for cases of coronavirus to COVID-19, failed to address people’s broader concerns.
The authorities introduced multiple amendments to the Constitution, with the apparent purpose of removing legal restrictions on President Putin’s participation in future presidential elections.

Russia maintained a strong influence on its immediate neighbours, and its occupation of Crimea and other territories continued.

**The COVID-19 pandemic** placed further strain on the health care system, exposing chronic under-resourcing: A shortage of hospital beds and protective equipment, and a lack of personal protective equipment and medications, together with the delayed wages of health workers, were frequently reported across the country. Official figures on infection and mortality rates varied greatly, indicating government under-reporting.

**Health workers**

Whistle-blowers from among health workers and other groups faced reprisals, including disciplinary measures and prosecution for “fake news”.

The independent News’ allegations against her following a raid on her home were considered unreliable by independent monitors.

**Prison conditions**

Health care and sanitary provisions in penitentiary institutions remained inadequate and further exacerbated by the pandemic. Although the authorities implemented restrictive and additional sanitary measures, they did not take measures to reduce the prison population. Official COVID-19 figures in custody were considered unreliable by independent monitors.

**Freedom of Assembly**

Freedom of peaceful assembly remained constrained with further restrictions introduced in December. The rules relating to public assemblies and single-person pickets were further restricted in response to the pandemic, and some regions banned them outright. Public protests were typically small but regular, despite reprisals. There was a sharp increase in the numbers of single picketers arrested and prosecuted.

On 15 July, over a hundred peaceful protesters protesting constitutional changes were arbitrarily arrested and at least three severely beaten by the police in Moscow. Dozens were heavily fined or detained for five to 14 days.

The 9 July arrest of Sergey Furgal, who in 2018 had defeated the pro-Kremlin candidate to be elected Governor in the Far East Khabarovsk Region, prompted weekly peaceful mass protests in Khabarovsk as well as solidarity protests across Russia. Unusually, tens of thousands were allowed to march repeatedly in Khabarovsk before police made the first arrests on 18 July. On 10 October, police dispersed the protest for the first time, with at least 25 people, with at least five later sentenced to several days in detention. The protests in Khabarovsk were continuing at year’s end.

In December, peaceful protest Konstantin Kotov was released following his imprisonment in 2019 for “repeated violation” of regulations on public assemblies. In January, the Constitutional Court had ordered a review of his case, and in April, the Moscow City Court reduced his sentence from four years to 18 months. Others prosecuted included political activist Yulia Galyamina, who was given a two-year conditional sentence in December, activist Vyacheslav Egorov standing trial, and human rights activist Aleksandr Prikhodko from Khabarovsk. In December, Aleksandr Prikhodko’s case was dropped.

While police routinely used excessive and unnecessary force against protesters, they also allowed anti-protester violence by other groups. In Ust-Kut, Bashkortostan, peaceful environmental activists were targeted by local mining company. The protest was repeatedly assaulted, with impunity, by private security staff, occasionally operating alongside police. Late on 9 August, a large and later fleeing crowd of around 100 masked men attacked a camp of 10 environmental activists. Police were called but did not intervene. This triggered further protest as the government closed the closure of the mining project in late August.

**Freedom of Expression**

Restrictions on freedom of expression continued. On 1 April, amendments to the so-called “fake news” law, criminalized dissemination of “ knowingly false information about circumstances posing a threat to the lives and security of citizens to protect the population.” Individuals face up to five years’ imprisonment if dissemination of information leads to bodily harm or death, with hefty fines for the media. Hundreds of people were fined under administrative proceedings, and at least 37 faced criminal proceedings under this law, many of them critical journalists or bloggers. At least five media outlets were prosecuted. The newspaper Novaya Gazeta and its chief editor were fined twice, in August and November, for publications about COVID-19 and ordered to delete respective articles online.

**Journalists**

Harassment, prosecution and physical attacks against journalists continued. On 30 June, police in Saint Petersburg assaulted reporter David Frenkel at a polling station and broke his arm. On 15 October, a journalist from Respublica, Yulia Galyamina, was abused by masked men, driven to the woods, beaten and subjected to a mock execution. He reported the incident to the police, who released him by year’s end, but he had not been informed about any investigation.

A journalist from Nizhniy Novgorod, Irina Slavina, faced routine harassment by the authorities. On 1 October, her home was raided and searched, and police summoned her as a witness in a criminal case against a local activist for so-called “extremism” under anti-extremism law. On 2 October, she died after self-immolating in protest in front of the regional police headquarters.

On 6 July, a criminal court in Pekovo convicted journalist Svetlana Prokopeva of “public justification of terrorism” and fined her RUB500,000 (US$6,300) for her public comments on repressive policies that may have motivated a 17-year-old to blow himself up near the Federal Security Service building in Arkhangelsk.

**Internet**

Censorship of the internet continued. In June, the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) in Vladimir Kharitonov v. Russia and three other cases ruled that internet blocking measures were “excessive and arbitrary” and violated the right to impart and receive information. A court in Moscow fined Google RUB1.5 million (US$18,899) in August and RUB61 million (US$7,640,580) in December for its search engine listing “dangerous content” banned by Russian authorities. In December, President Putin signed a law introducing new restrictions on internet platforms for blocking Russian media content. Another law passed in December introduced imprisonment for libel committed via the internet.

**Repression of dissent**

Opposition activists and other dissenting voices faced severe reprisals. As part of the politically motivated criminal case against opposition leader Alexei Navalny’s AntiCorruption Fund, 126 bank accounts belonging to his associates were frozen in January, following his conviction for fraud.

The trial in Kolomna, and protester Aleksandr Galkin sentenced to several days in jail, for “false news” and “public justification of terrorism” and fined RUB500,000 (US$6,300) by the de-facto Supreme Court of Russia.

**Human Rights Defenders**

Harassment, prosecution, and physical attacks against human rights defenders remained commonplace.

Another law passed in December introduced separate criminal charges for association with an “undesirable organization”, re-posting Open Russia-branded materials online and taking part in the activities of NGOs, unregistered groups and individuals.

In April, the education NGO Projectoria was forced to register as a “foreign agent” to avoid fines while its foreign donor, Project Harmony, was declared “undeclared”.

In October, activist Yana Antonova from KrASNODAR was sentenced to 240 days of forced labour for association with an “undesirable organization”, including in occupied Crimea, with a growing number of convictions, and longer sentences. At year’s end, 362 people were under investigation or standing trial, 29 had been convicted and six were imprisoned. Artem Gerasimov, for example, was sentenced on appeal in June to six years’ imprisonment and a fine of RUB400,000 (US$5,144) by the de-facto Supreme Court of Crimea.

**Torture and Other Ill-Treatment**

Torture and other ill-treatment remained pervasive, and the number of perpetrators convicted was negligible. Prosecutions were typically for “abuse of authority” and resulted in lenient sentences.
Twelve former prison officers from Yaroslavl colony were sentenced to up to four years and three months' imprisonment after a leaked video showed an inmate being beaten. Six of the officers were immediately released on account of time already spent in detention. The former head and deputy head of the colony were also convicted.

UNFAIR TRIALS
Violations of the right to a fair trial remained common. Detainees were denied meetings with their lawyers and a number of trials were closed to the public. With the COVID–19 pandemic being often abusively used as a justification. In Kozya and Kashevo respectively, seven young men from Penza, and two from Saint Petersburg, received sentences of up to 18 years' imprisonment under trumped-up terrorism charges over their purported involvement in a non-existent organization called “Network”. Numerous allegations of torture and other ill-treatment, and of fabrication of evidence, were ignored.

Constitutional and legislative amendments further eroded the right to a fair trial, including by giving the President power to nominate the judges of the Constitutional and Supreme Courts, and initiate the appointment of all federal judges and dismissal of some federal judges.

Counter-terrorism legislation was widely abused, often to target dissent.

Human rights defender, Server Mustafayev, from Dagestan, remained in custody under fabricated charges of financing terrorism and participation in a terrorist and extremist organisations. His trial started in November.

In occupied Crimea, allegations of membership of the Islamist organization Hizb-ut-Tahrir (labelled as a ‘terrorist’ movement by Russia in 2003) were widely used to imprison ethnic Crimean Tatars. In June, Crimean human rights defender Emir-Usein Kuku lost the appeal against his 12-year prison sentence. In September, another Crimean human rights defender, Server Mustafayev, was sentenced to 14 years in prison.

In September, 19 men from Ufa, Bashkíría, convicted for alleged Hiz-ut-Tahrir membership and sentenced to between 10 and 24 years, lost their appeal, with one defendant’s sentence reduced by a year.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS
Proposals to introduce legislation on domestic violence stalled in Parliament, while NGOs reported a sharp increase in domestic violence following COVID–19 lockdown measures.

In June, the ECCHR held a panel on the VYSNIATSA that deficiencies in the legal system related to domestic violence violated the prohibitions of torture and discrimination. The Court underlined Russia’s consistent failure to investigate abuse, and years-long tolerance of a “climate which was conducive to domestic violence”.

RIGHTS OF LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSSEXUAL AND INTERSEX (LGBT) PEOPLE
LGBTI people continued to face discrimination. Constitutional amendments redefined marriage as a “union between a man and woman”, reinforcing existing limitations on same-sex couples.

In July, Yulia Tsvelevskova was fined RUB75,000 (US$1,014) for posting online her drawings in support of same-sex couples and families, including ongoing prosecution for pornography relating to her body positive drawings featuring female genitalia.

MIGRANTS’ RIGHTS
Over a third of foreign labour migrants reported having lost work owing to the COVID–19 pandemic, and thousands were stranded by related border closures. In April, a presidential decree eased work permit and residency rules for migrants and refugees, and temporarily suspended forcible returns of foreign and stateless individuals. Some regional authorities ceased temporary detention of migrants, although the decisions on forcible returns were also reported.

UNLAWFUL ATTACKS
Evidence including witness statements, videos, photographs and satellite imagery of seven air strikes against medical facilities and schools by Russian forces, and four by Syrian or Russian forces, between May 2019 and February 2020 in Syria, corroborated allegations of serious violations of international humanitarian law amounting to war crimes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, a successful meeting with Putin can only be accomplished proceeding from a position of strength.

While I am deeply concerned the administration waived Nord Stream 2 sanctions, I am pleased President Biden invited President Zelensky to a White House visit. I am also grateful the administration announced $150 million in security assistance to Ukraine. This weekend has also been an opportunity to pivot from the Trump administration’s disastrous legacy that left the transatlantic relationship in tatters. The Congress and our caucus stand ready to work with the administration to address aggression to counter Russian aggression by increasing Ukraine’s security and democracy assistance.

Onward liberty. Onward Ukraine.

OFFERING SYMPATHY
(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE, Madam Speaker, I rise as a fellow Texan to offer my deepest sympathy to my fellow congressional colleagues in the Austin area, to the local officials, and to all of those who suffered the brutality of the mass shooting in the last couple of days—14—and my deepest sympathy to those who mourns today.

Madam Speaker, in Texas, the Governor just signed a permitless gun bill. All statistics suggest that this provides a shopping spree of guns.

It is important for three things to happen for our Nation to raise its voices against gun violence and to begin to pass sensible gun safety laws, including my legislation for gun storage, universal background checks, closing the Charleston loophole, to prevent ghost guns, and banning assault weapons.

At the same time, we must raise the specter of mental health services. But most of all, as I chair the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, we must raise our voice against violence and actually deal with it and try to cease it. I believe America must do this.

CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH
The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. Jacobs of California). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.
Don’t diminish our celebration. Don’t diminish that joy in the midst of sorrow.

How many died who could not be free?

Here are the words: “The people of Texas announce— That, in accordance with the Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the difference therefore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired laborer.”

Now, the word was said that they were offered, the slaves; Don’t worry about it, just stay on the plantations, and we will pay you.

I am grateful, but those courageous, but impoverished, without insight, without resources, without compensation, without recognition, they said in their own power: We are leaving the plantations.

And they migrated up this road called Emancipation Trail.

I am gratified that I was able to introduce such legislation where my Senate colleague, Senator CORNYN, joined me and now an Emancipation Trail has been established. It is now part of a study. It will be only the second commemoration of African-American history in this Nation. The Selma to Montgomery is the first, and now the Emancipation Trail that says: No, I was not going to stay on the plantation; however, I was going to survive; whatever I had to place together, I was going to do it.

Then, of course, lo and behold, they found themselves—eight of them, freed slaves, put their money together and purchased the first park bought in the State of Texas by freed slaves or anyone. They called it Emancipation Park.

So that is why we are here to celebrate and to educate this idea of what it means to celebrate Juneteenth. I am delighted that we have introduced a resolution that is bipartisan. But the most exciting part about this is that I have introduced a bill that establishes Juneteenth as a national Federal holiday. Not removing any other holiday, but adding it to the list. Cosponsored by Senator MARKEY and Senator CORNYN, and bipartisan. Over 160 cosponsors in the House.

I think it is worthy to have a holiday—a Federal holiday established, and I am very proud to have been the Congressperson for Representative Al Edwards, who is called the father of Juneteenth, establishing the first paid State holiday in the State of Texas highlighting, honoring, revering Juneteenth.

You will hear many of us continue our discussions about Juneteenth, its significance in terms of freedom. And I am delighted, as I said, to be anchoring with my colleague. It is important to express our appreciation to our chair, the Honorable BARBARA LEE, a Californian but born in Texas with a grandfather born in Galveston. She knows what Juneteenth, the significance, the power of it is, and her legislative legacy speaks to freedom. Madam Speaker, I yield to the Honorable BARBARA LEE.

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, first of all, let me thank the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) for yielding for her tremendous leadership and for the Emancipation Trail that she so boldly led. I am just amazed at what she shared with me earlier today and just now on the floor.

Because, yes, I am a daughter of Texas. My grandfather was born in 1875—10 years after. And my grandmother may have been part of the Emancipation Trail. She was born probably in—they left Galveston around 1890.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. She would have been part of it at a later time, but that trail, since we know for sure there were no other ways of moving, she had to walk along that semi-developed trail of little cities from Galveston—walk along, drive along, in whatever capacity, and when I say “drive along,” horse and buggy and otherwise.

That was a trail that the freed slaves, the ex-slaves, went from Galveston all the way. There was the Reedy A.M.E., if I am correct, one of the historic A.M.E. churches where they stopped for refuge. Then they came on up, and they sought their way to freedom. They were not going to stay on the plantation.

Madam Speaker, I yield back to the gentlewoman.

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, that sounds like my great-grandmother Fanny, who I did not know, but my grandfather spoke of her. I am certain that she was part of that.

As I listened to my colleague and looked more into my personal family history, Galveston, certainly, is in my spirit. I guess that is why each and every year since I was a child, we continued to celebrate Juneteenth as our liberation day, our emancipation day.

Historically, we generally recognize January 1, 1863, the date when the Emancipation Proclamation was signed, as the end of chattel slavery of African Americans in the United States. However, for generations, African-American communities have been celebrating June 19 as a symbolic date representing our freedom from enslavement.

As Congresswoman JACKSON LEE mentioned, Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston to announce the end of the Civil War. He also declared that the enslaved Africans were now equal in personal rights to that of their former masters, ending the inhumane, barbaric subjugation of African Americans as property that still continued 2½ years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed.

Again, we are not far removed from this history. Citing my grandfather, I have to call his name: Mr. W.C. Parish, William Calhoun Parish. He was born in Galveston, just 10 years after Granger’s Juneteenth announcement.

Black Texans began celebrating Juneteenth the following year, and year after year for the last 150-plus years. Communities across the Nation have created their own traditions and events to honor and commemorate this historic moment as a day of freedom, not just a cultural celebration for African Americans. It is a true testament to the endurance of our democratic ideals of liberty and equality.

So, we need to pass H.R. 1320, the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act, establishing Juneteenth as a Federal holiday to further cement the importance of this date in our Nation’s historical narrative on freedom.

I thank Congresswoman JACKSON LEE, again, for introducing this legislation, and I am a proud cosponsor. The last time Congress enacted a Federal holiday, I believe it was Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s birthday, and it took nearly 20 years for it to pass. We cannot let this idle.

Each year, Juneteenth compels us to confront the darkest chapter in American history, a chapter born in the Middle Passage, continued through slavery, and manifested today through systemic racism. Our Nation has consistently led to inequities in income, education, employment, healthcare, and the wealth gap of African Americans.

We must use Juneteenth to reflect upon the dehumanization of enslaved Africans in America but also to honor their legacy because “and still we rise.”

The labor stolen from enslaved Africans built this country. Black people created some of the most cherished national symbols, all while considered merely three-fifths of a person under our Constitution.

We must honor and recognize the millions of men, women, and children lost to the brutality of slavery. As a Nation, we must reckon with the true nature and legacy of slavery in the United States and acknowledge how it has allowed a false racial hierarchy to permeate and infect our society today.

That is why, Congresswoman JACKSON LEE, it is time to pass H.R. 40, legislation to establish a commission to study and develop reparations—championed, again, by a great Texan—to repair this damage and compensate those Africans.

I thank Congresswoman JAC kSON LEE for this evening. I thank our CBC chairwoman, JOYCE BEATTY, and our vice chair, Mr. HORSFORD, for this Special Order tonight. I think it is very important that the history be told of Juneteenth and connects to today and systemic racism.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for honoring my ancestors.
Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to be able to have a Californian with deep roots in Texas on the floor because what this says to our body is that this issue of slavery permeated all aspects of this Nation. We can see that from the work, the testimony of the transition of the compositions of the Honorable BARBARA LEE, followed by, of course, a native daughter of Wisconsin who saw it in a different form and is compelled to be on the floor today and who has championed for the importance well and particularly championed for those who are experiencing modern-day impacts of slavery through inequities, through poverty, through welfare, and that has been treated unfairly. That is the Honorable GWEN MOORE from Wisconsin.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE).

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding to me and for inviting me.

Madam Speaker, I rise tonight to join my CBC colleagues in highlighting the importance of honoring the holiday and continuing the legacy of Juneteenth Day, the first one celebrated on June 19, 1865.

As you may know, this is the date on which Union Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, to announce the end of both the Civil War and the inhumane system of legalized enslavement of Africans in the United States.

Now, it must be noted that this announcement came 2 1/2 years after President Abraham Lincoln issued an executive order that most of us know as the Emancipation Proclamation. But it is an important reminder that our efforts to form a more perfect Union don’t really have any timeframe or any date, but they are ever ongoing.

Madam Speaker, I want you to know that in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, from which I hail, we are going to be celebrating Juneteenth Day, and it will be the 50th anniversary of Juneteenth Day. Yes, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, up north, we started observing this holiday in 1971. It is a long way from Galveston, Texas, making it one of the first Northern States to commemorate the end of slavery in our country.

Madam Speaker, this Saturday, we will again gather along North King Drive to highlight Black culture with traditional African music, youth essay contests, marketplaces, pageants, and a parade, unofficially marking the opening of Milwaukee’s famous summer festival. This coming Friday, we will be raising the Juneteenth flag in the State capital of Madison, Wisconsin, to honor this day. We take Juneteenth seriously.

Madam Speaker, in 1972, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported an estimated 3,000 people attending our second annual Juneteenth festival. That number increased over the years, and between 160,000 and 170,000 people have attended these festivals. The high number of festival-goers can be personally attributed to Milwaukee’s notably special, historic response to the system of slavery and to our efforts to teach the young people about Wisconsin’s and Milwaukee’s role in ending slavery.

Now, in 1864, a Missouri slave owner traveled to Milwaukee, the place where I was born, 27 miles south of Milwaukee, to demand that a runaway slave by the name of Joshua Glover be surrendered under the U.S. Fugitive Slave Law. Glover, who had been playing cards at the time, was arrested and paroled, to be moved through Wisconsin, to honor this day. We take pride in being one of the first Northern States to commemorate all aspects of this Nation. We mea-
from injustice. And we must also celebrate freedom from complacency.

Madam Speaker, I thank our chair who is leading this Special Order.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I can’t imagine with the recounting of the story by VAL DEMINGS that we are not securing, how should I say it, multiple numbers of Members to join in the holiday pronouncement and resolution, and bill, rather, of Juneteenth, to support H.R. 40, and to recognize the value of commemorating and teaching about the history of African Americans.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON), a person who has great knowledge and is a great storyteller, a fighter for justice, and a fellow member of the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for leading this Special Order today on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus as we rise together to celebrate the African American history and to commemorate an unsung holiday known as Juneteenth.

Now, I was 21 years old when I first heard of Juneteenth. That was the year that I arrived in Texas to go to law school at Texas Southern University.

Having been born here in the District of Columbia, somewhat north—some folks say it is south, but I considered it to be the north, but now I accept it as being in the south.

Back then, I didn’t learn anything about Juneteenth living here in Washington, D.C., nor did I learn about it when I moved south to Atlanta at the age of 17. So the first time I heard I was in Texas, and it was a joyful celebration, a joyful day. But since I have left Texas and gone back to Georgia, we don’t really celebrate Juneteenth in Georgia.

Right now, this year, will constitute the first county in Georgia—it would be DeKalb County, DeKalb County—that will recognize and celebrate Juneteenth as a holiday. And it is a holiday that should be enjoyed by all of Americans, not just by Black people, but by White people, too, because when one of us are in bondage, it means all of us are in bondage. When all of us are free is when we are truly free.

So Juneteenth marks the 156th celebration of the ending of slavery in this Nation, and since then we have made significant strides in the expansion of civil rights. We have outlawed segregation, integrated our schools, and done important work to increase access to the polls.

Nonetheless, even 156 years later, America and the way her laws are applied remain biased against the Black man. Our neighborhoods and our schools are still subject to de facto segregation, and schools with larger African-American populations are unlikely to receive adequate funding and support.

Our justice system is a continuation of this systemic bias. Under the guise of public protection, we arrest and forcibly confine African Americans five times as often as White Americans for the exact same crimes. Now, these realities directly contradict American ideals.

And so on this anniversary of Juneteenth, I believe the best way to celebrate the community and honor our past is to take deliberate action to make our country a just and equitable home for all Americans.

But how can we do that when Republicans are now on this issue called critical race theory? They are trying to ban all discussion about this legal concept that they have turned into a political football. It was a legal concept that now has taken on some kind of a hastily meaning.

And the only thing it is, is first an acknowledgment that the vestiges of racism, the vestiges of slavery and racism still exist in this country, and a discussion about how it impacts our current reality. That is all that we are talking about. We are talking about re-"alizing history, celebrating history in the case of Juneteenth. We have a lot to celebrate, and all of us should celebrate, but we cannot do that unless we know what our history is.

And my friends on the other side of the aisle are taking deliberate acts now to suppress it. I told you, I just heard about it, you know, when I was 21 years old. You know, we need our people to know about this. We need America to know about this. We need to all celebrate together, just like we do with all the other holidays like Thanksgiving, for instance.

Madam Speaker, I don’t mean to be divisive, but I do want to speak truth. Ms. JACKSON LEE, Madam Speaker, as I get ready to yield to the distinguished gentleman from Las Vegas, Nevada, I want to make sure he lets me know my pronunciation is correct, it is a very sensitive question.

But has the gentleman from Georgia leaves, let me at least acknowledge that critical race theory. Here is the question I ask: Should I not know about Italians and how they came and were treated? Should I not know about the Irish who left in the midst of the potato famine and faced discrimination? Should I not know about Native Americans?

So we are the American experiment. Does everybody realize that? No one thought that we would ever survive, and we have come together with a multitude of groups. Our strength is in the recognition of our differences, and in our unity.

This came out of Texas. This Representative is all over. He misinterprets the teaching by teachers. He has never sat in the class to know that teachers are not condemning, they are just educating. Isn’t it wonderful in little babies’ minds to not put condemnation there, but to start understanding so that we can appreciate each other’s condition?

Madam Speaker, I am delighted to yield to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD), who is the first vice chair of the Congressional Black Caucus but sits on the Ways and Means Committee. And if he will allow me, I just want to make this point.

You are seeing Members of the Congressional Black Caucus, and I can tell you our agenda is as wide and varied as America, from taxation to agriculture to tech to criminal justice to the issues that American is facing, job creation.

But we also understand that we would be remiss if we did not stand together to a common enemy, what are the consequences to our own lives. Experiences and to share with America what the value of our diversity is all about.

Madam Speaker, I now yield to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD).

Mr. HORSFORD. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the gentlewoman from Texas, the esteemed Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE for her yielding and her leadership in anchoring this Special Order hour along with our colleague, Congressman TORRES.

I commend both of them for the leadership that they provide in bringing our voice as the Congressional Black Caucus to the floor of the House of Representatives during this Special Order hour.

Madam Speaker, I thank our Chairwoman JOYCE BEATTY for recognizing just how important it is for the Congressional Black Caucus to speak on so many important issues.

Today is the commemoration for the Juneteenth holiday that we now recognize and to commemorate June 19th, 1865, when some of the last enslaved people in the United States learned that they were free.

But as my colleagues have spoken about here tonight, more than 2 years before the first Juneteenth, President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, freeing enslaved people in Confederate States.

Instead, though, slave owners hid the news of emancipation and kept free people in captivity, but on Juneteenth the truth set them free. And Juneteenth is now a celebration, a commemoration of the power of that truth.

A lot of people want to hide our history, they want to not speak about the truth of our history, but there are truths, like emancipation, that merit us speaking and celebrating and commemorating, as we are doing. But we also must reckon with the horrors of this past that is also part of the United States history.
As we honor Juneteenth, we must remember the decades of Jim Crow laws and white supremacist terror that followed even after the freeing of enslaved Black peoples. We must remember the Tulsa race massacre and the destruction of Black Wall Street as we do other events that have occurred during our history. And we must commit to understanding how systemic racism has shaped our Nation’s past and, sadly, its present.

I am the first African-American Congresswoman from the State of Nevada, so I feel uniquely honored to bring the voices of my community and my constituents to the floor of this House. I am also proud that in my district and across the Silver State, Juneteenth celebrations have multiplied in recent years with the help of scholars and leaders, including Diane Pollard, who literally was one of my educators in high school; Al Gourrier, Sr.; Deborah Evans; and many other luminaries who have carried on the spirit of Juneteenth.

This week, throughout my district, we are celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Las Vegas Juneteenth Festival, which supports educational programming for underserved youth through the Rainbow Dreams Education Foundation and the Rainbow Dreams Academy Charter School.

I also want to recognize the Save Our Sons Juneteenth Festival, which brings our community together to celebrate Juneteenth and to support mentoring for underserved youth.

You see, Madam Speaker, Juneteenth isn’t just about what happened in the past. It is what is continuing to happen right now, today, in the present.

As Juneteenth celebrations grow, so does our collective understanding about the vibrant Black culture and history that have shaped our Nation since its founding.

So let us embrace Juneteenth 2021 as a day of truth. Let us remember the joys and sorrows of our history. And let us build from them toward a more perfect Union, with true liberty, true justice, and true equality for all.

Madam Speaker, I thank the anchor for yielding, and I thank my colleagues for coming to the floor to bring commemoration for Juneteenth 2021.

Ms. JACKSON LEE, May I ask the Speaker the time remaining, please?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Texas has 22 minutes remaining.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TORRES). Madam Speaker, I thank him for his leadership. Let me be very clear that both his history and his State as well have a vested history in liberty and freedom, but, yes, no place did escape the vestiges of slavery.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TORRES). Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, I thank Congresswoman JACKSON LEE for her leadership.

In order to understand where we stand in the present, we have to understand where we have been and how we came to arrive at a society as racially divided and as unequal as our own. For me, it is a scandal that most Americans have never heard of Juneteenth and most Americans have never heard of the Tulsa race massacre because these events are rarely, if ever, taught in public education.

Juneteenth is not only not taught in our public schools, but there is not even a national holiday celebrating an event that has profound meaning to Black Americans, to all Americans. So I want to commend the gentleman’s leadership in advancing a bill that would establish Juneteenth as a national holiday.

Frederick Douglass famously posed the question: What to a slave is July Fourth? Juneteenth is to Black America what July Fourth has exclusively been to...
White America: Independence Day. Juneteenth refers to the moment when slaves in Texas came to discover their legal freedom under the Emancipation Proclamation. Out of that discovery came a 156-year tradition of Juneteenth. It referred to the moment when Major General Gordon Granger led a Union Army to Texas to enforce the Emancipation Proclamation 2½ years after its issuance. The announcement was known as General Order Number 3, and it read as follows: “The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired labor.” For me, Juneteenth contains a deeper lesson that we ignore at our own peril. We must fight real hard to make it proclaimed but when it is enforced. The emancipation of enslaved people became real not when it was proclaimed by Abraham Lincoln but when it was enforced by the Union Army, most notably by African Americans. The desegregation of our public schools became real not when it was proclaimed by the Supreme Court in Brown v. Board of Education but when it was enforced most notably by President Johnson, who sent the National Guard to Little Rock, Arkansas. Voting rights became real not when it was proclaimed by the 15th Amendment but when it was enforced a century later by the Voting Rights Act enforced by the process of preclearance, which has since been gutted by the Supreme Court but which we are seeking to restore with the John Lewis Voting Rights Act.

Reconstruction was doomed by a lack of Federal enforcement. In the beginning, Reconstruction had early success. It saw the passage of the 13th Amendment, which abolished slavery; the 14th Amendment, which provided for equal protection of the law and which prohibited discrimination based on race; and the 15th Amendment, which provided for voting rights and which prohibited disenfranchisement based on race.

During Reconstruction, scores of African Americans began exercising their right to vote, and the African Americans began winning elective office. For a fleeting moment, there was an outburst of Black political power in America. Then came a turning point in the 1876 Presidential election, whose outcome was decided by a congressional commission. Then-Presidential candidate Rutherford B. Hayes cut a deal with white supremacists in the United States Congress. He agreed to withdraw the Union Army from the former Confederate States in exchange for the Presidency. When the Union Army withdrew from the South, it left behind a vacuum that ultimately came to be filled by Jim Crow, a system of racial discrimination, racial segregation, and racial terror.

What followed the failure of Reconstruction was the lost century. Madam Speaker, for me, the lesson of Juneteenth is that an activist Federal Government is an essential defender of human rights and civil rights. It is an essential defender of equality and dignity and humanity for all Americans. We must learn from the lessons of history, and we must continue the work of Reconstruction that is long overdue.

Ma. JACQUELINE Speer, I say to the gentleman from New York, it is an esteemed pleasure to be able to draw upon both his knowledge and scholarship—might I stand on his shoulders—an activist Federal Government.

For some reason, as we face these trials and tribulations of 2021, there is a hesitancy to realize that the Federal Government is, in simplistic terms, an umbrella on a rainy day. It is, in fact, the concrete barrier in the time of a storm. And that is why we are on the floor today.

Let me acknowledge that an activist Federal Government, in the positive way, would be the government that would say that Italian history and Irish history, Latino history, and Caribbean history, and African history, and the Pilgrim Pride history, and European history, and Asian-Pacific history, and Southeast Asian-Pacific, and any others that I have left out, is valuable to be heard by our children’s ears. It is valuable to be taught.

Then they would be able to understand the gentleman’s entreat, his request, which is H.R. 1320, which is bipartisan, that declares Juneteenth a national Federal holiday.

And to the wrong representation of right-wing radio, it doesn’t substitute any holiday. It adds it to the list of Federal holidays. It does not subtract any holiday; it does not take any holiday away. Yet it acknowledges the importance of that day and, as well, it is led by Senators MARKEY and CORNYN, a Republican and Democrat in the United States Senate, and it is a bipartisan bill in the House.

Is there any reason not to move this bill along as quickly as possible? And if there is a basis for not understanding what freedom meant, look at this slave that was symbolic of the life that slave led; but that is the light of being beat.

What about those who were beaten to death or burned to death? It is no shame for our children to be taught that the kind of soldier and doctor and lawyer and teacher we want to build up? Isn’t that the kind of citizen we want to grow?

And then, if we want to make it realistic and home for our moment, as my colleagues have said, we spent 4 days in Tulsa, Greenwood, that was burned to the ground; 300 in an unmarked grave. This is what 1921 looked like; not 1865, not 1860, not 1799, not 1724, when slavery was raging for 250 years.

This is what it looked like in 1921; a black body burned on the streets of Greenwood.

So when we talk about jubilee and freedom, we do it in a way that we can, if we want to, stand in front of Americans, be free to say that matches the Emancipation Trail that is now law in the State of Texas, that march from victory, when General Granger said you are free. It matches H.R. 40, which is a non-offensive repair and reconciliation that speaks to the language that Justice Hughes said about Black Americans, the discrete and insular minority excluded from those political processes ordinarily to be relied upon to protect them, where there were denials of our freedom.

And then, of course, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., talked about an insufficient check; not of money, but he talked about that we have never been given justice and equal protection.

So when we speak of the Emancipation Trail, only the second commemoration of the history of African Americans 250 years in bondage, when we speak of Juneteenth, it is for all to celebrate, when General Granger landed on the shores of Galveston.

We will be in Galveston celebrating. We will see Naomi Carrier. We will see Eileen Lawal and Jackie Bostic, Ramon Manning and, of course, the Emancipation Conservatory. We will get to see Opal Lee, almost 100 years old, fighting for this holiday, or Al Edwards. We will get to see Senator CORNYN, a Republican who joins us in this commemoration, and all others.

Let me acknowledge that an activist Federal Government, in the positive way, would be the government that must be our birthright. It is a reminder, this day, on Juneteenth, that liberty and freedom are precious birthrights of all Americans, which must be jealously guarded and preserved for future generations.

That is why we are on the floor today. We are not in anger. We are not in anguish. We are here, in fact, for liberation, freedom, and the empowerment of all Americans.

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Let me acknowledge that an activist Federal Government, in the positive way, would be the government that must be our birthright.

I say to the gentleman from New York, Madam Speaker, I am delighted to thank my chair, the Honorable JOYCE BEATTY, for her leadership in the Congressional Black Caucus. And because
of freedom, it is a wonderment to stand here, free, with my colleague from New York, my co-chair, the Honorable Congressman Torres, and all others.

Isn’t it precious?

In this place, that we stand here in freedom. Let us not ever lose it, and let us fight for it and let us keep it.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise to another, the Congressional Black Caucus’s Special Order tonight on Juneteenth Independence Day.

I am pleased to be joined by Congresswoman BEATTY, the Chair of the CBC, Congresswoman Nydia Velázquez, the Co-Chair of this Special Order, and so many of our CBC colleagues to commemorate a historically significant day for all Americans, but especially African Americans.

Let me extend on behalf of the CBC its heartfelt thanks to the House leadership, particularly Majority Leader HOYER, for their support which paved the way for the House last year to pass by unanimous consent H. Res. 1001, the resolution I introduced recognizing Juneteenth Independence Day.

Madam Speaker, Juneteenth is as significant to African Americans as July 4 is to all Americans because on that day, June 19, 155 years ago, General Gordon Granger, the Commanding Officer of the District of Texas, rode into Galveston, Texas and announced the freedom of the last American slaves; belatedly freeing 250,000 slaves in Texas nearly two and a half years after Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation.

When General Granger read these words of General Order No. 3 set off joyous celebrations throughout the freedmen and woman of Texas:

"The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection therefore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired laborer."

Juneteenth was first celebrated in the Texas state capital in 1867 under the direction of the Freedmen’s Bureau.

Juneteenth remains the oldest known celebration of slavery’s demise, commemorating freedom while acknowledging the sacrifices and contributions made by courageous African Americans towards making our great nation the more conscious and accepting country that it has become.

As the nation prepares to celebrate July 4th, our national day of independence, it is a time to reflect on the accomplishments of our nation and its people.

I want to thank the Members of the House for their bipartisan support of this annual Juneteenth Resolution, which has 214 cosponsors, of which 202 are original sponsors.

General Granger’s reading of General Order No. 3 ended chattel slavery, a form of perpetual chain of a generation of African Americans in bondage in the United States for two-hundred and forty-eight years and opened a new chapter in American history.

Recognizing the importance of this date, former slaves coined the word “Juneteenth” to mark a celebration of the first of which occurred in the Texas state capital in 1867 under the direction of the Freedmen’s Bureau.

Juneteenth was and is a living symbol of freedom for people who did not have it. Juneteenth remains the oldest known celebration of slavery’s demise.

It commemorates freedom while acknowledging the innumerable contributions made by courageous African Americans towards making our great nation the more conscious and accepting country that it has become.

The celebration of Juneteenth followed the most devastating conflict in our country’s history, in the aftermath of a civil war that pitted brother against brother, neighbor against neighbor and threatened to tear the fabric of our union apart forever that America truly became the land of the free and the home of the brave.

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, “Freedom is never free,” and African American labor leader A. Phillip Randolph often said “Freedom is never given. It is won.”

Truer words were never spoken. We should all recognize the power and the ironic truth of those statements, and we should pause to remember the enormous price paid by all Americans in our country’s quest to realize its promise.

Juneteenth honors the end of the 400 years of suffering African Americans endured under slavery and celebrates the legacy of perseverance that has become the hallmark of the African American experience in the struggle for equality.

But Madam Speaker, as the poet Langston Hughes reminds us in his famous poem, “Mother to Son,” life in America for African Americans “ain’t been no crystal stair.”

The post-bellum period in America was marked by violence and terrorism against African Americans as they sought to make real the promises of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

Nowhere was the reign of terror to which they were subjected to more horrific than the 1921 Tulsa-Greenwood Race Massacre, which occurred a century ago this past May 31–June 1.

Tulsa’s Greenwood District, was known as “Black Wall Street,” and was the most prosperous African American community in the United States.

The Greenwood community with a population of over 10,000 Black people had stores that sold luxury items, 21 restaurants, 30 grocery stores, a hospital, a savings and loan bank, a post office, three hotels, jewelry and clothing stores, two movie theaters, a library, pool halls, a bus and cab service, a nationally recognized school system, six private airplanes, and two black newspapers.

But on May 31st of that year, the 35 city blocks of Greenwood went up in flames, at least 300 Black persons were murdered and more than 800 were injured; it is estimated that not less than 9,000 were left homeless and destitute.

The message of the Tulsa Race Massacre was clear to Black America: “Stay in your place. Do not attempt to accumulate and begin wealth or own property. Remember your history in America is as chattel property.”

Madam Speaker, were they still alive, the domestic terrorists of the mob in Greenwood would see their evil reenacted—and then followed by a similar attempt to cover-up it and fostered by some to continue later in the siege and deselection of the hallowed halls of the U.S. Capitol, the ‘Cabinet of Democoracy’.

It should not be overlooked that the source of the January 6 white mob’s irrational anger, hatred, and violent reaction was that Black Americans voted in overwhelming numbers in Atlanta, Detroit, Milwaukee, Philadelphia, and other enclaves to oust the most proWhite supremacy President since Civil War.

Some might ask “Why dwell on the past? Let us forget unpleasant things and move on into the future.”

My answer is to quote the great southern writer William Faulkner: “The past is never dead. It is not even past.”

The hatreds, prejudice and resentments, and white supremacy that Black Americans witnessed and suffered in Greenwood a century ago are not dead; they are not even past.

So my message to the descendants of the survivors and victims of slavery, America’s Original Sin, is to keep fighting for justice, to never be silent, to affirm the truth, and seek accountability.

In his famous Second Inaugural Address, President Lincoln spoke of the profound moral debt owed for “all the wealth piled by the labor of a century and more of unrequited toil,” and that the Civil War was the judgment of the Lord, which was “true and righteous altogether.”

That debt remains to be paid, which is why African Americans have always peacefully petitioned the government for the redress of its grievances.

As the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King said at the 1963 March on Washington:

“In a sense, we have come to our nation’s capital to cash a check. When the architects of our republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir.

“This note was a promise that all men, yes, black men as well as white men, would be guaranteed the inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

“It is obvious today that America has defaulted on this promissory note insofar as her citizens of color are concerned. Instead of honoring this sacred obligation, America has given the Negro people a bad check—a check which has come back marked ‘insufficient funds.’ But we refuse to believe that the bank of justice is bankrupt. We refuse to believe that there are insufficient funds in the great vaults of opportunity of this nation. So we have come to cash this check—a check that will give us upon demand the riches of freedom and the security of justice.”

Madam Speaker, H.R. 40, legislation I have introduced, continues this proud legacy of demanding reparative justice and accountability for injuries inflicted.

H.R. 40, which establishes a national commission to examine slavery and discrimination in the colonies and the United States from 1619 to the present and recommend appropriate remedies.

Among other requirements, the commission shall identify (1) the role of federal and state governments in supporting the institution of slavery; (2) forms of discrimination in the public and private sectors against freed slaves and their descendants; and (3) lingering negative effects of slavery on living African-American communities.

The goal of the historical investigations H.R. 40 mandates is to bring American society to a new reckoning with how our past affects the
current conditions of African Americans and to make America a better place by helping the truly disadvantaged.

Consequently, the reparations movement does not focus on payments to individuals, but to remove the debt that has been created in many forms necessary to equitably address the many kinds of injuries sustained from chattel slavery and its continuing vestiges.

To merely focus on finance is an empty gesture and betrays a lack of understanding of the dynamics of the unaddressed moral issues that continue to haunt this nation.

While it might be convenient to assume that we can address the current divisive racial and political climate in our nation through race neutral means, experience shows that we have not escaped our history.

Though the Civil Rights Movement challenged many of the most racist practices and structures that subjugated the African American community, it was not followed by a commitment to truth and reconciliation.

For this reason, the legacy of racial inequality has persisted, and left the nation vulnerable to a range of problems that continue to yield divisiveness, and injustice.

By passing H.R. 40, Congress can start a movement toward the national reckoning we need to bridge racial divides.

Reparations are ultimately about respect and recognition of the consequences—and the hope that one day, all Americans can walk together toward a more just future.

Official slavery ended with the Civil War and ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment. But unofficial slavery was continued with the new institution of share-crop farming, a criminal justice system that would press convicts into work once done by slaves, and labor policies that dictated income for work done based upon skin color.

And, of course, all of this was reinforced by the systematic disenfranchisement of black Americans, the “discrete and insular minority” excluded from “those political processes ordinarily to be relied upon to protect” them, to quote Chief Justice Hughes’ famous Footnote 4 in United States v. Carolene Products Company, 304 U.S. 144 (1938).

These are just some of the many reasons that the history of the United States is interwoven with the history of enslaved Africans in the Americas.

“There is blood and there are tears, but there is also redemption and reconciliation.”

But to get there, we must have the complete truth and lay our history bare. It is the light that sheds the way to the more perfect union all Americans want.

“The Commission created and empowered by H.R. 40 is a necessary first step in that effort to get to truth and reconciliation about the ‘Original Sin of American Slavery’ that is necessary to light the way to the beloved community we all seek.”

So, Madam Speaker, this is where we are.

In recent years, a number of National Juneteenth Organizations have arisen to take their place alongside older organizations—all with the mission to promote and cultivate knowledge and appreciation of African American history and culture.

Juneteenth celebrates African American freedom while encouraging self-development and respect for all cultures.

But it must always remain a reminder to all of us that liberty and freedom are precious birthrights of all Americans, which must be jealously guarded and preserved for future generations.

TABLE 1.—STATES THAT COMMEMORATE OR OBSERVE JUNETEENTH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Year of Recognition</th>
<th>Citation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Ohio Code Ann. § 2701.08 (2012)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Table compiled by the Congressional Research Service (CRS). The table lists the first instance of a state’s recognition of Juneteenth or the legislation that established Juneteenth as a state holiday. It excludes legislation adopted by states after the initial observance of Juneteenth. However, examples include Kansas adopting S. Res. 1432, 108th Cong. (2004), which preceded federal Order No. 3, which announced that, in recognition of Juneteenth as a federal holiday, “all slaves are free.” The text that follows is the text of the legislation.”

“Reparations are ultimately about respect and recognition of the slavery endured under slavery and celebrates the legacy of perseverance that has become the hallmark of African American experience. Contrary to the myth of struggle for equality. These values are shared by millions of Americans who over generations have held fast to the promise of this nation while struggling to forge a human society.”

“Juneteenth celebrates African American freedom while encouraging self-development and respect for all cultures. It must always remain a reminder to all of us that liberty and freedom are precious birthrights of all Americans which must be jealously guarded and preserved for future generations. As it takes on a more national and even global perspective, the events of 1865 in Texas are true. Our roots tie back to this fertile soil from which a national day of pride is growing. This is why we must establish the Juneteenth Independence Day, as a national holiday. And today we also pay special tribute to Opal Lee, the Grandmother of Juneteenth!”


PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATIONS AND REMARKS

One of the many uses of a presidential proclamation is to ceremoniously honor a group or call attention to certain issues or events that should be commemorated. Proclamations commemorating Juneteenth from the completion of Presidential Documents include the following:

Statement of the Observance of Juneteenth—President Donald Trump, June 19, 2019

Statement on the Observance of Juneteenth—President Barack Obama, June 19, 2016

Message on the Observance of Juneteenth—President George W. Bush, June 19, 2006

Remarks at a Southwest Voter Registration Education Project Reception in Houston, Texas—President William J. Clinton, June 19, 1995

Other presidential proclamations are available through https://www.govinfo.gov, a portal for free public access to official publications of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the government, maintained by the Government Publishing Office (GPO).

HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Numerous resources provide information on the history and culture of the holiday. Some of these include the following:

Smithsonian, “Juneteenth: Our Other Independence Day.” This blog post includes pictures of the Granger house and the house from which he read General Order Number 3.

Ms. JOHNSTON of Texas. Madam Speaker, for over 150 years, June 19th, commonly known as “Juneteenth Independence Day,” has been celebrated as a source of inspiration and encouragement for generations of African Americans in Texas and across the nation. The end of slavery did not reach the frontiers of the United States until months after the conclusion of the Civil War, and more than two years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863. It was not until June 19, 1865 that Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, arrived in Galveston, Texas with news of freedom for the enslaved.

The Roman philosopher Cicero once quoted, “history is the witness that testifies to the passing of time; it illumines reality, vitalizes memory, provides guidance in daily life and brings us tides of antiquity.” In honor of the spirit of the trials and tribulations of our ancestors, and the legacy they have left, we must continue to celebrate Juneteenth. We can do that by joining together to observe Juneteenth and celebrate the progress we have made thereafter, also recognizing and reaffirming our commitment to the work that remains. We can do this by remembering who we are, where we came from, and rejoicing now in the freedom and liberties that we share—and by never taking them for granted.

FAILURE OF THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. NEWHOUSE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENTLEMAN FROM WASHINGTON. Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, before I begin, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the topic of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, nearly 50 years ago, President Nixon signed the Endangered Species Act into law, which was designed to do two things: Number 1, prevent species from going extinct; and Number 2, promote their recovery back to health and healthy populations.

Since then, hundreds of plants and animals have joined the endangered or threatened species list, spurring conservation and recovery efforts at all levels of government.

While this landmark species protection law is well-intentioned and has accomplished many good things, it has become an endless source of conflict and, unfortunately, many rightly consider it a dismal failure.

The Endangered Species Act hasn’t seen meaningful reform since 1973. And since then, less than 3 percent of species have recovered and been delisted.

The Congressional Western Caucus has long advocated for improvements to modernize the ESA and make it more effective for our species and more transparent for the American people. My colleagues in the caucus have advocated on behalf of the rural communities that we represent who are severely impacted by the ESA listing decisions and who, in many cases, are working in collaboration with private landowners, family groups, Tribes, and local governments to promote successful species recovery and land conservation.

And we have advocated to administration after administration the need to follow the science and fulfill the congressional intent of the law, which is to promote recovery of these species and then remove them from the endangered species list.

That is why I am so proud to host this Special Order tonight, where we will hear from my Western Caucus colleagues about successful, locally led recovery efforts taking place across the country; the different impacts that ESA listing decisions have had on local communities and economies; and some of the legislative reforms needed to finally bring the ESA into the 21st century.

Over the past few years, the Trump administration made great progress by finalizing several updates to the ESA to modernize this bedrock law and to improve our ability to protect endangered and threatened species and celebrate our recovery successes. While the Trump administration created a transparent process for designating critical habitat for listed species, and finalized a commonsense definition that a critical habitat must indeed be critical to the species at hand.

Who would have thought? They streamlined and modernized the process for consultation between government agencies to determine the scope of listing impacts, including requiring the consideration of the economic impact a listing could have on local economies.

Lastly, they finalized a rule that rewards State and landowners for successful recovery actions by loosening mandated regulations on species management as the species begin to recover and are down-listed from endangered to threatened.

Unfortunately, earlier this month, the Biden administration announced plans to rescind or reverse these improvements. This is exactly the wrong direction we should be heading, Madam Speaker.

As we have seen over the past four decades, the ESA has become a weapon used by extreme environmentalists and serial litigators to slow or halt critical economic development and land management projects in rural communities throughout the United States. From preventing the restoration of our forests, to creating overburdensome roadblocks for domestic energy development, the ESA, in its current form, simply does more harm than good.

In recent years, these careless regulations negatively impact the very people we need as conservation partners. Through land use restrictions, reduced property values, and costly permitting requirements, unilateral and far-reaching listing decisions remove incentive for these local partners to come to the table. In effect, it makes enemies out of the people who are most critical to our efforts instead of treating these species like the assets they are to our local economies.

We want to empower our local, State, and Tribal partners to collaborate on comprehensive recovery and conservation efforts, and we know this to be true.

More stringent regulations will not lead to more successful species recovery. In rural America, we value the responsible management of plants, animals, and native species, but we have to do so in a way that doesn’t destroy our economies, decimate our lands or lead our communities vulnerable to large natural disasters.

We need flexible tools, not one-size-fits-all regulations from the Federal
Government to be successful in our shared goal of recovery of our Nation’s endangered and threatened species.

Tonight, we are here to raise the voices of rural communities that are impacted by the ESA and to make our message heard.

Madam Speaker, I yield to my good friend from the great State of Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER), who is the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources for the Committee on Natural Resources.

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, I rise with my colleagues in the Congressional Western Caucus to discuss abuse of the Endangered Species Act, a law passed with good intentions, but weaponized by radicals to fight hunting, fishing, mining, logging, transportation, and our way of life.

In my district in northern Minnesota, the dramatic rise of the gray wolf has posed a threat to our deer herds, our livestock, and our family pets. The Minnesota Deer Hunters Association considers it a top threat to our hunting way of life.

Meanwhile, it wreaks havoc on our cattle ranchers throughout northern Minnesota. One rancher lost 26 cows to wolves, just last year.

In 2013, then-President Obama’s Fish and Wildlife Service rightfully delisted the gray wolf.

Why? Because the gray wolf had clearly recovered. It had exceeded population targets by as much as 300 percent. And, no, this is not a statistic from hunters or ranchers. This is straight out of a 2013 Fish and Wildlife Service press release.

Dan Ashe, Obama’s Fish and Wildlife Service then-Director, when the gray wolf was delisted, stated: “An exhaustive review of the latest scientific information...shows that we have accomplished that goal with the gray wolf.”

Madam Speaker, what happened next? Activist judges in Washington, D.C., put the gray wolf back on the list just a couple of years later.

And when Obama’s Fish and Wildlife Service Director took a well-paying job with an activist group, his tune suddenly changed, and he wanted the gray wolf back on the endangered species list.

Fortunately, the Trump administration did the right thing, listening to the science, and delisted the gray wolf last fall.

However, the same problem with the ESA and activist groups remain, and it is widespread.

Recently, the Fish and Wildlife Service declined to list the moose as an endangered species because their numbers are above targets. This time, the radical activist lawyers said the quiet part out loud. In a Minneapolis Star Tribune article, the Center for Biological Diversity, which has significant influence over House Democrats, stated: “Now it is going to be a lot harder to ensure that things like mines...don’t go forward without protections for moose in place.”

Could their intentions be any more clearer, Madam Speaker?

The purpose of the ESA is pretty straightforward: to protect endangered species. Tragically, the ESA is not always being used for conservation. It is being weaponized as a way to advance the far left’s radical agenda. It is being used by the Green New Deal Democrat Party to stop progress.

We need to update the Endangered Species Act to allow us to hunt, fish, mine, harvest timber, farm, and for other responsible uses. Let’s reform the Endangered Species Act and maintain our way of life.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. STAUBER and appreciate him bringing his perspective from the great State of Minnesota.

Like he and his constituents, we in the State of Washington also understand the impact of the gray wolf and what impact it can have on our local ranchers, farmers, and communities. I thank him very much for his work on bringing control back to the State, where it should be.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN), who is the Republican ranking member on the Committee on Natural Resources.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Washington not only for holding this important forum tonight but also for his tremendous leadership with the Western Caucus, where we look at real solutions for rural America.

Madam Speaker, America is blessed with an incredible abundance of wildlife. Many of these animals have become icons of our country. Look no further than the majestic bald eagle, the national symbol of freedom and Americanism.

With such rich biodiversity, we have a responsibility to respect and protect the species that call the United States home. When President Nixon signed the Endangered Species Act into law in 1973, its stated intent was simple: protect wildlife most at risk of extinction.

While the law had just intentions, ambiguous language and lawsuits have allowed special interest groups to hijack the ESA, using it as a weapon against policies they oppose. This has had a particularly devastating impact on rural economies across the country as red-tape lawsuits block important projects and essential agency actions.

On one example of this, as my colleagues from California know, is continual ESA lawsuits over the 3-inch Delta smelt that have diverted trillions of gallons of water away from farmers in the San Joaquin Valley of California to create a man-made drought and double-digit unemployment in recent years.

Despite these diversions, the fish populations of the Delta smelt continue decreasing, and more farmers are throwing in the towel because of the uncertainty.

We can find another example in the Pacific Northwest. The 1990 listing of the northern spotted owl economically devastated rural communities in Oregon and Washington by virtually decimating the timber industry in the region. The collapse of the timber industry has actually hurt the northern spotted owl by making these forests unattractive to owl mating pairs.

Now, decades later, Americans are paying higher prices for building materials because much of our mill infrastructure was wiped out, never to return.

ESA litigation has also prevented delisting of animals that have fully recovered, like the grizzly bear. The Western States that house grizzly bears undertook a herculean effort to recover them, to the point that the Fish and Wildlife Service found that grizzlies in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem are fully recovered.

This is not a new issue, as they first moved to delist the Greater Yellowstone population back in 2007. However, due to ESA lawsuits from radical special interest groups, both population segments are still listed.

Unfortunately, examples like this now fill the endangered species list. This is diverting critical resources away from animals that actually need protection.

This should be common sense. If an animal recovers and is thriving in its environment, it should be delisted, plain and simple. Yet, Democrat lawmakers and administration officials are so intent on pleasing the whims of special interest groups that they refuse to follow the science and to look at the facts. We must work together to close these loopholes.

Earlier this month, the Biden administration announced it is rolling back significant ESA reforms. It is another example of how this administration is with rural Americans and endangered species as well. Under these policies, rural America is now what is in the most danger.

Many of the reforms put in place under President Trump were born out of input from local communities most affected by the policies created in Washington. Yet, this administration seems bent on reinstating burdensome regulations in order to open up the door for environmental groups to again weaponize the ESA.

Republican or Democrat, we can all agree that we want our most vulnerable species not just to survive but to thrive for generations. Using the ESA as a political battering ram will not accomplish this goal.

We must return the ESA to its original intent: protecting wildlife that is most at risk. Anything more than that is bureaucratic overreach and a give-away to radical environmental groups.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman again for hosting this forum.
Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, I really thank my friend for his leadership on this very important issue.

As was mentioned earlier, the ESA has a dismal recovery rate of just 3 percent. We have to work hard to strengthen this law in order to provide real relief.

We ought to be incentivizing private investment in species recovery, streamlined decision-making, and promote the comprehensive efforts of state and local governments as well as Tribes.

I want to just say I greatly appreciate the thoughts of the good gentleman from the Committee on Natural Resources.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BAIRD), one of my fellow farmers in Congress and a war veteran. I thank him for being with us tonight.

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, I want to thank you from the State of Washington for allowing me to have the opportunity to participate in this Special Order.

Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the communities and the residents of west central Indiana to share our passion with the Endangered Species Act.

As an animal scientist and a farmer, I am a lifelong conservationist. I value the well-intentioned effort of the ESA to protect and conserve our Nation’s most sensitive species that define our landscapes and have shaped our heritage. Instead, however, I have repeatedly found myself discouraged with the implementation of this important act.

As I shared here on the House floor a few weeks ago, Lakes Freeman and Shafer, near Monticello, Indiana, have been a popular tourist destination. It has been home to many small businesses, attractions, and a vibrant local economy for generations of Hoosiers. Unfortunately, though, a series of droughts and a tangle of bureaucratic red tape involving the ESA has made a devastating impact on this community.

Following a listing on the endangered species list more than a decade ago of mussels found in the Tippecanoe River, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service subsequently ordered a new higher volume of water to consistently flow out of the Oakdale Dam that forms Lake Freeman, in an effort to preserve these protected mussels. The executive action by unelected bureaucrats has crippled our once-thriving community.

Businesses like the Tall Timbers Marina, local resorts, and the Madam Carroll cruise boat, as seen here, report catastrophic losses to revenue and depleted financial reserves.

Homeowners along the lake report ruined seawalls, dried-up wells, and slashed resale values, even during this hottest real estate market of our lifetime.

With zero regard for the economic and environmental catastrophe created, the Fish and Wildlife Service refuses to negotiate and continues to enforce a mandate designed to protect a population of mussels that have likely already died from the bacterial overload created when this 1,500-acre lake was reduced to a puddle, killing practically all the wildlife that used to call Lake Freeman.

Due to years of misinterpretation of the law, unchecked actions by unelected bureaucrats, and radical environmentalism, this once valuable law, designed to conserve America’s natural beauty, has instead proved time and time again to be a death knell to actual ecosystems and the nearby communities.

The Service consistently hides behind its ability to point fingers at other agencies, whose compliance is obligated by the ESA as a means to avoid rational management of the act and the species it protects.

As thought leaders and policymakers, we have an important responsibility to uphold the beauty that God has bestowed on our land. The Endangered Species Act was established with that mission at heart but has gone frightfully astray.

It has been 40 years since the enactment of the ESA. Now more than ever, it is time to modernize this important law, to fix its broken parts to better serve its purpose and to allow for responsible solutions to disasters like Lake Freeman.

I hope my colleagues will join me in this valuable effort.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. BAIRD and appreciate his leadership on this important issue.

From farming to ranching to mining to forestry to recreational opportunities, the far-reaching impacts of the Endangered Species Act go wide. I thank him for bringing up those very important points.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MANN), my good friend and colleague from the town of Quinter.

Mr. MANN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Washington very much for his leadership with the Western Caucus and for hosting this Special Order tonight.

Madam Speaker, I rise today, with my colleagues from the Western Caucus, to highlight progress made in the lesser prairie chicken population recovery through voluntary conservation efforts in Kansas.

The lesser prairie chicken is a North American species native to the grasslands and southern Great Plains across New Mexico, Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas, and Kansas. These birds use the open areas of the plains to perform their courtship dance and build their nests on the ground, away from any roads or structures.

□ 2000

My district, the Big First of Kansas, is home to the most extensive range and largest population of the lesser prairie-chicken.

Since the 1990s, there have been concerns regarding the lesser prairie-chicken population size and habitat, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has considered listing the bird under the Endangered Species Act on multiple occasions.

The Fish and Wildlife Service cited habitat fragmentation as one of the reasons for its population decline, as much of the area is used for cropland, grazing, and oil and gas development. However, we have seen perhaps the most significant changes untied to the prolonged periods of drought across the chicken’s range.

At its lowest, the lesser prairie-chicken population fell to approximately 15,400 birds during the worst phase of the 2013 drought.

As the population declined, stakeholders across the five states began conversations and plans to address this issue and partnered with local landowners and industry. The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Tourism teamed up with farmers and ranchers, the Lesser Prairie-Chicken Interstate Working Group, and other midwestern states throughout the bird’s range to initiate conservation plans.

To work to help the lesser prairie-chicken, Kansans have conserved more than 40,000 acres of habitat through the Conservation Reserve Program at the U.S. Department of Agriculture and private investments. Many of the voluntary conservation efforts have been directly funded by farmers and ranchers, the energy sector, and other landowners. As stakeholders make conservation changes, it is vital that the practices are mutually beneficial to both the lesser prairie-chicken and agriculture and energy producers.

These voluntary efforts have yielded excellent results, with the lesser prairie-chicken population up to more than 34,400 birds in 2020. In Kansas, the population growth has occurred thanks to voluntary efforts, but also because of increased rainfall, which has also benefitted many of the agricultural producers in the area.

And so it is especially alarming and disappointing to see the Fish and Wildlife Service release a plan to list the lesser prairie-chicken under the Endangered Species Act as threatened in the northern population and endangered in the southern population.

The potential ESA listing flies in the face of years spent and millions invested in voluntary conservation and goes against the clear data that the population has increased under those efforts. As usual, President Biden believes Federal overreach is the answer to a local and State issue, and his administration lacks trust in private landowners to take care of their own land.

I strongly and vehemently oppose the listing of the lesser prairie-chicken, and I will continue to push back on the
Biden administration’s egregious overreach.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, I appreciate very much Mr. MANN’s participation in this Special Order but also his leadership on this very important issue. He gives clear examples in his opening statement about the recovery of, in his case, the lesser prairie-chicken through, I think, I heard him say, voluntary conservation efforts.

It just underscores the need for us to be able to recognize all of the efforts that are being taken on these species’ behalf, utilize the best available science, and consider all efforts that are being made when assessing these listing decisions. I thank Mr. MANN, and I appreciate very much his contribution.

Now, I would like to yield to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY), a prospective member of the Western Caucus, one that we would be delighted to have her membership, but certainly appreciate very much her participation this evening to help us illustrate this very important issue to the American public. We are anxious to have her here this evening.

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues today urging common-sense policies to carry out the goals of the Endangered Species Act while allowing our communities to flourish.

As stewards of our planet, we each have a duty to care for the environment and protect our wildlife while also caring for and addressing the needs of our human environment, which often gets left out in this conversation.

However, today it seems more difficult than ever to have balanced discussions. Deeply entrenched special interests are increasingly using our small communities as pawns for their larger political ambitions. Unfortunately, the bureaucrats in both the Federal and State Government, especially in New York, have become more powerful than the people, and that is unacceptable.

I want to bring to your attention what is happening in my community today. I represent New York’s 22nd District, which stretches all the way from Lake Ontario, yes, a Great Lake, to the Pennsylvania border in the heart of beautiful, pastoral, upstate New York.

On April 16, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation ordered an immediate halting of a routine annual dredging project to clear ingress and egress into the lovely inlet of Sandy Pond, which is on the eastern shore of Lake Ontario, due to the sighting of a piping plover, a small shorebird that weighs less than 2 ounces. Even though there are over 10,000 of these birds today throughout the Great Plains and eastern seaboard, they remain listed as an endangered species in the Great Lakes region.

The annual dredging project maintains safe ingress and egress into Sandy Pond. The seasonal dredging was one week from completion before the forced government closure. There are several hundred homes and campsites along this beautiful spot on Lake Ontario known as Sandy Pond, where people from around the Northeast have enjoyed eyewaters and unique place for over a century.

The closure has been devastating to local businesses, residents, and visitors, who have already been suffering from the disruptions of the COVID–19 pandemic. In addition, the bird and property values alone in this region are in excess of $150 million, not including all the business revenues and sales tax lost from people coming to this region from really all around the Northeast and Canada.

Despite this harsh Federal action, the two—there are now two—piping plovers’ nests are not even close to the dredging site. I know because I went to the site, and I walked off the distance from the birds’ nesting sites to the designated site of the dredging project. The distance was clearly over 3,000 feet, just to get to the beginning of the site, where the birds are much farther down.

I want to emphasize that the community is being impacted by the natural environment. They seek to preserve this natural environment and its natural splendor for generations to come, and they deeply care about the continued growth and continued population of this piping plover.

The community has proposed a simple dredging, an economy-mode dredging, which would be less intrusive, to dispose of the sand in an alternative location that would be far away. This is a very modest and safe proposal. It is respectful and preserves the nesting site to the bird, and it is a perfectly reasonable accommodation.

Unfortunately, the Federal and State bureaucrats have dug in and refuse to offer any additional conservation accommodations. These changes will enact greater economic costs while doing very little to offer any additional conservation protections for the environment.

Communities need reasonable accommodations that would be less intrusive, to dispos...
going to be the plunderers of the land. Completely not the case.

The things that are going on right now in the time of drought we have in the West, in my home State of California, and the ongoing problems we have with nonmanaged timber lands, U.S. managed lands, and the resulting effect that has on private lands with the bad neighbors of U.S. lands are typically to them.

If we are in a time of drought, we need to be more so on forestry, forest management, thinning, and using these materials for the good of people.

We had a toilet paper shortage months ago, as ridiculous as that sounds in a first-world country like the United States, yet we are burning millions of acres every year. You could trace a lot of this back to the misuse, the abuse of the Endangered Species Act to stop and block the type of work we need to be doing.

We have hundreds of thousands of acres of fire like over there on the Western Coast, north coast of California. They try to put in a project after a 400,000-acre burn to do a minimal amount, 7,000 acres of clean up, of restoring some of the dead trees and brush and other things that were left behind along roadways and somewhere around communities, etcetera. Environmental lawsuits come in and stop them from doing 7,000 acres, less than 2 percent out of the fire.

So what is the solution to this? Just watch these ghost trees stay there, watch the brush grow up around all this and become the next tinderbox for the next fire in 5 or 7 years?

That seems to be the solution by those on the far left that use the Endangered Species Act as a weapon to stop progress for people, as well as nature, as well as the environment.

California this year is in a drought right now big time. Our reservoirs are way down from just 2 years ago when they were all practically full, and 2 years before that topped off, too. You may recall Lake Oroville, the Oroville Dam had the spillway break apart in the early part of 2017, because the lake was actually flowing over the top of the emergency spillway. The dam is in fine shape. The spillway has been rebuilt. And we have stored a lot of water between then and now. So this year out?

So much water has been released out to the Pacific Ocean and not used for people use, for agricultural use or even smart environmental use.

The usage of the Endangered Species Act as a weapon has devastated so much of agriculture in California, which maybe people don’t realize that 90 percent of certain types of crops, the vegetable crops that the United States people use come from California. Most of the almonds that you would use come from California.

Where is this going to come from if California is out of business because of the misuse and abuse of the Endangered Species Act, because someone might decide the coho salmon in the Klamath Basin is more valuable than the sucker fish in the Klamath Lake or the water foul that gets forgotten about in the basin right around there? We are actually killing off ducks and other wildlife in that Klamath Basin area because they couldn’t get water through the agricultural system to where the refuges are for the ducks.

So what species is it we are going to pick?

The water in the Klamath project actually is assigned agriculture use. The Klamath project added additional water storage space to the existing Klamath Lake. Oregon courts have already ruled a couple times that additional water belongs to agriculture. It is not something for the Bureau of Reclamation and the Department of Interior to use in order to make their equa-tions work out on the failed applica-tion to salmon in order to, in their idea, flush a virus out of the Klamath River.

There is other evidence out there saying this is actually the opposite of what’s going on. The virus is the C. shasta virus is actually propagated by these additional flows. It is done year after year after year, and the virus keeps returning. Maybe you need to let that stuff dry out.

Also, the sucker fish that they are trying to protect in the lake, the bottom feeding fish, too much water in the lake studies show by the NAS—National Academy of Sciences—that too much water in that lake makes them more vulnerable to predators and doesn’t help the sucker fish, which is good at living in a shallow amount of water. So we are going in opposite direc-tions.

Agriculture is devastated in the Klamath Basin. You are probably not going to see the potatoes that In-N-Out Burger uses, horseradish, mint, other products, as well as a lot of hay crops. They are not going to happen this year, except for whatever water they can get from wells up there; not going happen. So when you see these things not on your store shelf anymore, you will know that there is something going on, or when you see them highly over-priced because we have to get them from somewhere else. You are going to see the root causes because the California water supply has been frittered away for other things besides useful purposes.

And this isn’t in defiance of the ESA or helping species, but the right science isn’t being used. When you have one-term paper written being used as gospel on the Klamath River as setting policy versus a lot of other evidence—they want to remove the hydro-electric dams on the Klamath River.

Now, when we are talking about drought in California, when we already have lakes and reservoirs that are low, we have—Lake Oroville is going to be at dead pool probably about mid-August.

Now, what is the temperature in mid-August?

Not quite near what my colleague in Arizona was speaking about, but it is hot when we have the wind blows in California, now we have to shut off the power because trees and things might blow branches into the power lines and cause another devastating fire, like what is known as the Camp Fire that devastated the town of Paradise, also in my district.

Where is the common sense with this? Where is the common sense of applying if we have drought conditions or, as the left likes to talk about every other speech in this Chamber, climate change, the religion of climate change?

Okay. If the blanketky-blank climate is changing, why aren’t we storing more water since we, as people, are smart enough to know we will need a water supply?

Why aren’t we doing more to cause electricity be generated at that water storage site?

Why aren’t we doing more to trim and manage our forests that are overcrowded?

Why aren’t we planting to the choice people have of vehicles, the size and the style they seek to have?

Yet we are hell-bent on electrifying everything. In the bay area, they want to ban gas stoves and gas appliances in people’s homes because of some ideal-istic view of the environment and somehow trying that back to the misuse of the Endangered Species Act.

All this ties together. The Endan-gered Species Act has been a great tool to say down the things we need to do, whether it is the expansion of a high-way, water storage. Shasta Dam right now in my district could be raised 18 feet and add right away 640,000 acre-feet of water on those full years. 640,000 acre-feet would be enough for 1.2 million homes or 200,000 acres of crops that people watching this right now like to have for their fresh fruits, for their salads, for their vegetables, whatever it would be. And this is all going to the Corps.

Do you like imported oil? Did you love the oil shortages back in the sev-enties? Do you like this $4 or $5 or $6 gas and diesel we are having right now?
Then you are going to love imported food.

And the Endangered Species Act has been used as a weapon to stop people from farming, from timbering, from mining, basic things that we need in order to have our electronics, to have copper for our wiring, any of those things.

□ 2120

It has been such a weapon since 1973, when it was passed with good intentions. And I still think we need to have it. It saved the bald eagle. It saved a lot of things. But also, its record overall, how its provisions of endangered species, is a pretty low number. Why? Because of ridiculous regulations and ridiculous biological opinions that don’t even connect the dots of how this is going to help the salmon in the Klamath River. These people in Washington where they want to rip some of those dams out, too, and take away that hydroelectric power.

Where are we going to get the stored water? Where are we going to get the hydroelectric power? You want to completely rely on what is a narrow part of the grid, solar power or wind power? You can’t even rely on those, not for a major part of the grid. We need to have 24-7 electricity you can count on with either biomass, wood products stacked on the deck, the waste wood that should come from the forestry that we should be doing but aren’t doing nearly fast enough, or natural gas plants. We have so much gas in this country now because of hydraulic fracturing, but that is villified, too.

Pipelines bringing energy where it is needed is villified, too, because they are using an endangered species somewhere as a barrier.

Americans, enjoy these high prices you are getting right now. Enjoy these shortages of electricity, of fuel, the higher cost of food, the shortage of certain food items, because the usage of the Endangered Species Act—and the usage of other environmental laws that have been abused—that has been completely taken out of context from the original intent like Congress passed back in 1973 or layered upon in recent years.

We have to reform this process. It is not because Republicans want to plunder the planet. That is so tiresome. Any time we talk about forest management, oh, you are going to clear cut every tree on northern California—from here to Oregon, or somewhere else.

That is not it at all. Talk to any smart timber operation, and they have 50- to 100-year plans for the private lands that they manage. If you could fly over and look at how these timberlands are managed, you can tell there is generally a checkerboard of private land versus Federal land. You can see the different squares as they are managed before a fire, ongoing, or after a fire.

Just fly over one 3 years after a fire and see who has actually been out there cleaning up their lands and trying to restore things versus unmanaged Federal land, which is still the big mess it was right after the fire. You will see the way the government is doing it, the way the left is foisting these ridiculous rules and laws upon us and not allowing us to do reasonable reform to bring just a little bit of balance back into what was passed 50 years ago into what we have to deal with.

At this time, when we are watching things go way off-kilter here under this administration, I just remind those watching to look at the root cause. It all ties together, the Endangered Species Act, other environmental laws, other lawsuits, when you can’t even turn around to do a simple thing without somebody coming after you, suing you over it.

Look around your own home. Try to build a deck on your own home and someone is going to try to environment-ally slow you down on that these days. Farmers are getting fined for building a pond on their land in the Western States in order to retain a little more water in the soil. When you see the high prices of these things all happening, look at the root cause. Enjoy these high prices of fuel and electricity and the shortage there, and know it is not because of our policies but because of the policies of misuse and abuse of endangered species laws, of environmental laws, and all the lawsuits that go along with them.

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, the gentleman has certainly been a true leader on this issue and a passionate, experienced, and knowledgeable voice. We appreciate his work on the Western Caucus.

We cannot continue to use a one-size-fits-all approach that often leads to mismanagement. The gentleman’s examples and illustrations bear that out to be true, and I look forward to continuing to work with him on this issue. As I mentioned earlier, the Biden administration is seeing a massive rollback of recent improvements to the ESA, or the Endangered Species Act. Many members from the caucus and across the country and I are very concerned that these rollbacks will ham- per our ability to work with local leaders on species recovery.

I think it is also worth mentioning that the administration’s actions are in direct contrast to their report on the Western States in which they claim to conserve 30 percent of our Nation’s lands and waters by the year 2030. Their report claims that as part of this initiative, they will recognize and reward voluntary conservation efforts of farmers and others, acknowledge the contributions of farmers and ranchers, forest owners, and others in rural America. Instead, they are looking to impose even more Federal restrictions on these conservation partners, and that is the opposite to the approach that we should be taking.

Madam Speaker, quite frankly, it ignites even greater concerns about the administration’s so-called conservation initiative.

Madam Speaker, just to remind you, I started off the evening saying that it was nearly 50 years ago that President Nixon signed the Endangered Species Act into law. If it was designed to do two things: prevent species from going extinct and promote their recovery back to health and healthy populations.

I think we have heard tonight that we can accomplish that, and we need to accomplish that. A strong ESA and strong recovered species can happen, but they don’t have to happen at the expense of communities and our economy.

Those two things are not mutually exclusive.

I think the arguments, the cases, and the illustrations that you have heard tonight perfectly allow us to understand that.

Madam Speaker, I thank all of my colleagues from the Western Caucus for participating tonight. This is a very important issue, something that I think all of us in Congress can find a lot of common ground on. I look for- ward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle on successful re- form of the Endangered Species Act.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

HONORING MICHELLE ALLMAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. Soto) for 30 minutes.

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Caribbean Heritage Month, I recognize Michelle Allman.

Michelle, otherwise known as Coach Mea Allman, born in Jamaica, comes from a diverse, mixed cultural heritage—a father, Jamaican, Arawak Indian, and her mother, Jamaican, Arawak Indian, Scot. She was raised in Canada and now resides in Florida.

She noticed early in her career the bullying of young people with cultural heritage in schools and the lack of awareness about their Caribbean heritage. Coach Mea felt a need to be part of educating her Caribbean-American community by publishing an online publication called Karibbean Under One Magazine in 2008, along with her son, Michael Morgan, as co-founder and CFO, to show the richness of di- verse cultures; to be a community liaison for other Caribbean organizations and businesses to provide resources, outreach, disaster relief; and to help others to unite and grow our cultural awareness in the larger community.

As a cultural advocate, she is passionate about building a welcoming community with her Women of Kulture brand that comes together as community leaders to educate, empower, and celebrate while keeping their own sense of cultural identity.

Certified professional life, health, and nutrition coach, she encourages others to make, meet, and ex-ceed goals in both their personal and
professional lives by using her success as a 21-year breast cancer survivor as a health advocate to produce and host her monthly virtual show, “G.L.O.W. 365 = Greater Level of Wellness 365,” that brings awareness of the latest health and wellness information in America and the Caribbean islands.

She also celebrates and honors individuals who have overcome or continue to battle chronic illnesses and conditions with her Ribbons of Survivors 365 brand launched in 2014. Additionally, she is an empowering speaker for KweliWorks and host of several virtual shows. And now, she is the international cultural ambassador for the Orlando International Film Festival Lions Club. Her focus this year is to provide a platform to celebrate Caribbean filmmakers.

For this and more, Michelle Allman, we honor you.

HONORING RACHELLE R. GRAND-PIERRE

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Caribbean-American Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Rachelle R. Grand-Pierre.

Rachelle R. Grand-Pierre is the founder of RGP Law Firm, a boutique immigration law firm in central Florida specializing in immigration, removal defense, and humanitarian relief.

Rachelle received her bachelor of arts degree in English, creative writing, at the University of Central Florida. She later changed her juris doctor to a law degree at Barry University where she was a member of the inaugural class of the collaborative family law clinic. Rachelle currently serves on the executive board of the Central Florida Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association as regional vice president of Orlando where she liaises between the organization and the U.S. Immigration and Citizenship Services office in Orlando.

As the daughter of brave, hard-working, Haitian immigrants, Rachelle saw firsthand how immigrants selfishly dedicate themselves to providing better lives for their families. For this reason, Rachelle has a passion for fighting for immigrants to have the ability to live, love, and work in the United States the way she has been blessed to do.

Rachelle has had the opportunity to help hundreds of immigrants in her career, and that she will continue to touch the lives of countless others. Even though she is from south Florida, Rachelle has called central Florida her home for over 14 years.

When Rachelle is not tirelessly fighting for her clients, she can be found traveling, cooking, and spending quality time with her family.

For this and more, Ms. Rachelle R. Grand-Pierre, we honor you.

HONORING STERLING BLAKE

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Caribbean-American Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Sterling Blake.

Sterling was a member of the Tuskegee Airmen for over 10 years, and his commitment to the Tuskegee Airmen has afforded him the honor of a red jacket.

Sterling has served his community well by feeding the poor, visiting the sick in the hospitals, and helping the needy. Sterling is known in his community as an upstanding and honest businessman.

For this and more, Mr. Sterling Blake, we honor you.

HONORING GRACE PEEK-HARRIS

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of LGBTQ-plus Pride Month, I would like to recognize Ms. Grace Peek-Harris.

Originally of Caribbean descent from Jamaica West Indies, Doreen Edwards-Barker relocated to Boston, Massachusetts, in the early seventies. Doreen’s philosophy is “no one is useless in this world who lightens the burdens of another.” She has accomplished this by pursuing a nursing degree and attending Bethel Bible College. While attending Bethel Bible College, Doreen joined a street outreach ministry team feeding the homeless on the streets.

Looking at the possibility of a life change and an escape from cold winters, Doreen and her husband, Aldwin Barker, chose to call Kissimmee, Florida, their new home in 2002. Immediately, Doreen saw the same need that she saw in Boston. She realized helping others was the secret to living a happier, healthier, and more productive, and meaningful life.

Her passion was in her giving. They founded Clarita’s House, Inc., and that later changed to Clarita’s House Outreach Ministry, Inc., or CHOM, as a testament to her late mother, Clarity Edwards. The outreach ministry has covered areas in Orlando for the Coalition For the Homeless as well as now in Kissimmee.

CHOM consistently serves the unsheltered and homeless by helping to build trust relationships with those hardest to reach. They also reach out to people living in the woods and homeless shelters of the community. This is done by providing groceries, new and gently used clothing, hygiene supplies, and down-payment assistance when needed.

CHOM also works with the Infinite Scholars Program, facilitating scholarship fairs for more than 500 students and their families, resulting in $10 million in scholarship offers.

Doreen has been recognized multiple times within the community, even though she has never sought recognition for her work.

CHOM was awarded the 2021 Best of Kissimmee award in the category of charity services. Additionally, CHOM accepted the Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida’s selection as the 2020 Osceola County Agency of the year.

For this and more, Ms. Doreen Edwards-Barker, we honor you.

HONORING ANDY KING

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Caribbean-American Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Andy King.

Andy currently works in the Finance/Shared Services department for the publisher Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

For the past 10 years, Andy has served as president of the board of directors of Southchase Parcel 5 Homeowners Association and served previously as the Southchase Silver Scape & Sod, Inc., was nominated as the third largest African-American business in the central Florida area, and he was featured in the Orlando Business Journal that same year, and also in 2006. Sterling was also honored by the Orange County Minority Board department.

Sterling served on the board of the Council on Aging for 10 years and is also the pastor of Restore the Path for Christ church located in Kissimmee, Florida.

Sterling was also a member of the Tuskegee Airmen for over 10 years, and his commitment to the Tuskegee Airmen has afforded him the honor of a red jacket.

Sterling has served his community well by feeding the poor, visiting the sick in the hospitals, and helping the needy. Sterling is known in his community as an upstanding and honest businessman.

For this and more, Mr. Sterling Blake, we honor you.
Ms. Grace Peek-Harris has served the central Florida LGBTQ-plus community for several years. Grace’s Navy career brought her to the region in the 1980s where she served on several deployments, including Operation Enduring Freedom. In 1998, she transitioned from the military and began working for the Orlando Police Department.

While at OPD, she became well-known as an advocate for LGBTQ-plus issues and a friend to the LGBTQ-plus community. After the Pulse tragedy, Grace was officially appointed as the lead LGBTQ liaison where she continued to foster numerous relationships throughout the Orlando area and became the first full-time driver of the #0049 Orlando United patrol car. While in this role, Grace played an integral part in expanding the Safe Place program where over 230 Orlando businesses display a sticker identifying them as a safe place to report LGBTQ crimes.

In 2019, Grace founded the Gay Officers Action League of Central Florida, GOALcfl, whose mission is to support, educate, and promote positive relationships between LGBTQ, law enforcement and the communities they serve. Under her leadership as president, GOALcfl has become a driving force within the community by bridging the gap between the two.

She has led the organization through tremendous growth and has supported many central Florida LGBTQ-plus nonprofits. In 2021, GOALcfl hosted their first event in partnership with the Matthew Shepard Foundation. This day-long program educated community advocates, law enforcement, and legal personnel on current hate crimes legislation.

Grace retired as a commander from the Navy after 23 years and retired as a master sergeant from OPD after 20 years.

She currently enjoys serving on the board of The Center and GOALcfl and continuing to volunteer with LGBTQ-plus organizations, including Zebra Coalition and KindRED Pride Foundation.

Grace lives in Windermere with her wife, Elie and their son, Dylan.

For this and more, Ms. Grace Peek-Harris, we honor you.

HONORING ELEANOR MCDONOUGH

Ms. Eleanor McDonough has served the Orlando LGBTQ-plus community for several years. Eleanor graduated from the National Democratic Training Committee Staff Academy in the digital organizing track. Before her career in politics, she previously worked in the technology field for 20 years and was a small business owner.

She has three siblings: her brother Joseph McDonough, and her sisters Virginia and Siobhan McDonough. She is also the proud aunt of nephews Connor and Finn McDonough.

Eleanor is working to make the world a better place, especially for transgender kids. She looks forward to serving her community in Kissimme for many years to come.

For this and more, Ms. Eleanor McDonough, we honor you.

HONORING MANDY KIMMER

Mr. SOTO. In honor of LGBTQ-plus Pride Month I would like to recognize Mandy Kimmer.

Mandy Kimmer, APR, CPRC, is the public information officer for Orange County Parks and Recreation, having worked there for 13 years.

Born and raised near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, she earned her BA degrees in public relations, journalism, and economics from Florida Southern College in Lakeland in 1983.

In 2015 she and friend Karen Castelloes cofounded the Zebra Coalition’s Jefferson R. Voss Education Fund for LGBTQ-plus students in central Florida, establishing an endowed scholarship at the University of Central Florida and helping direct funds from a separate donation for students pursuing courses for a GED or technical and allied health programs.

Since the inception of this funding, numerous students have received thousands of dollars in financial assistance to further their education.

After the Pulse tragedy occurred in Orlando on June 12, 2016, Mandy formed the LGBTQ Pride and Allies of Orange County for county colleagues and others outside the organization. Knowing that people wanted to help and needed to heal, she invited LGBTQ community leaders to speak at meetings held in Orange County Courthouse and the Orange County building. Topics included volunteer opportunities with Zebra Coalition, civil rights work of Equality Florida, community involvement of The LGBT-Plus Center Orlando, personal transgender stories, and coming-out experiences of youth and adults. Five years later this small assembly is now in the process of meeting requirements to become a recognized employee resource group for the Orange County government’s 8,000 employees.

Mandy has sung first alto and second soprano parts in the Orlando Gay Chorus for the past 4 years and is a 9-year breast cancer survivor. She is the proud mom of sons Matthew Luber, a former U.S. marine, and Andrew Luber, who is majoring in accounting at the University of South Florida in Tampa.

For this and more, Ms. Mandy Kimmer, we honor you.

HONORING BRANDON WOLF

Mr. SOTO. In honor of LGBTQ-plus Pride Month, I would like to recognize Brandon Wolf.

Life changed for Brandon Wolf when, on June 12, 2016, he escaped Pulse nightclub with his life with a gunman murdered 49 mostly LGBTQ people of color, including his best friends, Drew and Juan, celebrating in their safe space.

In the wake of the tragedy, Brandon dedicated his life to honoring the victims with action. He has become a fierce advocate for commonsense gun safety reforms, becoming the first survivor of the shooting to share his testimony before this Congress. He frequently steps forward to share his story courageously and demands better from lawmakers.

Brandon has also become an unapologetic advocate for LGBTQ civil rights, amplifying the voices of marginalized people and resisting homophobia and transphobia.

He cofounded The Dru Project, a youth-serving organization that has given over $100,000 in college funding to emerging LGBTQ leaders. Brandon also serves as the media relations manager for Equality Florida, our State’s largest LGBTQ civil rights organization.

For this and more, Mr. Brandon Wolf, we honor you.

HONORING LISA BARR

Mr. SOTO. In honor of LGBTQ-plus Pride Month, I would like to recognize Ms. Lisa Barr.

Lisa Barr joined the Hope and Help Center of Central Florida, Inc., in August of 2014 as executive director, prior to which she was the vice president of development at Habitat for Humanity of Brevard County, Florida. Lisa spent over 20 years as a Department of Defense contractor prior to moving to the nonprofit sector. She holds an MBA in management from the Johns Hopkins University and has a diverse background in the fields of government defense contracting, business consulting, not-for-profit leadership, and fundraising.

Her major career accomplishments include leading the expansion of a small, grassroots health organization into a regional operation with multiple satellite locations and successfully
LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. GRIFFIT (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today on account of family matters.

OATH OF OFFICE MEMBERS, RESIDENT COMMITTEE, AND DELEGATES

The oath of office required by the sixth article of the Constitution of the United States, and as provided by section 2 of the act of May 13, 1894 (23 Stat. 22), to be administered to Members, Resident Commissioner, and Delegates of the House of Representatives, the text of which is carried in 5 U.S.C. 3331:

"I, AB, do solemnly swear ( or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God."

has been subscribed to in person and filed in duplicate with the Clerk of the House of Representatives by the following Member of the 117th Congress, pursuant to the provisions of 2 U.S.C. 25:

MELANIE A. STANSBURY, First District of New Mexico.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

EC–1334. A letter from the Deputy Assistant General Counsel, Division of Regulatory Affairs, Office of Policy Coordination, Department of Education, transmitting the Department’s Major final regulations — Eligibility To Receive Emergency Financial Aid Under Students Unlimited and Medicaid Education Emergency Relief Programs (Docket ID: ED–2020–OPE–0076) (RIN: 1400–AD62) received June 8, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1); Public Law 104–121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

EC–1335. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting DC Act 23–575, “Transfer of Jurisdiction of Lot 901 within Square 620 Approval Resolution of 2020”, pursuant to Public Law 93–196, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Center for Clinical Standards and Quality, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, transmitting the Center’s Major interagency rule — Children with Intellectual Disabilities (ICPs–ID) Residents, Clients, and Staff (CMS–3141–IFC) (RIN: 0930–AF57) received June 8, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1); Public Law 104–121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:


Mr. MCGOVERN: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 473. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 236) to repeal the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Rept. 117–56 Pt. 2).

Mr. TAKANO: Committee on Veterans’ Affairs. H.R. 239. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for limited, temporary and supplemental compensation furnished by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes (Rept. 117–60). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. DeFAZIO: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 589. A bill to amend the Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018 to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to waive certain debts owed to the United States and related to convenant assistance provided to an individual or household, and for other purposes (Rept. 117–61, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on the Budget discharged
from further consideration. H.R. 539 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mrs. KIM of California (for herself, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. LUCAS, and Ms. MALONEY of Texas):
H.R. 3859. A bill to encourage and promote further research into informal learning opportunities to engage youth in STEM fields, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. MASSIE (for himself, Mr. ROY, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Ms. GREENE of Georgia, Mrs. BUCKSTEIN, Mr. PERSHING, Mr. STRUSE, Mr. BLOGS, Mr. CLYDE, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. GOSAR, and Mr. MOONEY):
H.R. 3860. A bill to prohibit any requirement that a member of the Armed Forces receive a vaccination against COVID-19; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MERRICK (for himself and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia):
H.R. 3861. A bill to amend the National Housing Act to revise the treatment of down payment assistance in the underwriting of FHA Home Loans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. BASS (for herself and Ms. NORTON):
H.R. 3862. A bill to provide for a Community-Based Emergency and Non-Emergency Response Grant Program; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BEYER (for himself, Mr. COOPER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. NEUSE, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. PETERS):
H.R. 3863. A bill to establish the use of ranked choice voting in elections for Senators and Representatives in Congress, to require each State with more than one Representative to conduct congressional redistricting through independent commissions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BROWN:
H.R. 3864. A bill to require the Secretary of the Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to provide grants supporting conservation, restoration, or management of oysters in estuarine ecosystems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself, Ms. BASS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. SCHAWSKY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. CHU, and Ms. VEGA of Arizona):
H.R. 3865. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to prohibit employment of children in tobacco-related agriculture, such employment as oppressive child labor; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. DAVISON:
H.R. 3866. A bill to require the United States Governor of, and the United States Executive Director at, the International Monetary Fund, to report to the Congress the weight of the Chinese renminbi in the Special Drawing Rights basket of the Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. DEMINGS (for herself and Mr. SARBAHNEY):
H.R. 3867. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to prohibit a State from establishing certain restrictions on voting by mail in an election for Federal office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Education, Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. HARRIS-BARGER:
H.R. 3868. A bill to protect individual liberty, ensure privacy, and prohibit discrimination with respect to the vaccination status of individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure, Education and Labor, and Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HERN (for himself, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. MULLIN, and Mr. BANKS):
H.R. 3869. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to provide for cost estimates of major legislation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KILMER (for himself, Mr. REED, Mr. CARDINAS, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. GOGLIA):
H.R. 3870. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to include teacher preparation for elementary and secondary education; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. LÖFGREN (for herself and Mr. ROUSSEAU):
H.R. 3871. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to provide grants for education programs on the history of the treatment of American Indians during World War II; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. LÖFGREN (for herself and Mr. SUCSE):
H.R. 3872. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to provide grants for education programs on the history of the treatment of American Indians during World War II; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. McHENRY (for himself, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mr. CATHRON, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. BUD, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, and Ms. NORTH Carolina):
H.R. 3874. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that government-mental pension plans may include certain firefighters, emergency medical technicians, and paramedics, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. MENG (for herself, Ms. SALASZAR, and Ms. HOULAHAN):
H.R. 3875. A bill to reauthorize the Inter-American Committee on the Exports of Enterprise, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. NEGREUS (for himself, Mr. NADER, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. CROW, Mr. JOHNSON, and Mr. MILLS):
H.R. 3876. A bill to ban the use of ketamine during arrest and detention other than in a hospital, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RUIZ:
H.R. 3877. A bill to amend the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 to authorize additional projects related to the Salton Sea, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. STEEL (for herself and Mr. SCHWEIKERT):
H.R. 3878. A bill to amend section 2202 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to authorize States to expand the use of the child care stabilization funds to include support for grants to increase access to child care through the establishment and expansion of child care programs by businesses; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SUOZZI (for himself and Mrs. WALORSKI):
H.R. 3879. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the regulations for the calculation of municipal solid waste; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SUOZZI (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. WATERS, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. O'LEARY, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, and Mr. TRONE):
H.R. 3880. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow for contributions to the Alzheimer's Research and Caregiving Trust Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California:
H.R. 3881. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to protect the well-being of soldiers and their families, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. WAGNER (for herself, Mr. GOODIN of Texas, Mr. DRSJARLAIS, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mr. BAHN, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, and Mr. BONNIE):
H.R. 3882. A bill to initiate negotiations for a bilateral agreement on compensation between the United States and the People’s Republic of China relating to the spread of the virus responsible for COVID-19, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, on Oversight and Reform, on Small Business, on Financial Services, on Energy and Commerce, on Armed Services, and on Ways and Means, for a period...
to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WENSTRUP (for himself and 
Ms. UNDERWOOD):
H. R. 3883. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit smoking on the premises of any facility of the Veterans Health Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. WILD (for herself, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. RUSH, Mr. POCAN, Ms. O’MARA, Mr. TUTTLE, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. PORTER, Ms. MENG, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. MCGOVERN):
H. R. 3884. A bill to suspend the provision of security assistance to the Philippines until the Government of the Philippines has made certain reforms to the military and police forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WITTMAN (for himself and Mr. PALAZZO):
H. R. 3885. A bill to limit the availability of funds for the Office of the Secretary of Defense pending action on certain amphibious shipbuilding programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. WOMACK (for himself, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. BUDD, Mr. HARRIS, and Mr. CRAWFORD):
H. Res. 38. Concurrent resolution expressing support for the NATO alliance and increased alliance cooperation on opportunities and challenges; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. WALTZ (for himself, Mr. MERKEL, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. DUTCH, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. BACON, Mr. KINKINISHI, Mr. UPTON, Mr. GALLAGHER, and Mr. FITZPATRICK):
H. Con. Res. 38. Concurrent resolution expressing support for the NATO alliance and increased alliance cooperation on opportunities and challenges; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. PANETTA (for himself, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. DUTCH, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. BACON, Mr. KINKINISHI, Mr. UPTON, Mr. GALLAGHER, and Mr. FITZPATRICK):
H. Con. Res. 38. Concurrent resolution expressing support for the NATO alliance and increased alliance cooperation on opportunities and challenges; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT
Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mrs. KIM of California:
H. R. 3859.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8, Clause 18:
"The Congress shall have Power . . . To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for executing the powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof."

By Mr. MASSIE:
H. R. 3860.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 9, Clause 4: "The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes."

By Ms. MENG:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 9, Clause 4: "The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes."

By Mr. BAYER:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. BROWN:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. CICILLINE:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. DAVIDSON:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mrs. DEMINGS:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mrs. UNDERWOOD:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mrs. WAGNER:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. BERING:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. KATKO:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. KINZINGER:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Ms. KATKO:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. KINZINGER:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. MURPHY:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. MURPHY:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. BOLDYREFF:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. GLEASON:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. KATKO:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. WAGNER:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. BERING:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. KATKO:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. MURPHY:
H. R. 3861.

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H. R. 3861.

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Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. BOLDYREFF:
H. R. 3861.

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Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. GLEASON:
H. R. 3861.

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By Mr. KATKO:
H. R. 3861.

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Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. WAGNER:
H. R. 3861.

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Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. BERING:
H. R. 3861.

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H. R. 3861.

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Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. BERING:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. KATKO:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. WAGNER:
H. R. 3861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8:
By Mr. BERING:
H. R. 3861.
ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to the public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 19: Mr. MANN and Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.
H.R. 55: Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.
H.R. 66: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H.R. 62: Mrs. HARTZLER and Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 75: Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mrs. HARSBAKER, Mr. MASSIE, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. RICE of Georgia, and Mr. GUTHRIE.
H.R. 111: Mr. BROOKS, Mrs. HARSBAKER, and Mr. BABIN.
H.R. 228: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 239: Ms. STRICKLAND.
H.R. 255: Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 331: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 336: Mr. MALINOWSKI.
H.R. 19: Mr. H. JULIUS GONZALEZ of California, Mr. CARSON, Mr. RYAN, Mr. YOUNG, Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma.
H.R. 646: Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. SEWELL, and Ms. JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 725: Mrs. SPARTZ.
H.R. 764: Mr. SCANLON.
H.R. 801: Mr. GALLIX, Mr. GARCIA of Texas and Mr. VARGAS.
H.R. 848: Mr. STRICKLAND.
H.R. 855: Ms. LETLOW.
H.R. 1011: Mrs. CAMMACK and Mr. CAVIN.
H.R. 1012: Ms. DEAN.
H.R. 1115: Mr. WESTERMAN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. PIETERS.
H.R. 1114: Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Ms. BASIS, and Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 1155: Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. POCAN, Mr. GRIFFIN, and Mr. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 1179: Mr. MCFERN, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. FORENBERRY.
H.R. 1193: Ms. SCHERRER, Mr. MANN, and Mr. EMERICK.
H.R. 1223: Mr. RYAN.
H.R. 1226: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H.R. 1257: Mr. PHILLIPS, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Mr. TAYLOR.
H.R. 1322: Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 1297: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Ms. WATERMAN, Mr. MORELLE, and Mrs. KIM of California.
H.R. 1320: Ms. PRESSLIE, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. BOWMAN, and Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 1321: Mr. STUDEB, Mr. GIBBS, and Mr. WO MACK.
H.R. 3648: Mrs. TRAHAN.
H.R. 3659: Mr. PALAZZO and Mr. BURCHETT.
H.R. 3665: Mrs. TORRES of California, Ms. CHU, Mr. HARDER of California, and Ms. ESHEE.
H.R. 3666: Mr. LAMALFA and Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 3689: Mr. SIRES.
H.R. 3699: Ms. NORTON, Mr. NADLER, Mr. CARDNAYAS, and Mr. BUSH.
H.R. 3703: Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 3704: Mr. PERRY.
H.R. 3706: Mr. RABIN, Mr. STEWART, and Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 3711: Mr. KINZINGER and Mr. GUTHRIE.
H.R. 3724: Ms. SPEIER.
H.R. 3744: Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, and Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 3747: Mr. LUCAS.
H.R. 3770: Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. GROTHMAN, and Mr. FITZGERALD.
H.R. 3780: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Ms. UNDERWOOD.
H.R. 3805: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 3807: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLON, Mr. CROW, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. POSEY, Mr. EVANS, Mr. SMUCKER, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. VALADAO, Ms. NEWMAN, Mr. RACON, Mt. RUIJ, Mr. KATKO, Mr. CASE, and Mr. ROST.
H.R. 3816: Mr. JONES, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. NEGUJSE, Ms. McBATH, Ms. TRAHAN, and Mr. CATHWORTH.
H.R. 3825: Mr. JONES, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. NEGUJSE, and Mr. CATHWORTH.
H.R. 3827: Mr. OWENS.
H.R. 3833: Mr. HUNTON.
H.R. 3835: Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. STEUBE, and Mr. VALADAO.
H.R. 3843: Mr. JONES, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. SCANLON, Mrs. McBATH, Mrs. TRAHAN, and Mr. CATHWORTH.
H.R. 3847: Mrs. GREENE of Georgia, Mr. BAHIN, Mr. STEWART, and Mr. PERRY.
H.R. 3849: Mr. JONES, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. NEGUJSE, Mrs. McBATH, Mrs. TRAHAN, and Mr. CATHWORTH.

H.J. Res. 12: Mr. CATHWORTH and Mr. MOONBY.
H. Con. Res. 19: Mr. DEFAZIO.
H. Con. Res. 34: Mr. EMMER and Mr. PULCHER.
H. Res. 114: Mr. MCKINLEY and Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.
H. Res. 118: Ms. DELAUBO, Mr. REED, and Mrs. HAYES.
H. Res. 131: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H. Res. 186: Ms. STEVENS.
H. Res. 214: Mr. KELLY of Mississippi and Mr. EMMER.
H. Res. 309: Mr. BUCK.
H. Res. 366: Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. EMMER, and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.
H. Res. 413: Mrs. AXNE.
H. Res. 436: Mr. McGOVERN.
H. Res. 459: Mr. HARDER of California.
H. Res. 471: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

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

Let us pray.

Oh, Lord, our God, sometimes life’s issues seem too much for us. Forgive us when we speak words of despair, forgetting Your promise that You will never leave or forsake us.

Lord, speak to the faith of our lawmakers, causing them also to remember Your promise that, in everything, You are working for the good of those who love You.

Give us all the wisdom to know that You are, indeed, our refuge and strength. Answer us, mighty God, at a time You choose. Answer our prayers because of Your great love. Send us forth to serve You by embracing justice, loving mercy, and walking with humility.

We pray in Your compassionate Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME
The President pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

MORNING BUSINESS
The President pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The President pro tempore. The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The leadership time is reserved.

The President pro tempore. The Senate from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

COVID–19 VACCINATIONS
Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, we had interesting news in Vermont this morning. Our Governor, Governor Scott, announced that we have reached 80 percent immunity—vaccinations—and so the State will, in effect, reopen.

Now, I mention this because, right from the beginning, I have worked closely with our Governor. We have tried to show no partisanship in this. I am a Democrat; he is a Republican. We are both, first and foremost, Vermonters.

And restrictions were put in place. Efforts were made to vaccinate. I know my wife Marcelle and I went to some of these vaccination centers. We had everybody from Vermont National Guard to veterans groups, to schools, to nurses who were volunteering all over those places.

And everybody would line up, and they would say: "I am scheduled for 9:20. I will be there at 9:10," and they just went through, and people wanted to get the vaccination.

It meant some hardships while it was going on because a lot of our businesses could not open or had to open just in limited ways.

But—but they kept at it, and we all worked together to help with aid to the State during the COVID time, and I was proud of what I might be able to do, but I am mostly proud of the Vermonters. They set politics aside; they set partisanship aside; and they said: How would it make us a safer State?

So I just thought I would note that, all my trips back home, all the times I joined with the various people—Dr. Levine, our chief physician in Vermont, and the Governor and others, our Lieutenant Governor, Molly Gray—all of us worked together, and it has paid off.

And I must admit, when I go home this weekend, this coming weekend, I am going to walk off that plane with a bigger smile than I usually have.

I always have a smile coming home to the State where I was born, but this weekend it is going to be an especially big smile.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, tonight, congressional leaders will mark what is hopefully the final somber milestone of the COVID pandemic: 600,000 American lives lost to the disease. It is particularly jarring at this moment—a moment of recovery, optimism, and hope—to remember the enormity of lives lost over the past 15 months. Not only that, we face the grim reality that the recent fatalities happened while Americans were on the verge of getting vaccinated. Some had their appointment just days away.

So as our fellow Americans are taking their masks off, going back to work, seeing families and friends, and returning, as they should, to life, let us remember those who cannot. Let us hold them in our hearts a little while longer.

This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.
I am reminded of the famous meditation by the English soldier and poet John Donne, who told us that “no man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main. So if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less.”

“Any man’s death diminishes me,” he said, “because I am involved in mankind. And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.”

They tolls have tolled for 600,000 Americans this past year, a staggering and incomprehensible sum. Remember them. Hold them in your hearts a little while longer.

SENATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA
Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, now on a different subject, after passing the bipartisan U.S. Innovation and Competition Act last week and confirming dozens of judges of the Biden era, we will continue with major elements of our legislative agenda.

Senate committees will continue working on a bipartisan infrastructure proposal to meet the demands of the 21st century. As I have said from the start, discussions about infrastructure investments are progressing on two tracks. One track is bipartisan. The second track pulls in other elements of President Biden’s American Jobs Plan, which will be considered even if it does not have bipartisan support. Our Senate committees are working on both tracks at the same time.

As a reminder to the Senate—a reminder to the Senate—as I have said from the start, in order to move forward on infrastructure, we must include bold action on climate. At the moment, both tracks are moving forward and progressing very well.

In addition, before the end of the month, the Senate will vote on crucial voting rights legislation. Republican State legislatures across the country are passing the most draconian voting restrictions since the beginning of Jim Crow. Congress must take action to defend our democracy.

Meanwhile, we will move more swiftly to confirm even more of the President’s appointments, including several to the Federal bench.

Last week was one for the record books. The Senate confirmed the first slate of President Biden’s judicial nominees. Not only were they individuals of immense talent and high character, they reflected the great cultural, geographic, and experiential diversity of our country. Among them was the first Muslim American to ever be confirmed as an Article III judge.

Let me read a headline from this morning’s Washington Post: “Biden has nominated as many minority women to be judges in four months as Trump had confirmed in four years. That is an amazing—an amazing—statistic.”

Women, especially women of color, have long been underrepresented on the Federal bench. Along with President Biden, the Senate Democratic majority is working quickly to close the gap.

In fact, in just a few hours, we will confirm another outstanding, trailblazing nominee for the Federal bench, Ketanji Brown Jackson to the DC Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Jackson will be the first of President Biden’s circuit court nominees confirmed by the Senate, and we are starting right at the top.

After the DC Circuit Court, the DC Circuit Court of Appeals is the most important Federal court in the country, with jurisdiction over cases involving Congress and the executive branch. Agencies, and Judge Jackson, nominated to the seat once occupied by the current Attorney General, is the perfect person for the job. She is a former Federal defender. She clerked for Justice Breyer, and, since 2013, has been a District Court judge in DC. She has all the qualities of a model jurist. She is brilliant, thoughtful, collaborative, and dedicated to applying the law impartially. For these qualities, she has earned the respect of both sides.

Nominees to powerful circuit courts, especially the DC Circuit, are frequently controversial, but, last week, a bipartisan group of Senators in the Judiciary Committee voted in favor. I greatly look forward to confirming this exceptional nominee in just a few hours and continuing to restore balance to a judiciary that has been thrown out of whack by former President Trump.

After Judge Brown Jackson’s confirmation, we will turn to other nominees. We will hold a cloture vote this evening on Lina Khan’s nomination to the Federal Trade Commission and confirm her tomorrow. Tomorrow, as well, we will confirm Ketanji Brown Jackson to the DC Circuit Court of Appeals, including Members of Congress, aides, and even family members. One was a minor.

This is a gross abuse of power. It is an assault on the separation of powers. The notion that any President, via their political appointees, could manipulate our democratic system to tap into personal data has the fingerprints of a dictatorship—a dictatorship—all over it.

This appalling politicization of the Department of Justice by Donald Trump and his sycophants must be investigated by both the DOJ inspector general and by Congress. Former Attorneys General Barr and Sessions and other officials who were involved must testify before the Senate Judiciary Committee, under oath. If they refuse, they are subject to subpoena and compelled to testify under oath.

The Justice Department must also provide information to the Judiciary Committee, which will vigorously investigate this abuse of power. The issue should not be partisan. Under the Constitution, Congress is a coequal branch of government and must be protected from an overreaching executive. We expect our Republican colleagues to join us in getting to the bottom of this very, very serious matter.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order of business be suspended so that the Senate might proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Radhika Fox, of California, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
EXECUTIVE CALENDAR
Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 148.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Radhika Fox, of California, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION
We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 148, Radhika Fox, of California, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.


LEGISLATIVE SESSION
Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**EXECUTIVE CALENDAR**

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 173. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Lydia Kay Griggsby, of Maryland, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maryland.

**CLOTURE MOTION**

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

**CLOTURE MOTION**

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 173, Lydia Kay Griggsby, of Maryland, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maryland.


Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, finally, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, June 14, be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

**LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

**RECOGNITION OF MINORITY LEADER**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

**BURMA**

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, the military junta that seized power from Burma’s democratically elected leaders back in February has kept up its campaign of brutal and violent repression. More than 800 people are now dead, and more than 5,000 others have been detained on various charges of resistance.

Just today, the longtime leader of Burma’s democracy, my good friend Aung San Suu Kyi, stood for the beginning of a show trial. Other members of the National League for Democracy are awaiting their own appearances before the sham court, and many more protesters, journalists, and activists are filling Burma’s prisons right up to the rim.

Several foreigners have been among those detained, including Australian economist Sean Turnell and two American journalists, Nathan Maung and Danny Fenster. The State Department has reported that both U.S. citizens were denied consular access. Mr. Maung reportedly even endured torture during his detention.

The people of Burma are well acquainted with the brutality of the Tatmadaw’s military rule, but the wider international community is receiving a sobering reminder of the challenges facing the country’s pro-democracy movement and of the junta’s willingness to flout even the most basic international norms and treaty obligations.

I appreciate the continued attention the Biden administration is giving to the crisis. Over the weekend, I was particularly encouraged by the G7 leaders’ joint condemnation of the junta and by the reiterating of a shared commitment to shutting off the flow of any assistance funds that might help the military further their repression.

Of course, for friends of democracy, including the United States, there is more to be done to translate words into action. It is time to expand the sanctions aimed at the military to include the infamous cronies who continue to make common cause with the Tatmadaw.

It is time for Burma’s neighbors and key trading partners to join these sanctions efforts and commit to providing increased humanitarian access and assistance, particularly, I would say, from Thailand.

It is time for greater international scrutiny of the markets for jade and rare earth metals that give the military and other bad actors targets for exploitation.

It is time for international bodies like the U.N. Security Council to put Burma on the agenda and force the Tatmadaw’s supporters to defend the brutal regime out in the light of day.

So our work isn’t over, but there is reason for optimism. Burma’s ethnic minorities, diverse and often divided, have united behind the representative National Unity Government in peaceful opposition to the military rule, and the NUG continues to broaden and deepen this coalition.

Earlier this month, the National Unity Government announced its policy on the status of the Rohingya Muslims in the western state of Rakhine, pledging accountability for those responsible for years—years—of violent persecution and committing to greater inclusion for all of Burma’s ethnic minorities.

So, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the National Unity Government’s important statement on this matter be printed in the Record at this point.

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

**REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR NATIONAL UNITY GOVERNMENT—POLICY POSITION ON THE ROHINGYA IN RAKHINE STATE**

3 JUNE 2021

In honour of human rights and human dignity and also to eradicate the conflicts and root causes in the Union, the National Unity Government aims to build a prosperous and federal democratic union where all ethnic groups belonging to the Union can live together peacefully. This objective is clearly stated in the Federal Charter.

Soverignty belongs to the member states and the people of the member states as proclaimed in the guiding principles for the establishment of a federal union.

Everyone in the Union has full enjoyment of fundamental human rights. All ethnic groups who are native to the Union have full enjoyment of individual rights held by individual people and collective rights held by ethnic groups. All citizens who swear allegiance to the Union regardless of their ethnic origins are considered to have full enjoyment of citizens’ rights. The National Unity Government will not tolerate any form of discrimination.

The National Unity Government regards the above-mentioned policies as a basis in addressing the matters related to the Rohingya in Rakhine State. We are confident that extensive deliberations, which consider the positions of all stakeholders in Rakhine State, their historical backgrounds, and national and international laws, will enable all to find shared solutions in a way that respects the human rights of all persons.

At present, the elimination of the military dictatorship has become the common goal of the entire people because of the violence committed by the illegitimate military junta. It is also the natural resistance against the military dictatorship. The solidarity of the entire people is now at its best. We are confident that we can rebuild a Union that meets the needs of all those in the country who have a stake in its future.

After consultations with the many different stakeholders in Rakhine States, including Rohingya groups and refugee representatives from the IDP camps, the NUG here makes clear how it will seek to apply these principles for the good of all in the Rakhine State.

The National Unity Government will understand the violations of human rights violations inflicted upon Rohingyas by the thuggish military and the massive displacement, with hundreds of thousands fleeing their homes during the conflicts in Rakhine State over the last decades: We are deeply saddened by this. The entire people of Burma is sympathetic to the plight of the Rohingyas as all now experience atrocities and violence perpetrated by the military.

Endeavouring to bring the perpetrators to account is not only for the realization of justice but also to the period of past future atrocities. Therefore, we regard this as a priority task. Reparation and Justice will
be ensured in the future Federal Democratic Union Constitution.

We will actively seek justice and accountability for all crimes committed by the military over the Rohingyas and all other people of Myanmar throughout our history. We intend if necessary to initiate processes to grant International Criminal Court jurisdiction over this, as the root cause of violence. However, over the past four years, much has changed to make the situation worse in Rakhine State for all ethnic groups there. Using these recommendations as well as other relevant recommendations as inputs, we earnestly believe that we can work together with all the people in Rakhine State to chart a new course towards a democratic inclusive and prosperous future.

We would also like to highlight the importance of legal matters in seeing to the Rakhine question. We will consider the opinions and views of the entire people in the country including those in Rakhine State, in drafting a new constitution that can resolve the many problems caused by the 2008 constitution. The views and insights of all can contribute to this process. All the stakeholders in the country, including all stakeholders in Rakhine State, are invited to participate in the process of drafting the new constitution. Such a process is essential to creating a shared future for the country.

The process of repealing, amending, and promulgating laws, including the 1982 Citizenship Law, which is not compatible with the new constitution that the drafting is completed will be beneficial in resolving the conflict in Rakhine State. This new Citizenship Act must base citizenship on birth in Myanmar or birth anywhere as a child of Myanmar Citizens.

We further commit to abolishing the process of issuing National Verification Cards, a process that the military has used against Rohingyas and other ethnic groups coercively and with human rights violations. The Rohingyas are entitled to citizenship by laws that accord with fundamental human principles.

The voluntary, safe, and dignified repatriation of Rohingyas who fled to neighboring countries from Rakhine State due to the violence in Rakhine State is a crucial matter. We reaffirm the agreements signed with neighboring countries for the repatriation process. We are ready to cooperate with all stakeholders of good will in a spirit of cooperation to fulfill the agreement.

We commend the Government’s commitment to abiding in good faith by the current Union Constitution. We further commit to abolishing the procedures that the military has used against the Rohingyas and other ethnic groups coercedly and with human rights violations. The Rohingyas are entitled to citizenship by laws that accord with fundamental human rights norms and democratic federal principles.

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Mr. McCONNELL, I suggest the adoption of the amendment offered by Mr. DURBIN. This statement represents the work to build a cohesive, inclusive, and representative government and the best path toward national reconciliation and justice for victims of the Tatmadaw’s violence. So the NUG’s efforts deserve the full support of the world’s oldest democracy.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I just heard the Republican Senate leader warn us not to initiate bipartisan investigations. It has only been a few weeks since he personally vetoed a bipartisan investigation of the attack on the U.S. Capitol on January 6 of this year.

For those of us who lived through that incident, we find it hard to understand why a 9/11-style Commission, divvied equally between both political parties, is in any way investigatory and why the Republican leader, who has served for so long in the Senate, would not feel awkward, in a way, walking through the halls of this Capitol and seeing the men and women of the Capitol Police force who have sent us a letter begging for a Commission to get to the bottom of what happened on that day when 140 men and women in uniform were attacked by this insurrectionist mob inspired by President Trump.

So when it comes to investigations, we have offered the most sanitized version of an investigation that one could ever ask for. And why use the renewing this request when it comes to the information which is now before us? Well, on Friday, the DOJ inspector general announced he would investigate DOJ’s use of subpoenas to obtain communications data from Members of Congress and their staff. Whether the Department of Justice complied with applicable internal policies and whether its decisions were motivated by improper considerations.

Mr. DURBIN. My colleague from Rhaba State pointed out that we have a 9/11-like Commission. We need that kind of an investigation. For the sake of our democracy, we need to set the record straight.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I suggest the adoption of the amendment offered by Mr. DURBIN. This statement represents the work to build a cohesive, inclusive, and representative government and the best path toward national reconciliation and justice for victims of the Tatmadaw’s violence. So the NUG’s efforts deserve the full support of the world’s oldest democracy. The pro-democracy movement must understand that the United States continues to stand with them and that we are ready to support the hard work of national reconciliation that still lies ahead.

ATTORNEY GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. MCConnell. Now, Madam President, on one final matter, late last week, the Democratic leader and the Democratic whip gave in to the urge to pick at the scab of politically motivated investigations that have become their party’s favorite weapon against the previous administration. They indicated that they were prepared to compel two former Attorneys General to testify before the Judiciary Committee on efforts to trace leaks of sensitive national security information.

In case anyone had forgotten, our colleagues are among the same Democrats who spent years demanding repeated investigations of a Republican President while turning a blind eye to the clear abuses of power that infected the investigation of his campaign. So any outrage from Democrats that alleged criminal leaks within their own ranks rightly drew the attention of Federal investigators rings completely hollow.

It is particularly disappointing that our colleagues have taken to attacking former Attorney General Bill Barr over investigative decisions that predated—predated—his time at the Department of Justice. Let me say that again. It is particularly disappointing that our colleagues have taken to attacking former Attorney General Bill Barr over investigative decisions that occurred when he wasn’t there yet. Attorney General Barr served our Nation with honor and integrity. These latest attempts to tarnish his name bear the telltale signs of a witch hunt in the making.

Here are the facts: The Department of Justice is empowered to investigate criminal conduct by Members of Congress and their staff. Necessarily, this sort of investigation is subject to strict procedural protections, and the Department’s inspector general is fully equipped to determine whether these protections were violated. So I am confident that the existing inquiry will uncover the truth. There is no need for a partisan circus here in the Congress.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I suggest the adoption of the amendment offered by Mr. DURBIN. This statement represents the work to build a cohesive, inclusive, and representative government and the best path toward national reconciliation and justice for victims of the Tatmadaw’s violence. So the NUG’s efforts deserve the full support of the world’s oldest democracy. The pro-democracy movement must understand that the United States continues to stand with them and that we are ready to support the hard work of national reconciliation that still lies ahead.
mob violence on the Capitol—a bipartisan investigation—and then turns around and says that the President could investigate Members of Congress without accountability either. You wonder if there is going to be the proper constitutional authority witnessed and exhibited in this circumstance.

**NOMINATION OF KETANJI BROWN JACKSON**

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, on a separate issue, the Senate voted on a bipartisan basis to invoke cloture on Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson's nomination to the DC Circuit. Today, the Senate will confirm her to that post.

Judge Jackson is the first of many circuit court nominees whom we will confirm during this Congress. Given her credentials and record on the bench, she is a nominee who deserves the support of Senators on both sides of the aisle. I would like to take just a minute to highlight why she is such an outstanding choice for the DC Circuit.

The importance of the DC Circuit cannot be overstated. This is what another Illinoisan, President Barack Obama, said about the importance of the D.C. Circuit: "It is known as the second highest court in the country, and there's good reason for that. The judges on the D.C. Circuit routinely have the final say on a broad range of issues involving everything from national security to environmental questions of campaign finance to workers' rights. In other words, the court's decisions impact almost every aspect of our lives."

"Thankfully, in Judge Jackson, we have a nominee who will be ready from day one to serve justice as a member of the DC Circuit.

Judge Jackson was born here in Washington, DC, and raised in Miami, FL. Her parents, public school teachers at the time of her birth, gave her a lifelong appreciation of learning and the law. They also instilled in her a dignity and grace that was on full display, as the Presiding Officer knows, when the judge appeared before the Judiciary Committee in April.

A champion high school debater, Jackson later attended Harvard and Harvard Law School before embarking on what can only be described as a star-studded legal career.

She clerked on the Federal District Court, the First Circuit Court of Appeals, and for Justice Breyer on the U.S. Supreme Court—a strong resume in and of itself. She has also worked at several prominent law firms, handling both trial and appellate work.

But her true calling has always been public service. In the early 2000s, Judge Jackson worked as special counsel on the U.S. Sentencing Commission and later served as a Federal public defender in Washington, DC. This experience inspired President Obama to nominate her to serve as Commissioner and Vice Chair of the Sentencing Commission. In the Senate, her nomination received unanimous support.

A few years later, Judge Jackson came before the Senate again when President Obama chose her to fill a vacancy on the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia—one again, she was confirmed with unanimous support.

Looking at the arc of Judge Jackson’s career, I am struck by how much time she spent focusing on the issue of criminal sentencing—an issue deeply important to me and, I believe, many other colleagues.

From the Sentencing Commission to the Office of Federal Public Defender, to the district court, Judge Jackson has grappled with legal, intellectual, and moral challenges that come with sentencing policy and decisions. Once confirmed, she will bring that vital experience to the DC Circuit.

I also want to speak more broadly about her record on the bench. She represents the best of the judiciary. Humble, hard-working, she has written nearly 600 opinions, and each of them is guided by the same principles: fairness, impartiality, evenhandedness, and an unyielding fidelity to the law. It is no surprise, therefore, that Judge Jackson received the grade of unanimously “well qualified” from the American Bar Association, and it is no surprise that she has the support of legal experts and advocates from different ideological and professional stripes, including Judge Thomas Griffith, a George W. Bush appointee to the DC Circuit; the Alliance for Justice; the National Council of Jewish Women; the AFL-CIO; the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund; and dozens—literally dozens—of former prosecutors and other Justice Department officials appointed by Presidents of both political parties.

Let me close with a passage from a letter Judge Griffith wrote in support of Judge Jackson: "I am very proud of my role in this letter during her hearing, and it really stuck with me. Judge Griffith wrote: ‘Although she and I have sometimes differed on the best outcome of a case, I have always respected her careful approach and agreeable manner, two indispensable traits for success in a collegial body.’"

Madam President, we will all benefit from that careful approach and agreeable manner on the DC Circuit.

I will vote for Judge Jackson's nomination to the DC Circuit and urge my colleagues to do the same.

I yield the floor.

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

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

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

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

Mr. LEE. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

**AMATEUR ATHLETES PROTECTION AND COMPENSATION ACT**

Mr. MORAN. Madam President, I am on the floor this afternoon to discuss the issue of student athletes having greater control over their name, image, and likeness.

Over the years, intercollegiate athletics have become a staple in American culture and higher education. No other country in the world has a sports college model that compares to ours, which affords thousands of young adults each year the opportunity to leverage their athletic ability into a quality education and continue playing the sport they love. But over the years, college athletics have grown into an increasingly profitable, billion-dollar industry, and the rules surrounding athlete compensation have not kept pace.

Now, individual States have created laws that will guarantee an amateur athlete the ability to profit off their name, image, and likeness without fear of reprimand or adverse consequences. And it is no surprise that the President highlighted that individual States have made those decisions and are creating laws. Nineteen States have now passed NIL legislation, and of those 19, 6 will go into effect in less a month—July 1, just a few days away.

As more and more States continue to pass their own legislation, we are quickly headed for a system of inconsistent State laws that will be cumbersome and in some cases unworkable for athletes and the schools to navigate. Intercollegiate athletics are an inherently interstate matter. Our model makes certain the best teams and the best athletes compete against one another no matter their geographic location. This requires a single Federal standard that all schools and all athletes can operate under.

College sports and the opportunities they provide student athletes will be dramatically harmed if we are unable to pass a Federal standard. Each year, we will have States introducing or updating their NIL laws in order to gain just a bit more of an advantage in attracting athletes to their institutions.

We have already seen this begin to play out. Following California’s passage of the first State NIL law in September 2019, there has been a rush of action by 18 other States to quickly follow suit, hoping to remain competitive as athletic departments recruit athletes to their States’ schools. The floodgates will fully open on July 1, 16 days away—when State NIL laws begin to take effect.

The time to act is now. There is a compromise to be found to both empowering amateur athletes to profit from their name, image, and likeness and guaranteeing protections, while at the same time maintaining the integrity of our one-of-a-kind collegiate model that has provided millions...
of people the opportunity to get a quality education. We can accomplish both of these goals and provide college athletes with the certainty that it needs.

In February, I introduced the Amateur Athletes Protection and Compensation Act, which—the—proposes to accomplish this necessary balance. My legislation would create a single set of guidelines that would enable amateur athletes to benefit from their name, image, and likeness by prohibiting conferences, schools, and athletic associations from requiring an amateur intercollegiate athlete ineligible on the basis of receiving that NIL compensation. It would also codify serious athlete protections like extended healthcare coverage for athletic injuries or illness and scholarship guarantees.

I understand this legislation is not perfect in everyone’s eyes. It is not perfect in its current form, but it offers not only the quickest but the best path towards enacting meaningful Federal legislation on issues of amateur athletic name, image, and likeness.

When I say it may not be perfect, there are certainly things that we can negotiate to improve, and it is not the only path towards enacting meaningful Federal legislation on issues of amateur athletic name, image, and likeness.

I strongly encourage the U.S. Senate, the Commerce Committee, and my colleagues on that committee to act quickly on this urgent matter and join us in this legislation to make progress on this important issue. The time is short, but if we work together, we can accomplish a goal that is needed in this country and accomplish it by the time that it is needed to occur.

I yield the floor.

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. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, for the past 41 years, I have toured our State to hear from Iowa workers, our community leaders, and our farmers at my annual 99 county meetings. So far this year, I have been in 71.

As a farmer myself, I enjoy speaking with those involved in agriculture all across the State who tell me that they are third-, fourth-, fifth-generation farmers. These folks use the same soil and barns as their grandparents before them. Everyone I speak with intends to leave their land to their children and leave it better than they found it. That goes way back to it being entrusted to their care. We all have that responsibility.

Between the use of cover crops, buffer strips, no-till farming, and minimal till farming, more conservation practices than ever before are being used on Iowa’s 35 million acres of farmland. While Iowa farmers are continuing to feed our country and the world, they are also requiring more educated individuals and better soil and water outcomes.

Iowa farmers should be congratulated; however, it seems like there is always a target on the backs of Iowa farmers and I could say for maybe all American farmers. I want to get to that target, and that has something to do with this map that I have here of the State of Iowa.

Last week, it was reported that the Biden administration is moving forward with overruling the WOTUS rule by rewriting President Trump’s navigable waters protection rule. In my first telephone conversation with then-EPA nominee Administrator Regan and now the confirmed Administrator, I expressed concern. I was not surprised by unanimous vote of this Senate—I warned Administrator Regan against moving back to the Obama-era waters of the U.S. rule, which we call WOTUS for short. That is a regulation they shouldn’t move back to because of the burden it placed on rural areas, including Iowa farmers.

In fact, under the old waters rule, 97 percent of Iowa’s land would have been subject to jurisdiction under the Clean Water Act. In other words, all of the blue part of Iowa—with the exceptions of these areas that are white that adds up to the blue area—97 percent of this land mass of Iowa would be subject to Federal jurisdiction. Adding more Federal redtape to a farmer’s day-to-day decisions on the farm is government overreach, plain and simple.

But besides Iowa’s 86,000 farmers, a change in the Trump navigable waters protection rule will also result in significant redtape and significant expense for, among others, homebuilders, golf course managers, and construction companies as they make very routine decisions about how best to use the land and run their businesses.

Now, imagine a rule only have new home prices risen due to inflation and soaring lumber prices—and, by the way, lumber prices have added $36,000 to the price of a house just in the last year. Now, instead of that happening because lumber prices have gone up, now home prices, because of this proposed change in the regulation, will increase due to additional permitting that wasn’t previously needed.

To clear up common confusion, the Trump-era rule that is now law allows the land to give permits free rein to discharge pollutants with no regard to the health of our Nation’s waterways. Regulating the discharge of pollution into waterways is important and is done through other parts of the Clean Water Act.

The Trump rule made sure that where routine land use decisions were being made with little or no environmental impact, those decisions would not be regulated by the Federal Government. EPA’s release about its intention to overturn the navigable waters protection rule, which is the Trump rule, mentions that 333 projects would have required a Federal government paperwork under the navigable waters protection rule of the Trump administration, and, of course, that is exactly the point—exactly the point of what was wrong with the WOTUS rule.

If you are simply moving dirt to level off a low point in a field, should that need a Federal permit? If a golf course is fixing a bunker or flattening a green, should that need a Federal permit? The obvious commonsense answer to both of these questions and a lot of other questions that can be put out there for speculative purposes is, What good does this redtape do for anyone? I want to underline that point.

My Republican colleagues and I want clean water and healthy soil for our families and our communities. This is important. But what I don’t want is a Federal Government power grab that adds so much redtape to routine land use decisions that it slows our economy to a halt.

If the Biden administration decides to go down this road of reverting to the old Obama-era WOTUS, they will be seriously misguided. Why should you put the farmers of Iowa, as well as the other people, with many even having to get a permit to do normal farming practices—it just doesn’t make sense.

For an administration that is so focused on updating our Nation’s infrastructure, why does it make sense to propose a rule that only adds costs and delays construction with no identifiable benefit? I urge President Biden and EPA Administrator Regan to listen to the farmers and land owners across the country. Wave the WOTUS rule good-bye. Put away the redtape that is going to come around as a result of what you are planning to do.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll. The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, last month, more than 180,000 migrants crossed our southern border. That is the highest monthly total since the Clinton administration.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, last month, more than 180,000 migrants crossed our southern border. That is the highest monthly total since the Clinton administration.
Unaccompanied children continue to arrive at our border by the tens of thousands. In the first 5 months of this year, more than 65,000 migrant children crossed our southern border—nearly double the amount we saw in fiscal year 2020. As bad as things are today, they can, and I predict will, get worse.

The administration is weighing whether this is an appropriate time to lift title 42, which is a public health order designed to protect from the spread of the COVID–19 virus, but that we have yet to tell us what transition plans they may have, if any, in transitioning from the current exclusion of many adult migrants to welcoming those who are currently excluded or processing them through our immigration courts.

Depending on what the administration decides, the humanitarian crisis at the border will likely swell even larger this summer. Despite the clear need for action, most of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle have put on blinders. Instead of a bipartisan effort to eliminate or, I should have put on blinders. Instead of a bipartisan effort to eliminate or, I should say, alleviate or mitigate the humanitarian and security crisis at our border, we have pushed for action and the other side largely staying silent.

The Judiciary Committee of the Senate should be leading the charge to address this crisis in a fair and humane way. Back in April, Senator GRASSLEY, the ranking Republican, and I sent a letter to Chairman DURBIN and Subcommittee Chairman PADILLA requesting a hearing of either the full committee or the Immigration Subcommittee on this current crisis at the border.

Two months and hundreds of thousands of migrants later, they have simply refused to even hold a hearing.

Last month, the Subcommittee on Border Security and Immigration held its first hearing, but the topic wasn’t on the border crisis. Instead, the topic was increased numbers of visas for undocumented immigrant workers. That is a topic we can and should discuss but certainly not with the looming crisis on the border.

Tomorrow morning, the Senate Judiciary Committee will continue to ignore this backlog of migrants and this blinking red light that should warn all of us that this crisis will get nothing but worse.

What is the topic of tomorrow’s hearing? Is it the Senate Judiciary Committee? We are set to hold a hearing on the unseemly, House-passed immigration bill. This legislation stands zero chance of being passed by the Senate—zero. It combines some of the most radical liberal proposals from the far left in one massive bill that fails to address the needs of our country. Rather than discuss the humanitarian crisis at the border, our Democratic colleagues have chosen to hold a hearing on a dead-on-arrival bill, and they know it. It is a remarkable show of priorities.

Tomorrow, I expect we will hear a lot about discussing the Deferred Action on Childhood Arrival recipients—one of the categories of undocumented immigrants that would receive a path to citizenship under this legislation.

I should say that Texas is home to about 100,000 DACA recipients who are in their young years. They have grown up with our kids, attended the same churches, shopped in the same grocery stores, and defended our freedoms in the U.S. military. They are also a huge driver of our economy. Ninety-six percent of DACA recipients are either working or in school, and, on the whole, these young people contribute more than $400 million a year in State and local taxes in Texas alone.

Despite all the ways these young men and women strengthen our country and our communities, they have been living in a constant state of uncertainty about their future. That is because when President Obama announced this program 9 years ago, he did so through a short press release, rather than engage Congress. That is right. Rather than rolling up his sleeves and working with Congress to pass long-lasting immigration policy, he chose a path of least resistance that didn’t involve any input from Congress but nonetheless created an immediate stroke of a pen. To say the least, this made things easier for President Obama in the short run, but it caused a lot of fear—has caused a lot of fear and uncertainty for these young people in the long run, and it continues today. They were set unfairly on a yearlong, tumultuous journey, waiting nervously to see how the courts would weigh in on the various court challenges that we knew were going to occur.

President Obama knew it as well. So these young DACA recipients have been left wondering whether they might be deported to a country they have no memory of and being forced to leave behind the families, the jobs, and the opportunities they have worked so hard to build here in the United States.

Many of these young people are in their twenties and thirties now with careers, families, and plans of their own. The possibility of being forced to leave the United States is no less terrifying for them than it would be for anyone who was born here. After years of being yanked around from court ruling to court ruling, these young men and women deserve certainty. They deserve to know they can apply to college, grow their families, live their lives, and do all the things other young Americans can do without this dark cloud hanging over their plans. After all, they haven’t done anything wrong. They were brought here as children, as minors. And in America, we do not hold children responsible for the mistakes of adults—in other words, their parents.

That is why I believe we should take action that gives our DACA recipients the certainty they deserve, and the only way to do that is through more legislation, not further Executive actions. And I strongly support that legislative effort. However, massive partisan bills, like the legislation the House passed this year, is not the answer. I support DACA recipients because they were brought here at a young age through no fault of their own, but the American Dream and Promise Act has completely abandoned this justifiable in favor of rewarding recent illegal entries with green cards, even adults who violated our immigration laws.

If the goal is to provide legal certainty for our DACA recipients as opposed to making a grand political statement, we need to be realistic about how we get there. We need to learn from our mistakes of the past, where we have tried to build big, comprehensive immigration reform bills only to see them collapse of their own weight, which means we need to begin working on smaller packages that can gain broad support and hopefully build trust in the process. I am not suggesting we quit there, but that is the place we need to start if we have learned from the lessons of the last 20 years.

The American people overwhelmingly support allowing DACA recipients to stay in the United States. They expect our immigration system to be fair, and I believe it is true of a majority of Members of the Senate. We have to set aside policies we cannot agree on so we can make progress on the ones we do agree on, and we need to keep our efforts focused on DACA recipients. If this is a priority for folks on both sides of the aisle, I hope we will finally be able to get a bill to the President’s desk to help these young people.

More broadly, though, there is no denying our immigration system is sorely in need of reform. It is outdated; it is inefficient; and it simply does not meet the needs of our country today. But there is very little room for those types of conversations until we solve the current crisis at the border. Once there is under control and our bipartisan Border Solutions Act, which is the only bicameral, bipartisan bill that has been introduced—once we solve that problem, I hope we will have a bipartisan debate about the changes that should be made to our immigration system, and the DACA recipients are at the top of that list.

As I said, these young men and women deserve certainty, and Congress cannot pass legislation to provide that certainty if our Democratic colleagues and the White House insist on attaching controversial policies or ignoring the current crisis at the border, as the Biden administration is appearing to do.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, Ronald Reagan said:

We maintain peace through our strength; weakness only invites aggression.
The United States of America remains a beacon of strength and freedom. Generations of Americans purchased this strength through blood, treasure, and self-sacrifice. We do not want to be the first generation of Americans to abandon that tradition, but we will unless we give our men and women in uniform the tools they need to do the job.

The President’s proposed budget does not deliver for our military. In fact, it tells our military to do less every day than it did in the past. President Biden’s budget proposal cuts money from the Department of Defense when accounting for inflation. I have said before that this budget is disappointing, dangerous, and a disservice to our men and women in uniform.

The President’s advisers surely know the threat our country faces. Here is what the Office of National Intelligence said in its annual threat assessment:

That is from the President’s own Director of National Intelligence. But talk is cheap, and cheap talk is what we are getting because this budget does not rise to meet that threat.

Question: Does the President not believe the dire warnings of his own advisers?

At the same time, President Biden and congressional Democrats’ policies are giving us a weak economy when it should be roaring. The last two job reports fell way short of expectations. In April, economists expected 1 million jobs, but we only got one-fourth of that—25 percent.

Democrats’ out-of-control spending is driving inflation to levels we haven’t seen in over a decade. President Biden’s budget assumes that inflation will only lead to a weak 2 percent GDP growth—2 percent—when it should be double that amount.

Democrats aren’t stopping at a weak military and a weak economy. They have put forth thinly veiled attempts to strip our country of what makes it so great. They want to undo our very system of federalism and local control by eliminating States’ right-to-work laws through the PRO Act. They want to undermine the power of every State’s election laws through S. 1 or, as I like to call it, the corrupt politicians act. But worst of all, it is teaching our kids to hate our country. The Biden administration is undermining the very values that our country was built on.

The President is certainly speaking softly all right, but he is whistling away our big stick down to a twig.

We are already seeing the results. Weakness invites aggression. President Biden and his aides seem to believe that retrenchment to the appeasement policies of the Obama administration and a rejection of President Trump’s policy of strength are the best way to ensure peace. That is going to be tough for them and for the American people. We are already seeing how these policies do not work.

Take Palestine, for example. Just 2 months ago, the President decided to send hundreds of millions of dollars in aid to the Palestinians. And I ask, For what reason? Why are we sending millions of dollars to Palestine at this time when we are having a tough point in our country with this pandemic?

They just took American dollars and turned around and rained terror on our No. 1 ally in the Middle East, with the president thinking it was aimed at his own civilians. It triggered the worst fighting between Israel and Hamas since 2014. The President’s policy and millions of taxpayer dollars were wasted. They did nothing but arm Hamas. The President’s policy did not work.

President Biden made no secret that he wanted to bring back the failed Iran nuclear deal that was the pride of President Obama’s second term. Well, Iran responded by supplying Hamas with rockets that killed Israeli civilians. Iran is also sending warships to help their socialist ally, Venezuela. Again, the President’s policies did not work.

One of President Biden’s first acts in office was to cancel the Keystone Pipeline with our northern border neighbor in Canada. Yet the President is allowing Russia to build the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline to Germany, further isolating Ukraine from its Western friends and neighbors. Iran, responding by amassing troops along the Ukraine border. Once again, the President’s policies did not work.

The week after President Biden announced his skinny budget proposal with no increase to the Department of Defense, China sent a record number of fighter jets into the Taiwanese airspace. That is a clear pattern that the President’s policies aren’t working, and they are emboldening our enemies.

The Biden administration’s weaknesses isn’t just limited to far-off countries across the sea, we are seeing the very real cost at our southern border. The Biden administration refuses to take this crisis seriously. The number of illegal immigrants crossing the border this fiscal year is already the most since 2006, and there are 4 months left to go.

In May of this year alone, Customs and Border Protection apprehended more than 180,000 illegal immigrants along the southern border. And it is not just folks coming from Central America. According to the CBP, there have been at least 59,000 illegal immigrants apprehended who were not from Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, or Honduras.

They are from as many as 90-plus countries, as far away as Bangladesh, Ghana, and Nepal.

The problem is that it is not just people seeking a better life. Customs and Border Protection reports that they have arrested 95 convicted sex offenders attempting to enter the United States since the beginning of the fiscal year, and those are just the ones that are caught.

Biden, 2 months ago, said: “What’s wrong with 2 million illegal immigrants?”

So what the Biden administration is doing is they are not stemming the tide. President Biden threw his hands up and put Vice President Harris in charge.

Has she visited the border since she has been put in charge? No. And when she does think her words, “Don’t come,” are enough to stop the flood of illegal immigrants? Well, they are not. Her words are too late and too little.

I remember how then-Candidates Biden and Harris pushed back against President Trump for wanting to secure our border, for wanting to enforce our immigration laws as written, and folks across the globe were listening. They heard the rhetoric. They packed their bags, and they made the dangerous journey.

They took then-Candidates Biden and Harris at their word. It is why so many illegal immigrants wear T-shirts saying: “Biden, let us in.”

Why would they listen to her saying “Don’t come” now?

But here is what really got me. When asked why she hasn’t gone to the border to see the crisis for herself, Vice President Harris laughed and said: “I haven’t been to Europe” either. I couldn’t believe what I was hearing. We need leadership, not a tourist.

Well, Madam Vice President, I have been to the border, and I have seen how dangerous it is for these people coming here. I have actually listened to our Border Patrol agents, who talk about how the cartels really run things and how they have total control of the U.S. southern border. I have seen how many drugs are pouring across the border because our law enforcement is too busy processing illegal immigrants instead of doing the bad guys.

But I sat beside a teenager leaving McAllen, TX, on the flight to Houston. She had her new 3- or 4-month-old baby. She was being sent on a plane by the Biden administration to Houston and then on the way to Denver, not knowing what she was to expect when she got there.

It is not easy to see. It certainly wasn’t for me. But that is the price of being in a position of power, to be able to do something about the problems facing the people and our country. The Vice President needs to see the human cost of the policies she and the President are supporting.
I think it would be an honor to Mr. Skelton’s memory and to the importance of the Pledge of Allegiance if it were recited today on the Senate floor in the words of Red Skelton.

When I was a small boy in Vincennes, Indiana, I held in the highest regard the most outstanding speeches I had ever heard in my life. I think it compares with the Sermon on the Mount, Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address, and Socrates’ Speech to the Students.

We had just finished reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, and he [Mr. Lasswell, the Principal of Vincennes High School] called us all together and he says, “Uh, boys and girls, I have been listening to you recite the Pledge of Allegiance all semester, and it seems that it has become monotonous to you. Or, could it be, you do not understand the meaning of each word? If I may, I would like to recite the pledge, and give you a definition of each word.

I—I, Me, an individual; a committee of one. Pledge—Dedicate all of my worldly good to give without self-pity. Allegiance—my love and my devotion. To the Flag—Our standard. “Old Glory”: a symbol of courage. And wherever she waves, there is respect, because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts “Freedom is everybody’s job.”

Of the United—That means we have all come together.

States—Individual communities that have united into 48 great states; 48 individual communities with pride and dignity and purpose; all divided by imaginary boundaries, yet united to a common cause, and that’s love of country—Of America.

And to the Republic—a Republic: a sovereign state in which power is invested into the representatives chosen by the people to govern; [us] and the government is the people, and it’s from the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people.

For which it Stands

One Nation—Meaning “so blessed by God.” Indivisible—Incapable of being divided. With Liberty—which is freedom; the right of power for one to live his own life without fears, threats, or any sort of retaliation. And Justice—The principle and qualities of dealing fairly with others.

For All—For All. That means, boys and girls, it’s as much your country as it is mine.

Afterwards, Mr. Lasswell asked his students to recite the Pledge of Allegiance together, with newfound appreciation for the words.

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

Mr. Red Skelton concluded his speech by saying:

Since I was a small boy, two states have been added to our country, and two words have been added to the Pledge of Allegiance: [If you listened closely] “Under God.” Wouldn’t it be a pity if someone said, “That is a prayer”—and that be eliminated from our schools.

Just as those students that day, Mr. Skelton included, recommitted to the meaning of the words of the Pledge of Allegiance, I call upon the U.S. Senate to recommit to the meaning of these words.

There are times today that the words of the pledge are tossed around without too much care. Other times, they are altered to remove what today is deemed offensive or antiquated. But Americans should not misuse or abuse our Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge of Allegiance is meant to remind Americans of our guiding principles and inspire adherence to those ideas which make our country great: equality under the law, recognized rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. This is why today I am requesting that in a few days we pass this resolution with unanimous consent, and I am hopeful that occurs.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

VOTE ON BROWN JACKSON NOMINATION

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the vote begin immediately on the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Brown Jackson nomination?

Mrs. SHAHEEN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE).

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

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 231 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Baldwin
Benning
Binnenthal
Booker
Brown
Cantwell
Cardin
Casey
Collins
Cortez Masto
Duckworth
Durbin
Feinstein
Gillibrand
Graham
Hassan

Barrasso
Blackburn
Bonger
Braun
Burr
Capito
Cassidy
Cornyn
Crapper
Cramer
Crus
Daines
 Ernst
Fischer

NAY—44

Grassley
Hagerty
Hawley
Hoven
Hyde-Smith
Inhofe
Johnson
Kennedy
Leahy
Lummis
Marshall
McClellan
Merkel
Paul
Peters
Hickenlooper
Hirono
Kaine
Klobuchar
Leahy
Lujan
Manchin
Mark
Menendez
Merkley
Mikulski
Murphy
Murray
Ossoff
Padilla
Peters
Portman
Risch
Romney
Round
Scott (FL)
Scott (SC)
Sherley
Sullivan
Tills
Toomey
Tuberville
Wicker
Wyden

NOT VOTING—3

Bunten
Rubio
Same

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. OSSOFF). Under the previous order, the
motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate’s action.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 119, Lina M. Khan, of New York, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner for the unexpired term of seven years from September 26, 2017.


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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Lina M. Khan, of New York, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner for the unexpired term of seven years from September 26, 2017, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSER).

The result was announced—yeas 72, nays 25, as follows:

(Rollcall Vote No. 232 Ex.)

YEAS—72

Baldwin Gray Cleary Ossoff
Bennet Hassan Padilla
Blumenthal Hawley Peters
Booher Hattersch Portman
Braun Hickenlooper Reed
Brown Hirono Rosen
Burr Hoeven Rounds
Cantwell Hyde-Smith Sanders
Capito Johnson Schatz
Cardin Kaine Schumer
Carper Kelly Shaheen
Casely King Sinema
Caesidy Klobuchar Smith
Collins Leahy Stabenow
Coons Lensister Tester
Cornyn Manchin Thune
Cortez Masto Markley Van Hollen
Cramer Marshall Warner
Duckworth Menendez Warmack
Durbin Merkley Warren
Feinstein Mica Whitehouse
Fischer Markowski Wicker
Gillibrand Murphy Wyden
Graham Murray Young

NAYS—25

Barrasso Crux Kennedy
Blackburn Daines Lankford
Boozman Ernst Loeffler
Boozman Hagerty Lummis
Crapo Inhofe McConnell

Executive Calendar

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Lina M. Khan, of New York, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner for the unexpired term of seven years from September 26, 2017.

This commonsense reform would ensure that people in the military who have been subjected to sexual assault and other serious crimes get the justice they deserve.

I ask for this vote because I want to ensure that this important reform, which is backed by a bipartisan filibuster-proof majority of the Senators, becomes law. If we leave this debate and this reform to the national defense authorization committee review, I have no doubts that that will not happen.

We all know how a bill becomes a law. It passes the Senate and the House, and is signed by the President. And we all know how this process can be subverted. We have seen popular provisions that have passed both the House and the Senate be minimized, watered down, or removed in conference altogether. And I have certainly seen funds held behind closed doors of the NDAA markup.

In 2019, I introduced a much smaller reform called Safe to Report. That provision was designed to improve reporting rates by allowing survivors of sexual assault to report the assault without fear of retaliation in the form of misconduct charges for related minor offenses, things like underage drinking or breaking a curfew.

That commonsense reform, which could have allowed more survivors to come forward, passed in both the House and the Senate, but it was removed in conference. We had to reintroduce the very same bill the following year in order for it to be included and become law in the next year, the fiscal year 2021 NDAA.

If a program focused solely on helping to make it easier for survivors to report their assault was removed in conference, I have little reason to believe that this once-in-a-generation reform will survive.

Given the lack of progress we have made on sexual assault in the military and the entrenched problems with the military justice system, we cannot allow this widely supported reform to be left to the whims of those working behind closed doors in conference—a process with a rich history of subverting reforms on behalf of the Department of Defense. Let us have this vote in the Senate, and let us send it to the House to become law.

Every day we delay this vote is another day we deny justice to the survivors of sexual assault. We deny justice to servicemembers who have been affected by serious crimes. We deny justice to the men and women who do so much for this country. We owe it to them to not wait another minute longer.

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 Committee on Armed Services be discharged from further consideration of S. 1520 and the Senate proceed to its consideration; that there be 2 hours for debate, equally divided in the usual form, and that upon the completion of the usual time, the Senate vote on the bill with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection.

Mr. REED. Madam President, reserving my right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. REED. Madam President, like the Senator from New York, I believe that we should transfer crimes regarding sexual misconduct to a special prosecutor, as the Senator of New York has outlined, and that is a decision that many of my colleagues have made over the last few months. In the past, they have been opposed, as I have opposed that approach.

The difficulty is the transfer of other crimes like burglary, arson, financial mismanagement, misappropriation of government funds, and other matters. Those issues have not been carefully studied, and they should be studied, and that is the purpose of the committee.

We will take this up. We will study it very closely. We will also look at something that I think has to be looked at seriously: How do we implement this reform, and how much time do we need? The last time that we made a major change to the Uniform Code of Military Justice, we allowed the Department of Defense to keep all of it. The present legislation would allow 18 months. This is something we have to look at.

We also have to look at the resources that are needed. This involves a change in the structure of the military legal system, and the committee is a place where we will get the best views of people who have dedicated themselves in the Senate to thinking hard and thoroughly about issues of military justice, issues of military preparedness, and all of these things.

Looking forward to a debate, but also looking forward to, I think, what
is becoming increasingly secure—the transfer of responsibility for sexual assault and crimes of that nature to an independent prosecutorial approach—it is something I think that we can anticipate going forward.

And I would object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Madam President, there are several reasons why I disagree with the chairman.

First of all, this is not a complex reform. In fact, only one thing changes: After the military police conclude their investigation, instead of the case file being handed over to the commander, the case file is handed over to the prosecutor, who might eventually have gotten that case anyway. The prosecutor reviews the case file and decides whether or not to prosecute.

If he decides not to prosecute, he will send it back to the commander. Only 3 percent of commanders have this job; 97 percent of commanders’ jobs will not be affected by this change. And then they will decide what they typically do, which is to review the case; perhaps, ask for nonjudicial punishment for related crimes; perhaps, do a special court-martial. That sits with the commander.

The second reason why I disagree with the chairman is that if you remove only one crime from the commander, you will essentially create an entirely different system just for survivors of sexual assault, who are more often to be women who report those crimes. Even though males suffer more from sexual assault, they just don’t report them, and that, therefore, will become a special court for women servicemembers. And experts have said that it will further marginalize them, it will further alienate them. It will be a special court for women, or a “pink court.”

Third, this reform has already taken place in the countries of our allies. The UK did it over 10 years ago for defendants’ rights. Israel did it over 40 years ago. Canada, Netherlands, Australia, Germany—all have taken serious crimes out of the chain of command.

And in each of those instances, they have said it has not reduced good order discipline, and it has not had any impact on command and control.

And I say this is not a change whose impact will be to give survivors of sexual assault and any survivor of a serious crime the confidence that the military justice system is unbiased and highly trained.

The other reason why this change is so necessary to be a bright line at all serious crimes is defendants’ rights. And I can tell you that we now have data developed in 2017 from Protect Our Defenders, a report that says that it is up to 2.5 times more likely for Black and Brown servicemembers to be punished than White servicemembers. That is a shocking statistic—a shocking statistic.

So I believe that if you create a bright line at serious crimes, you will not only improve the system for survivors of sexual assault but for all litigants—plaintiffs and defendants—and you will protect the civil liberties and civil rights of Black and Brown servicemembers from a defendant’s rights perspective.

The committee has had 8 years to debate, discuss, have hearings, and pass legislation. We have passed nearly 250 bills on this topic. They have lost their sole jurisdiction issue. They have failed to improve sexual assaults in the military, and it is now time for an up-or-down vote, which has 66 cosponsors in this body. It is now time for an up-or-down vote on our bill. It should no longer be the purview of the NDAA and the Armed Services Committee because they have been unwilling to have a vote on this for over 5 years and unwilling to take a serious look at how to fix these injustices within our military.

Our military servicemembers deserve a military justice system worthy of the sacrifices they make every day.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The Senator from Nevada.

UNEQUIVOCALLY CONDEMNING THE RECENT RISE IN ANTISEMITIC VIOLENCE AND HARASSMENT TARGETING JEWISH AMERICANS, AND STANDING IN SOLIDARITY WITH THOSE AFFECTED BY ANTISEMITISM

Ms. ROSEN. Madam President, I rise today as cochair of the Senate Bipartisan Task Force for Combatting Antisemitism, which just relaunched this week with over half the Senate as Members. I am speaking out because Jewish-Americans and Jews across the globe are in danger.

They are in danger because we are experiencing a worldwide surge in antisemitic hate crimes and violence. In communities across America, Jews have been targeted. They have been verbally accosted, and brutally assaulted.

Anti-Semitism has long been the canary in the coal mine of hatred. History teaches us that when anti-Semitism takes hold, democracy itself is imperiled. This issue has reared its ugly head in recent years, particularly in the past month.

According to the ADL, anti-Semitic incidents in May were double what they were during the same period last year. Over 400 hate crimes have been seen horrendous attacks on Jewish communities. In New York, fireworks were hurled at a crowd of Jewish Americans. In Los Angeles, Jewish diners were attacked.

One response I saw to a recent desecration of a synagogue in Arizona has stuck with me. The response said “the amount of Jewish hate isn’t shocking. That’s reason.”

Those who committed these egregious acts wanted to send a message. They wanted to say that Jews have no place here. And it is critical that we send a clear and forceful message back. We must ensure that our elected leaders, Democrats and Republicans, are resolute in affirming that there is zero tolerance for anti-Semitism.

We must honor the words of George Washington, who wrote to the Jewish community of Rhode Island in 1790, that America “gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance,” which is why I urge the Senate to immediately take up my bipartisan resolution condemning the recent anti-Semitic incidents, unconditionally and unequivocally.

I am calling on leaders to take specific steps—specific steps—to address and prevent them, including having the President nominate and the Senate confirm a qualified officer to monitor and combat anti-Semitism, fully implementing my bipartisan Never Again Education Act to advance Holocaust education, having agencies improve their collection of anti-Semitic hate crime data, and sufficiently funding the Nonprofit Security Grant program to protect houses of worship and community centers from violence.

I want to thank Senator LANKFORD and his staff for their work in helping to pass this resolution, which currently has 74 cosponsors.

Madam President, as if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and that Senate proceed to S. Res. 222.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 222) unequivocally condemning the recent rise in antisemitic violence and harassment targeting Jewish Americans, and standing in solidarity with those affected by antisemitism, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. ROSEN. I know of no further debate on the measure.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Mr. SCHUMER. Yes, there is, Madam President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Thank you, Madam President. First, let me thank Senator ROSEN. She has been a valiant, strong and unrelenting fighter against anti-Semitism—not just today with this resolution, but every day, and we thank her for her leadership, her tremendous and needed leadership on this issue.
I want to thank Senator LANKFORD as well as joining Senator ROSEN in crafting this bipartisan resolution because, as we all know, anti-Semitism is not a partisan issue. So I very much appreciate the way that they have worked across the aisle to bring this resolution forward.

It is essential that we come together at this moment. Over the past few years, America has once again seen the pernicious, poisonous, and dangerous rise of hate crimes. In recent weeks, in particular, anti-Semitism—the oldest hatred—has dramatically spiked. It, too, just like every other hate crime, is pernicious, poisonous, and dangerous. We are all horrified by the anti-Semitic attacks in New York, around the country, and around the globe.

So I join my colleagues tonight to say unequivocally that this hatred must be called out, confronted, and stopped. And the Senator from Nevada has a collection series of proposals to help make that happen.

Anti-Semitism must be combated wherever and whenever it rears its ugly head. It is vile, it is reprehensible, and it is counter to everything America stands for: freedom of religion, equal treatment for people from all corners of the world who came here in search of a better life. It was true for my family and for many others, and hopefully, it will continue to be true.

But that noble purpose has too often been marred by periods of isolationism, xenophobia, and racial intolerance. We live in a time where we must actively work to rekindle the light of tolerance that has kept anti-Semitism at bay here in the United States and around the globe.

As majority leader, the first Jewish-American to hold that honor, I will work with any and all of my colleagues to face down anti-Semitism and every other form of racial or religious discrimination.

I strongly urge the Senate to stand against anti-Semitism, and I am very grateful to pass this resolution unanimously.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

If not, the question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 252) was agreed to.

Ms. ROSEN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Michal Ilana Freedhoff, of Maryland, to be Assistant Administrator for Toxic Substances of the Environmental Protection Agency.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

Ms. ROSEN. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate, and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 252) was agreed to.

Ms. ROSEN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Michal Ilana Freedhoff, of Maryland, to be Assistant Administrator for Toxic Substances of the Environmental Protection Agency.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

Ms. ROSEN. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate, and if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all without intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination, that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD, and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Freedhoff nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent that the Senate vote on the nomination.

In keeping with the committee’s intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY, Arlington, VA.

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ, Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 21–42, concerning the Army’s proposed Letter of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Australia for defense articles and services estimated to cost $3.5 billion. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

RHEI H. GRANT, Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21–42
Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Australia.

(ii) Total Estimated Value: Major Defense Equipment $2.5 billion. Other $1.0 billion. Total $3.5 billion.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantiﬁcation of Arms or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):
Twenty-nine (29) AH–64E Apache Attack Helicopters. Sixty-four (64) T700–GE 701D Engines (58 installed, 6 spares).
Sixteen (16) AN/AAR–78 Fire Control Radars (FCR) with Radar Electronic Units.
Twenty-nine (29) AN/APR–48B Modernized Radar Frequency Interferometers (SRFI).
Seventy (70) Embedded Global Positioning Systems with Inertial Navigation Systems plus Multi-Mode Receiver (EG/1 MMR) (38 installed, 12 spares).
Seventy (70) AN/ARC–231A Very High Frequency/Ultra High Frequency (VHF/UHF) Radios (38 installed, 12 spares).
Eighty-five (85) AGM–114R Hellfire Missiles.
Twenty-nine (29) M36E3 Hellfire Captive Air Training Missiles (CATM).

Two thousand (2,000) Advanced Precision Kill Weapon System Guidance Sections (APKWS–GS).

Non-MDE: Also included are AN/APR–39 Radar Signal Detecting Sets; AN/AVR–2B Laser Detecting Sets; AN/APS–42A Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) transponders; IDM–401 Improved Data Modems; Link–16 Small Tactical Terminal KOR–24–A; Implemented Countermeasures Dispensing System (ICMD); AN/ARN–149 (V/H) Automatic Direction FINDERS; Doppler ASN–157 Doppler
Radar Velocity Sensors; AN/APN-209 Radar Altimeters Common Core (RACC); AN/ARN-151 Tactical Air Navigation Set (TACAN); AN/PYQ-10(C) Simple Key Loader; M230EL + M 130 25mm Gun; MDS-120 40mm Grenade Launchers; M259 missile launchers; 2.75 inch rockets; 30mm rounds; High Explosive Warhead for airborne 2.75 rockets, inert; MK66-4 2.75 inch Explosive Warhead (M151 fuze M423 motor); MK66-4 2.75 inch rocket warhead M274 motor; MK66-4 2.75 inch rocket motor; M151HE 2.75 inch warhead; Manned-Unmanned Teaming-2 (MUMT-X); video receivers; Manned-Unmanned Teaming-2 (MUMT-X) video receivers; Manne...
platform communication and teaming between 

 beiden Überwachungssystemen (UAVs) und anderen übergeordneten Luft- und Bodenkomponenten. Sie ermöglichen die Ablösung von UAS und MILSATCOM-Sensorinformationen und übermitteln vollständige Video-Aufzeichnungen an die zentralen Steuer- und Auswertungssysteme, die in geeigneten Anlagen aufbewahrt werden.


n. Das M261 2,75 "Inch Rocket Launcher" ist ein zweisechichtiges Raketenystem, das in einer unbemannten Variante (UAV) eingesetzt wird. Die Raketen besitzen eine Reichweite von bis zu 7 km und sind gezielt für die Unterstützung von Luftangriffen und Bodenkampfzwecken konzipiert.


amendment in Section V. As NSF incorporates this guidance, it also incorporates the Dickey-Wicker amendment and its restrictions.

It is clear from NSF's response and a review of other terms and conditions that are binding on awardees that NIH guidelines, including Dickey-Wickery protections, apply to NSF-funded research. Since nothing in the Endless Frontier Act or the U.S. Innovation and Competition Act modifies these legal protections, it is therefore the clear intent of the Senate that the protections for human life afforded by the Dickey-Wicker amendment continue to apply to the NSF.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

100TH STATE ANNUAL SINGING CONVENTION

Mr. TILLIS. Madam President, I rise today in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the State Annual Singing Convention in Benson, North Carolina. The Sing will be celebrating its centennial on June 25 to 27, 2021 in the town of Benson. Singing started as people reunited with town merchants and patrons of the grove was dedicated in 1950, thanks to a member of the family for which the grove is named. A temporary stage was constructed and lumber stacked on pine blocks served as a permanent stage in the center of the warehouse in 1922, a new location for singing. Whether in an open field or under a brush arbor, large crowds would come to hear these glorious choirs. Mr. Simon Honeycutt, a local artist, cowbell used to announce the arrival of choirs, Mr. J.B. Raynor, Mr. J.V. Barefoot, and Mr. J.H. Rose—help organize the event. The first State Annual Singing Convention was held in a tobacco warehouse in 1921. A silver cup was awarded to the best all-around group, along with prizes for the best quartet and duet. Impartial judges had to be found from a great distance away, and picnic baskets filled a table 110 feet in length as 200 people came to enjoy the wonderful singing.

After a fire destroyed the tobacco warehouse in 1922, a new location for the Sing was found in an oak-shaded grove at the center of town. This land was donated by Miss Catherine Benson, a member of the family for which the town is named. In its early years, a temporary stage was constructed and lumber stacked on pine blocks served as seating. These materials were borrowed from a nearby farm and returned at the conclusion of the Sing. A permanent stage in the center of the grove was dedicated in 1950, thanks to town merchants and patrons of the Singing Convention. Folding chairs have now replaced the early lumber-block seating. The Singing Grove would fill to capacity long before the singing started as people reunited with old friends and relatives, caught up on the latest news, and forgot about their worries as their souls were lifted through song. For those not able to attend in person, local radio stations allowed listeners to tune in and for a time, the State Annual Singing Convention was broadcast to a national audience.

As the joy-filled weekend wound to an end, singers and spectators alike anxiously awaited judges tallying scores and winners being announced in several different categories. The people have changed, but the Sing remains because of a steadfast commitment to what it represents. As an early leader once wrote, "The multitude of voices blend in 'God be with you till we meet again' to reassure the world that there will always be a song of love in the hearts of God's people everywhere. That is the faith of the State Annual Singing Convention.' It is my honor to commemorate this notable centennial. The State Annual Singing convention has nurtured countless souls and inspired testament to the faith of those who carry on its legacy. I extend my congratulations and best wishes for the next 100 years.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-17. A joint resolution adopted by the legislature of the State of Colorado rescinding all resolutions, memorials, or other enactments previously passed by the Colorado General Assembly or either house thereof petitioning United States Congress for a convention under Article V of the United States Constitution; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 21–1006

Whereas, The Colorado General Assembly has made applications to the United States Congress to call one or more conventions to propose amendments concerning specific subjects to the Constitution, pursuant to Article V thereof; and

Whereas, There has not been an Article V joint application made by the Colorado General Assembly in over 25 years, and since then Colorado has nearly doubled in population and our laws and resolutions should keep pace with progress in our state; now, therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-third General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:

That all other resolutions, memorials, or other enactments previously passed by the Colorado General Assembly or either house thereof petitioning Congress for a convention under Article V of the United States Constitution shall be rescinded, cancelled, voided, nullified, and superseded upon passage of this resolution. Be it further

Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent, within 30 days of passage, to the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the Colorado General Assembly, and the Clerk of the Colorado Congressional delegation; and be it further

Resolved, That the members of the Colorado General Assembly request that this Joint Resolution be published in the Congressional Record and listed in the official tally of state legislative applications relating to calling for the United States Congress to call a convention to propose amendments to the United States Constitution.

POM-18. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of West Virginia urging the United States Congress to call a convention of the states to propose amendments to the United States Constitution, limited to proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States that would place no higher limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the United States House of Representatives or as a member of the United States Senate; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9

Whereas, The Legislature of West Virginia hereby makes an application to Congress, as provided by Article V of the Constitution of the United States, to call a convention limited to proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the United States House of Representatives, and to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the United States Senate; and

Whereas, This application shall be considered covering the same as the applications from other states to Congress to call a convention to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected to the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States Senate; and

Whereas, This application constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United States until the legislatures of at least two-thirds of the several states have made applications on the same subject; therefore, be it

Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That the Legislature hereby urges Congress to call a convention of the states, under the authority reserved to the states in Article V of the United States Constitution, limited to proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States to call a convention limited to proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the United States House of Representatives or as a member of the United States Senate; and, be it further

Resolved, That the Clerk of the House is hereby directed to forward copies of this resolution to the President of the Senate of the United States and to the Speaker, Clerk, and Judiciary Committee Chairman of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States, and copies to the members of the said Senate and House of Representatives from this state; also to forward copies thereof to the presidential office, and the officers of the several states, requesting their cooperation.

POM-19. A petition from a citizen of the State of Texas relative to American Rescue Plan Act relief funds; to the Committee on Finance.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:
By Mr. Peters, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 658. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to work with cybersecurity consortia for training, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117–24).

By Mrs. Blackburn, from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, without amendment:

S. 1251. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a program to reduce barriers to entry for farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners in certain voluntary markets, and for other purposes.

By Ms. Murray, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, without amendment:

S. 1301. A bill to provide for the publication by the Secretary of Health and Human Services concerning physical activity recommendations for Americans.

S. 1662. A bill to increase funding for the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the Food and Drug Administration and for the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. Lee (for himself and Mr. Grassley):
S. 2039. A bill to improve the antitrust laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. Cornyn:
S. 2040. A bill to prohibit consumer reporting agencies from furnishing a consumer report containing any adverse item of information about a consumer if the consumer is a victim of trafficking, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. Manchin (for himself, Mr. Moran, Mr. Boozman, Ms. Collins, and Mr. Cassidy):
S. 2041. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that medical providers of the Department of Veterans Affairs provide for annual compensation for survivors of certain veterans.

By Ms. Duckworth (for herself, Mr. Scott of South Carolina, Mr. Cardin, and Ms. Collins):
S. 2042. A bill to reauthorize the Interagency Committee on Women's Business Enterprise, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. Durbin (for himself, Ms. Collins, Mr. Carper, Mr. Brown, Ms. Hirono, Mr. Wyden, Mrs. Murray, Mr. Booker, Mr. Reed, Mr. Menendez, and Mr. Kaine):
S. 2043. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit smoking on the premises of any facility of the Veterans Health Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. Durbin (for himself, Mrs. Feinstein, Mr. Brown, and Mr. Reed):
S. 2044. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to prohibit employment of children in tobacco-related agriculture by deeming such employment as oppressive child labor; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. Durbin, Mr. Rubio, Mr. Cardin, and Mr. Scott of Florida:
S. 2045. A bill to designate the area between the intersections of 16th Street, Northwest and Fullerton Street, Northwest and 16th Street, Northwest and Euclid Street, Northwest in Washington, District of Columbia, as "Oswaldo Paya Way"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. Van Hollen (for himself, Mr. Merkley, Ms. Baldwin, and Mr. Brown):
S. 2048. A bill to provide for a Community-Based Emergency and Non-Emergency Response Grant Program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. Collins (for herself, Mr. Blumenthal, Ms. Feinstein, Ms. Hassan, Mrs. Shaheen, Mrs. Gillibrand, and Mr. King):
S. 2047. A bill to ensure the use of intentionally added perfluoralkyl or polyfluoralkyl substances in cosmetics; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. Daines (for himself, Mrs. Blackburn, Mr. Crapo, Mrs. Capito, Mr. Chafetiz, and Mr. Toomey):
S. J. Res. 20. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing the Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. Marshall (for himself, Mrs. Gillibrand, Mr. Hawley, Ms. Hassan, Mr. Crapo, Mrs. Shaheen, Mr. Scott of South Carolina, Ms. Baldwin, Mr. Risch, Mr. King, Mr. Grassley, Ms. Smith, Mr. Braun, Mr. Lujan, Ms. Collins, and Ms. Klobuchar):
S. Res. 268. A resolution expressing support for the designation of June 2021 as "National Dairy Month" to recognize the important role dairy plays in a healthy diet and the exceptional work of dairy producers; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 189
At the request of Mr. Truax, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. Hirono) was added as a cosponsor of S. 189, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for annual cost-of-living adjustments to be made automatically by law each year in the rates of disability compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of certain service-connected disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 267
At the request of Mr. Lee, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. Johnson) was added as a cosponsor of S. 247, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide compensatory time for employees in the private sector.

S. 601
At the request of Mr. Durbin, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. Klobuchar) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. Ossoff) were added as cosponsors of S. 601, a bill to amend section 3661 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the consideration of acquitted conduct at sentencing.

S. 792
At the request of Mrs. Fischer, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. Scott) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. Moran) were added as cosponsors of S. 792, a bill to amend the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999 to modify certain agricultural exemptions for hours of service requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 798
At the request of Mr. Coons, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. Heinrich) was added as a cosponsor of S. 798, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish programs for carbon dioxide capture, transport, utilization, and storage, and for other purposes.

S. 821
At the request of Mr. Burr, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. Collins) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. Cassidy) were added as cosponsors of S. 821, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish a simplified income-driven repayment plan, and for other purposes.

S. 838
At the request of Mr. Van Hollen, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. Fischer) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. Ossoff) were added as cosponsors of S. 838, a bill to amend section 5542 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that any hours worked by Federal firefighters under a qualified trade-of-time arrangement shall be excluded for purposes of determinations relating to overtime pay.

S. 1014
At the request of Mr. Durbin, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. Leahy), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. Whitehouse), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. Klobuchar), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. Booker) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. Ossoff) were added as cosponsors of S. 1014, a bill to reform sentencing laws and correctional institutions, and for other purposes.

S. 1057
At the request of Mr. Coons, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. Feinstein) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1057, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a Civilian Climate Corps, and for other purposes.

S. 1251
At the request of Mr. Braun, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. Hickenlooper) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1251, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a program to reduce barriers to entry for farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners in certain voluntary markets, and for other purposes.
June 14, 2021

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

S4519

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1288, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to ensure College for All.

S. 1315

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1315, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of certain lymphedema compression treatment items under the Medicare program.

S. 1336

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1536, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to establish a Motorcyclist Advisory Council.

S. 1465

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1695, a bill to amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to provide for a high-speed broadband deployment initiative.

S. 1720

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1720, a bill to provide stability to and enhance the services of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

S. 1797

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1797, a bill to establish a global zoonotic disease task force, and for other purposes.

S. 1853

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from Iowa (Ms. EMST) were added as cosponsors of S. 1853, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to establish a Motorcyclist Advisory Council.

S. 1857

At the request of Mr. KING, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ Masto) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1857, a bill to provide appropriations for the Internal Revenue Service to overhaul technology and strengthen enforcement, and for other purposes.

S. 1964

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1964, a bill to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to provide for the establishment of a Ski Area Fee Retention Account, and for other purposes.

S. 2014

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2014, a bill to permit legally married same-sex couples to amend their filing status for tax returns outside the statute of limitations.

S. 2029

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2029, a bill to prohibit the use of corporal punishment in schools, and for other purposes.

S. 2030

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. SMITH), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2030, a bill to declare that any agreement reached by the President relating to the nuclear program of Iran is deemed a treaty that is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 241

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Ms. FEINGOLD); the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT); the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 241, a resolution widening the unit of the Senate, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LEE (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):
S. 2029. A bill to improve the antitrust laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.
 Mr. LEE. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a piece of legislation called the "Tougher Enforcement Against Monopolists Act," or the TEAM Act. I am grateful that my good friend and ranking member of the Judiciary Committee, the senior Senator from Iowa, Chuck Grassley, has joined me as a cosponsor of the bill.
 Now, I think that all of our House colleagues just recently introduced several bills intended to fight anti-competitive conduct by Big Tech. Those bills, in my view, don't go far enough. America is facing a panoply of competition concerns not just in Big Tech but across the entire economy. We need a holistic approach that benefits all consumers, in every industry. We need to deal with all the monopolists hurting competition.
 Even worse, the House bills not only have too small of a target, but they use too big of a sledgehammer to hit it. They create a truly massive expansion of Federal regulatory power and are the first steps toward a command-and-control economy.
 Responding to Big Tech with Big Government is adding insult to injury, not to mention something I doubt any conservative will be able to support.
 We don't need a bigger government. We need to make the one we have work better.
 The TEAM Act avoids each of these mistakes. Instead of a narrow focus and Big Government approach, this bill will improve Federal antitrust enforcement for the entire economy without making government bigger.
 The TEAM Act improves antitrust law in two ways. The first is putting all of our antitrust enforcers on one team. The TEAM Act unites our two Federal antitrust enforcement Agencies into one. For over a century, American antitrust enforcement has been something of a two-headed creature sometimes at odds with itself. The results have been delays to enforcement and consumer redress, uncertainty for businesses, and even conflicting antitrust enforcement policy.
 Just recently, the two Agencies actually argued against each other on opposite sides of an appeal in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. This arrangement isn't working for anyone—anyone, that is, perhaps, except corporations looking for an opportunity to game the system.
 The bill can also put our two parties on the same team when it comes to antitrust reform. Our present reform movement is filled with bipartisan fervor to improve the lives of our constituents by improving competition in the markets that serve them and protecting them from the monopolists that exercise so much unearned power over huge swaths of our economy. Now, we don't agree on everything, but we do agree on this. It is my sincere belief that this bill represents the best and, hopefully, most bipartisan path forward.
 That brings me to the second focus of the bill: preventing antitrust harm by monopolists. I use the term "antitrust harm" here very deliberately. In certain corners of the antitrust policy world, it has become fashionable to talk of being pro-monopoly or anti-monopoly, which is often tied to being pro- or anti-democracy. That is also deliberate terminology, and I think it is dangerous. It is hand meant to move the conversation away from specific conduct and whether that conduct harms competition, to do so regardless and to instead imply that all that matters in this context, in this inquiry, is size and whether you support or defend a business based on its size.
 That position is both unserious and economically indefensible. Even the briefest, most passing moment of reflection on this will demonstrate its fallacy.
 If you are anti-monopoly, are you also anti-patent? Patents are, after all, government-granted monopolies. The entire purpose of the patent is to allow
its holder to exclude competition for a limited period of time and charge the highest price that the market will bear. But we allow this because the prospect of collecting monopoly profits acts as an incentive to innovate and invest under antitrust law.

The same principle is at work in market monopolies. The prospect of obtaining a monopoly through competition on the merits incentivizes competitors to offer consumers better products and services at lower prices. This free market system built on competition and innovation is responsible for many of the great achievements of mankind and the economic flourishing of the greatest civilization the world has ever known.

But even more important is the foundational principle of our Republic that the law deals with conduct, not status. We punish people for what they do, not who they are. “Big is bad” abandons that fundamental American principle. Instead, the mantra of antitrust is not on the merits but through anti-competitive and exclusionary conduct. This conduct obstructs rather than facilitates the natural operation of the free market, using raw market power to prevent consumers from making optimal choices and then starving them of lower prices, higher quality, and new offerings.

Competitive conduct benefits both businesses and consumers. Anti-competitive conduct only helps the monopolist.

Unfortunately, there have been attempts to defend some anti-competitive conduct. This is most often done through the use of speculative and conjectural economics that claim to predict the future, almost always predicting that a merger or specific conduct won’t actually harm competition. We have, sadly, seen an overcorrection from the days lamented by Judge Bork when courts and enforcers ignored basic economic analysis. Now “the age of sophists, economists, and calculators has succeeded,” and our antitrust enforcement efforts are frequently hampered by what Judge Bork called an “economic extravaganza.” The result has been that some conduct and mergers that should have been condemned have instead escaped much needed scrutiny.

All of this is why the TEAM Act categorically rejects the Manichean belief that big is always bad, while still acknowledging that concentrated economic power can be just as dangerous as concentrated political power, and, in fact, one often leads to the other. In this way, it embraces antitrust laws as sort of federalism for the economy, and not just a degree of market size but on antitrust harm; that is, whether something actually harms consumers by harming competition.

The bill strengthens our ability to prevent and correct antitrust harm in three ways.

The TEAM Act strengthens the antitrust laws. It includes a market share-based merger presumption, improves the Merger Filing Fee Modernization Act, codifies the consumer welfare standard, and makes it harder for monopolists to justify or excuse anti-competitive conduct.

The TEAM Act strengthens antitrust enforcers. In addition to consolidating the antitrust enforcement at the Department of Justice, the bill also includes a version of the Merger Filing Fee Modernization Act, introduced by Senators KLOBUCHAR and GRASSLEY. Most significantly, the bill roughly doubles the amount of money appropriated to Federal antitrust enforcement, ensuring that our antitrust enforcers have all the resources they need to protect American consumers.

The TEAM Act strengthens antitrust remedies. The bill repeals Illinois Brick and Hanover Shoe to ensure that consumers are able to recover damages from anticompetitive conduct. Even more significantly, the bill allows the Justice Department to recover trebled damages on behalf of consumers and impose civil fines for knowingly violating the antitrust laws.

Now, I believe these reforms reflect the best way to strike the balance of protecting competition and consumer welfare, while limiting government intervention in the free market. In an era in which would-be monopolists want to move fast and break things, it is essential that our antitrust enforcers are empowered to move fast and break them up.

This is the prudent and the conservative approach. Better antitrust enforcement means less regulation and thus smaller government.

This is also a wiser approach than attempting to statutorily prohibit certain categories of antitrust violations. This approach abandons one of the greatest strengths of American antitrust law: the fact-specific nature of every inquiry. Case-by-case adjudication is what allows us to maximize enforcement while minimizing false positives. The TEAM Act avoids the black-and-white pronouncements of other legislative proposals and instead updates the mechanics of how the antitrust laws are applied to address the enforcement gaps of recent decades. As I have said before, we find ourselves at a critical moment. The threat to competition and free markets is real. Doing nothing is not an option. At the same time, we simply cannot allow the need to “do something” to push us into embracing a policy that will have unintended consequences and push America closer to a government-regulated economy.

I look forward to working closely with my colleagues and with friends on other sides of the aisle and at both ends of the Capitol in order to advance the TEAM Act and help protect American consumers.
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. PROHIBITION ON SMOKE IN FACILITIES OF THE VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION.

(a) Prohibition.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1715 of title 38, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 1715. Prohibition on smoking in facilities of the Veterans Health Administration.

"(a) Prohibition.—No person (including any veteran, patient, resident, employee of the Department, contractor, or visitor) may smoke on the premises of any facility of the Veterans Health Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be ordered to be printed in the RECORD. There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2043

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 "Children Don't Belong on Tobacco Farms Act".

SEC. 2. TOBACCO-RELATED AGRICULTURE EXEMPTIONS FOR CHILDREN.

Section 3(d) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 203(d)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence—

(A) by striking "in any occupation, or (2)"); and

(B) by inserting before the semicolon the following: "; and (3) any employee under the age of eighteen years has direct contact with tobacco plants or dried tobacco leaves"; and

(2) in the second sentence, by striking "other than manufacturing and mining" and inserting "other than manufacturing, mining, and tobacco-related agriculture as described in paragraph (3) of the first sentence of this subsection."

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. HASSAN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. KING):

S. 2047. A bill to ban the use of intentionally added perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substances in cosmetics; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce S. 2047, the No PFAS in Cosmetics Act. I am pleased to be partnering with Senator BLUMENTHAL on this important legislation. Our bipartisan bill seeks to ban the inclusion of Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in cosmetics products, such as make-up, moisturizer, and perfume.

PFAS are a class of man-made chemicals, which includes PFOA, PFOS, and GenX. These chemicals can bioaccumulate in our bodies over time and have been linked to cancer, thyroid disease, liver damage, fertility, and hormone disruption. First developed in the 1940s, PFAS are traditionally found in food packaging, nonstick pans, clothing, furniture, and firefighting foam.

Unfortunately, Maine has experienced considerable PFAS contamination, which has not only threatened our water supply, but adversely affected the livelihoods of farmers. Several dairy farms in Maine recently discovered serious levels of PFAS in their operations, with milk containing as high as 1,420 parts per trillion. This is more than twenty times EPA’s established health advisory level for drinking water.

In addition to these agricultural and water supply contaminations, we now also know that PFAS appear in products across the spectrum—including cosmetics. A new peer-reviewed study led by the University of Notre Dame published in Environmental Science and Technology found high fluorine levels—indicating the probable presence of PFAS—in just over half of 231 makeup products tested, including waterproof mascara, liquid lipsticks, and foundations.

A subset of 29 samples was studied further to identify specific PFAS chemicals. Between four and 13 specific PFAS were identified in each of the 29 samples, some at high concentrations. Remarkably, only one of these 29 products listed any fluorochrome ingredients on the product’s label. While some of these PFAS may be present in trace quantities as impurities in the manufacturing process, high concentrations are likely being used intentionally to impart performance characteristics to the product. Since fluorinated chemicals are not disclosed on the labels, this study suggests that consumers are unknowingly being exposed to PFAS in their cosmetics.

The findings of this study are particularly alarming, as many of these products are subject to direct human exposure. For example, lipstick is often inadvertently ingested, and mascara is sometimes absorbed through tear ducts. In addition, during the cosmetic product manufacturing process, workers are exposed to the chemicals that are used, and direct contact with PFAS can cause the potential for additional human exposure if drinking water sources are contaminated.

PFAS pose an unnecessary and avoidable risk to human health and do not belong in our cosmetic products. The Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act defines cosmetics as “articles intended to be rubbed, poured, sprinkled, or sprayed on, introduced into, or otherwise applied to the human body... for beautifying, promoting attractiveness, or altering the appearance.” This definition includes skin moisturizers, perfumes, lipsticks, fingernail polishes, eye and facial makeup preparations, cleansing shampoos, permanent waves, hair colors, and deodorant, as well as other similar products.

Our legislation would direct the FDA to issue a proposed rule banning the intentional addition of PFAS in cosmetics, as defined by the FDA, within 270 days of enactment, and require a final rule to be issued 90 days thereafter.

The FDA should act now to ban the addition of PFAS to cosmetics products to help protect people from further contamination. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting the No PFAS in Cosmetics Act.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 268—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JUNE 2021 AS “NATIONAL DAIRY MONTH” TO RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANT ROLE DAIRY PLAYS IN A HEALTHY DIET AND THE EXCEPTIONAL WORK OF DAIRY PRODUCERS IN BEING STEWARDS OF THE LAND AND LIVESTOCK

Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BROWN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. KAINES):
Whereas the United States dairy industry serves as a key driver in the national food system and supports the people of the United States both nutritionally and economically; Whereas the 2020–2025 United States Dietary Guidelines for Americans finds that healthy dietary patterns feature dairy products, as such products provide essential nutrients which keep the people of the United States healthy and serve as a leading source of—

(1) calcium, which helps maintain strong bones and aids in heart function; and
(2) vitamin D, which aids in calcium absorption.

Whereas the 2020–2025 United States Dietary Guidelines for Americans finds that some products sold as “milks” made from plants may be consumed as a source of calcium, but most plant products are not nutritionally similar to milk from dairy cows;
Whereas the United States–Mexico–Canada Agreement provided new opportunities and continued supporting the access of high-quality United States products to 2 valuable export markets;
Whereas dairy production efficiently and affordably provides essential nutrients, while only contributing to 1.3 percent of the greenhouse gas emissions of the United States;
Whereas, between 1944 and 2007, the United States dairy industry produced 59 percent more milk and reduced its carbon footprint by 63 percent with 70 percent fewer cows;

Now, therefore, be it
That the Senate—
(A) recognizes and supports the United States dairy industry; and
(B) the exceptional work of dairy producers among Medicare beneficiaries was an estimated $57,000,000,000 in 2018, and is expected to increases to over $65,000,000,000 by 2040;
Whereas, when broken down by individual, in the year following a fracture, all-cause health care costs exceeded $30,000, of which an average of $3,000 was paid by the patient;
Whereas Congress authorized dairy products as eligible foods under the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children program under section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1766), which safeguards the health of low-income women, infants, and children up to age 5 who are at nutrition risk by providing nutritious foods to supplement diets;
Whereas Congress authorized the supplemental nutrition assistance program under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2006 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), which helps low-income working families, low-income seniors, and people with disabilities access nutritious foods, including dairy products;

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.
EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING HUNTINGTON’S AMERICAN LEGION POST 7

HON. JIM BANKS
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 14, 2021

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Huntington’s American Legion Post 7 as they prepare to celebrate their 100th anniversary.

American Legion Post 7 is one of the oldest posts in Indiana. Over the last century, their work has been invaluable in providing life-changing assistance and guidance for veterans, military personnel and their families.

Founded in June 1921, the post’s mission became only more important with time. Since Post 7’s inception, Americans fought in World War I, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere. Each time liberty’s defense required the service and sacrifice of American patriots, our soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines were there to answer the call. Post 7—the post that can’t have answered the equally important call to serve those who served us upon their returning home.

From selling poppies in May of each year in honor of America’s fallen to taking part in local Veterans Day’s parades, to hosting golf tournaments to raise proceeds for veterans to holding commemorations on days like September 11, and more, Hoosiers thank American Legion Post 7 for their selfless work.

This is a testament to the Post’s longevity and achievement, for which Huntington, and northeast Indiana, is grateful.

CONGRATULATING AMANDA CAMPBELL ON BEING AWARDED THE HUSKY 100

HON. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER
OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 14, 2021

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Amanda Campbell, from Battle Ground, Wash-ington on being awarded the Husky 100 from the University of Washington.

The University of Washington Husky 100 program recognizes 100 undergraduate and graduate students from all campuses and all areas of study who are making the most of their time at the university. Recipients of the Husky 100 are successfully connecting what happens inside the classroom to the outside, heterarchy’s a difference on campus, in their communities, and in the future—and Amanda is no exception.

Amanda is pursuing her Doctor of Pharmacy at the University of Washington School of Pharmacy. Amanda has been a leader, a strong researcher, and a patient advocate during her studies. As a pharmacist, she hopes to break down the barriers of health care through health equity and literacy. Her current activities and goals for her future are exactly why Amanda was given this recognition.

Once again, I want to congratulate Amanda on receiving this honor and I wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

HONORING KRISTAL HAMLIN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 14, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a tenacious and ambitious community advocate, Ms. Krystal Hamlin.

Krystal has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a desire to serve others. Krystal is a native of Vicksburg, MS. She graduated from Alcorn State University, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work; and obtained a Master’s Degree in Social Work from the University of New England. Krystal strives daily to live by this motto: Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Krystal has worked as a Mental Health Therapist with Medgar Evers Home Solution and she worked in several advocacy roles with the Vicksburg Child Abuse Prevention Center. Krystal has provided court advocacy services to numerous victims of domestic violence locally and surrounding areas throughout the state of Mississippi. Krystal has served as an interim counselor at Haven House Family Shelter, where she provided individual and group counseling to residents and transitional residents. In 2017 and 2018, she collaborated with the Vicksburg Police Department (“Beverly Prentiss’ Victims’ Empowerment Program”) to educate members of the community.

In 2019, Krystal helped organize a community event “Taking Steps against Domestic Violence,” that brought awareness to domestic violence related issues in Warren County, as well as numerous other organizations and participants were present. Also, she has been a panelist in several domestic violence related discussions.

Krystal Hamlin currently serves as the Outreach Coordinator for the Haven House Family Shelter. Throughout the past 4½ years she has assisted numerous victims of domestic violence obtain protection orders, file charges against abusers and most importantly, she has dedicated a considerable amount of time advocating for victims. Krystal has passionately advocated for laws at the MS State Capitol, in turn MS House Bill 1386 and MS Senate Bill 2686 were both passed into law. She has provided training to faith base leaders and its members, local Head-Start Centers, Warren County Youth court and Department of Human Services staff.

Most recently, she was a presenter at the 15th Annual Guardian Ad Litem training; her topic of discussion was “Understanding Domestic Violence and the effects it has on Victims and Children.” Krystal facilitates the Community Coordinated Response Team in Warren County.

Krystal received the Mississippi Coalition Against Domestic Violence (MCADV) 2021 Outstanding Service to Crime Victims Award presented by Attorney General’s Office.

She loves life and helping others see the power they possess. Krystal loves spending a great deal of time with her 3-year-old son, Lany.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Krystal Hamlin for her passion and dedication to others and desire to make a difference in the community.

GOOD TROUBLE

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN
OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 14, 2021

Mr. McGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ananya Vel, an 8th grade student from St. Bernard School in Northborough, Massachusetts.

Ananya recently won the Worcester County Bar Association’s Annual Law Day Essay Contest which sought to honor Congressman John Lewis by asking: what does “Good Trouble” mean to you—today?

John was a great man, but more importantly, he was a very good man. He was a champion for justice and equality who challenged the conscience of our country and called America to a higher standard.

John believed in Good Trouble and that all of us must find the moral courage to get in the way and do something when we see something is wrong. I am humbled to have worked alongside him, and I know he would be proud of Ananya’s words today.

Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate Ananya and include in the RECORD her award-winning essay:

On December first, 1955, what started out as an ordinary evening in Montgomery Alabama, turned into something when a 42-year-old African American woman took a seat on a bus and wouldn’t give up her seat for a white man, she started something. Some might say she started trouble. Others might say she did something good, in standing up for herself. But in that moment, that ordinary evening turned into a night that would go down in history as the night Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to vacate her seat for a white passenger. Which is why still others may say that she both caused trouble, and did something good.

The phrase, “Good Trouble” may seem like an oxymoron, seeing as the two words have opposite definitions. The dictionary defines the word “good”, as “to be desired or approved of and the word “trouble” as “difficulty or problems” or “public unrest or disorder.” But if you look deeper, beyond a combination of definitions and into the true meaning, you’ll see that “Good Trouble” is a lot more than just an oxymoron.

I believe, good trouble is knowing when to bend the rules, and when to break them.

bullet 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.
When trapped in a moral dilemma, it’s choosing the ethical choice over the lawful one. It’s defining your principles and sticking to them, no matter what. We all have a set of rules and head that we follow based on what we think is right. We all have lines that we draw to keep ourselves in check. But too often, we break rules and cross lines in order to please others.

Good trouble is a right choice, and a circumstance. In America we have the right to speak our minds, but we also have the choice to use that right. We will only have the will to make that choice the circumstance requires it. America has counted on good trouble to get to where it is today. It has brought about most of the country's progress. In 1920 women got the right to vote to thanks to the Nineteenth Amendment. If it weren’t for all the protests and rallies and brave people who stood up for what they believed in, that may not have happened.

In the U.S Constitution, the First Amendment is freedom of speech. It gives us the right to protest laws we feel are unjust, and the right to speak up for ourselves. Good trouble is making good use of this right and speaking out when the necessity arises. Good trouble is also about doing whatever you want. But often times people get caught up in the moment and escalate into violent mobs. When peaceful protests turn into riots, the “good” part of “Good Trouble” is lost.

Life is full of choices and sometimes there is not right or wrong one. We make about thirty-five thousand decisions per day, so making a choice is nothing new, but how do we know when to choose good trouble? Follow your instinct, think about things others may not consider, and listen to your conscience when it tells you something doesn’t feel right. That doesn’t mean you can break any rules you don’t like. It’s a big responsibility.

Good trouble only exists because circumstance has demanded it.

We all have thought in our heads that something is unfair or unreasonable. But the question you must ask yourself is, “What have I done to change that?” It’s thinking something inside your head, but it takes courage to actually do something about it. People like Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King Jr. were people who were willing to sacrifice a lot for what they believed in. But their efforts paid off when segregation was outlawed in the United States. Good trouble can change our daily lives. It also fits into activism. Like anything, good trouble has a spectrum and you must ask yourself where you stand on it. The bigger the action, the more drastic the results. The more you put into it, the more change you will see.

Sometimes there are moments when your conscience seems to launch into a civil war. Good trouble is where the two sides find common ground. It is the compromise between the devil and the angel. Good trouble is knowing when to push back and when to back under barriers. But it’s also knowing when not to. “Be the change you wish to see in the world,” is a popular quote that fits right in with the idea of good trouble. The question isn’t “What’s wrong?” It’s “What are you doing to fix it?”

CONGRATULATING NADIA SIDDQUI ON BEING AWARDED THE HUSKY 100
HON. JAMIE HERRERA BEUTLER OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 14, 2021

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Nadia Siddiqui, from Vancouver, Washington for being awarded the Husky 100 from the University of Washington.

The University of Washington Husky 100 program recognizes 100 undergraduate and graduate students from all campuses and all areas of study who are among the best of their peers at the university. Recipients of the Husky 100 are successfully connecting what happens inside the classroom to the outside, helping make a difference on campus, in their communities, and in the future—and Nadia is no exception.

Nadia recently received her Bachelor of Science in Bioengineering with a minor in Bioethics from the University of Washington. Nadia hopes to use bioengineering and bioethics to expand health care access through policymaking and outreach. Her activities on campus and goals for her future are exactly why Nadia was given this recognition.

Once again, I want to congratulate Nadia on receiving this honor and I wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.
Dr. Endre' Matthews; John S. Jossell, Michael
and were later promoted to Principal/Director of the Y.O.U. Alternative Education Program. At this time, the School was operated in conjunction with the Quitman County School District. With this new appointment, Dr. Jossell received Certification in Educational Administration in 1994 from the University of Mississippi, and her Doctorate in Education in 2012 from Walden University in Minneapolis, Minnesota. After federal funds ended in support of the Y.O.U. Program in 1994, Dr. Jossell re-organized the program as a Community-Based Nonprofit to diversify the program’s funding streams. Over the 26-year lifespan of Y.O.U., Dr. Jossell wrote and submitted grants garnering over 14 million dollars in Federal and State Grants focusing on education, health, mentoring, recreation and physical fitness services for high risk youth. As a result of these programs, several students received their G.E.D. to travel outside the county (many for the first time) to professional football and basketball games; participated in organized youth sports programs; participated in male and female mentoring programs; and participated in Service Learning/School-to-Career projects that provided leadership skills and community awareness. Some of Y.O.U.’s alumni are principals, assistant principals, entrepreneurs, superintendents, doctors, educators, nurse practitioners, and more importantly, several earned a master’s degree from Wayne State University. After completing his education, he wrote to work at the headquarters of Ford Motor Company where he worked as a Quality Manager for 44 years. A dedicated member of his community, Mr. Clark served his neighbors in Sumpter Township in countless ways. He served for years as Sumpter Township Building Inspector, on the Planning Commission, and on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Along with his father, he wrote the first ordinance for Sumpter Township. At the time of his passing, Mr. Clark was serving as Sumpter Township’s Treasurer. Mr. Clark was a trusted colleague and friend to many. He skillfully balanced his career, was committed to public service, and ensured he gave plenty of family time. Mr. Clark was known for being the family handyman and has built churches throughout the state of Ohio and built homes in the state of Michigan. Notably, he built the Clubhouse at Holiday West Mobile Home Community with the help of his family.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF HARRY MELANDER

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2021

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished career of Harry Melander on the occasion of his retirement as the Executive Director of the Minnesota Building and Construction Trades Council. During his more than four decades of union leadership and public service, Harry has made a lasting impact through his work on behalf of Minnesotta’s working families. Additionally, Harry has represented the interests of Minnesotans through his service as a member of the Metropolitan Council, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis Board, the St. Paul Port Authority Board, and the Washington County Planning Commission, among other community leadership roles.

Harry began his career as a union carpenter in 1973 and quickly rose as a leader on behalf of his fellow labor brothers and sisters, becoming president the Carpenters Local 87 Union. Later he became a business representative for the St. Paul Building Trades Council, then executive secretary in 1997. Harry focused his work on building relationships throughout the community. Reaching out to elected officials, business and community leaders and developers, he cultivated relationships that are still present today, ultimately increasing the number of jobs for Building Trades union members.

After becoming Executive Secretary of St. Paul Building Trades in 2005, Harry was soon faced with the monumental challenge of navigating the industry through the economic collapse of 2008 when some crafts lost up to 70 percent of their work. But thanks in large part to Harry’s advocacy and work to build partnerships with the Minnesota Congressional Delegation, state leaders and the City of Saint Paul, the industry was able to keep working on major public projects including the restoration of Saint Paul’s Union Depot as the Twin Cities’ multimodal transit hub and construction of the Green Line Light Rail Transit.

Since Harry became the president of the Minnesota Building and Construction Trades Council in 2009, he has tirelessly promoted growth and advancement of affiliated unions, supported diversity and inclusion efforts in the construction industry, protected health and safety for all workers, and encouraged relationships building with employers, other labor organizations, and government officials. He has been a leader in the transformation toward clean energy jobs, and has navigated the council through the many challenges brought on in the past year by the COVID–19 pandemic and the civil unrest that enveloped the Twin Cities after the death of George Floyd.

Throughout it all, Harry has been an unwavering voice for Minnesota’s working families, and a dedicated public servant. It has been my great pleasure to work closely with Harry on many projects and priorities over the years, and I know I speak for many in the community of Saint Paul and the East Metro when I say that he has been a tremendous asset to the labor movement. Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the outstanding career of one of our state’s most effective leaders, Harry Melander.

HONORING MS. MELA LOUISE NORMAN

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2021

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of my staff to recognize an essential, founding member of my team, Ms. Mela Louise Norman.
In her time serving as my chief of staff, Mela has been an invaluable partner. No matter the situation, my office has been able to rely on her strong leadership and fierce advocacy for getting the job done. She has been a consummate professional, ably navigating the various issues we’ve faced with grace and dignity.

It’s no exaggeration to say that our success over the past three years can be directly attributed to Mela’s knack for finding talent. In fact, every single member that currently works on Team Slotkin in our D.C. office was interviewed and hired by Mela.

Now, as Mela gets ready to embark on her next chapter as Secretary Lloyd Austin’s deputy chief of staff, I wanted to take a moment to recognize her on the floor of the People’s House with tributes from the team that she has led for the past three years.

When asked to sum up the essence of Mela, most of my staff pointed to her strong work ethic and her ability to stay calm, cool and collected under pressure. They talked about her leading by example and seeing no job too large or too small. They also mention her deep compassion toward the people we serve and her thoughtful and skillful communication.

Those who were with us at the very beginning remember the chaos of setting up our freshman congressional office. They recall a moment of endless opportunities and seemingly endless challenges, requiring patience, discipline, and immense attention to detail.

As my staff will tell you, Mela dove into the role of chief—adding additional team members, implementing processes, and getting our office up and running in order to serve the folks who call Michigan’s 8th district home.

When faced with decisive action without a moment’s hesitation, they attest that Mela was always there to execute. When staff in the district office and the D.C. office needed to circle up and hash out a way forward, Mela was instrumental in facilitating the conversation. And when our district was hit by a home needing a reliable partner in dealing with the office, they praised Mela for building relationships that still bear fruit to this day.

For the younger members of my staff, particularly the women, they’ve learned from Mela by seeing her operate up close. On too many occasions to count, they saw her think, both on her feet and outside the box, in order to make the impossible seem possible. They mention her mentorship and professional development as instrumental in giving them the confidence to assert themselves in the workplace.

My staff also appreciated Mela’s unique ability to jump in—at any level—to help the team. In three years, she guided our team through a significant inquiry, public town halls to explain the decision, a war powers resolution drafted in the wee hours of the night, an inscription and a second impeachment.

Every member of the staff remembers how Mela was in the trenches with them during every one of these key events. When the COVID–19 pandemic turned congressional offices upside down last March, our office was able to nimbly adapt, thanks to Mela. One of our congressional fellows at the time appreciated how she spearheaded the transition from in-person work to telework in the span of a week, making sure that folks had the tools to do their jobs in order to avoid any drop-off in service to our constituents.

Lastly, my team has appreciated the culture of respect and cooperation that is instilled in every new addition to the team. More than one staffer talked about her metaphor of our office being in a boat—with each member rowing as hard as they can in the same direction. With Mela at the helm, we’ve been able to accomplish what they aspire to.

No tribute to Mela would be complete without mentioning her husband, Kurt. In the military, there is a tradition of honoring a retiring member’s service as well as their family’s sacrifice. To Kurt, who well understands this sentiment and serves as a service member in the U.S. Navy himself, I want to extend my deepest gratitude for his willingness to support Mela when we had an early morning prep session or a late night mark-up.

Madam Speaker, to say that Mela Louise Norman will be missed is an enormous understatement. Her record speaks for itself.

In the days and weeks ahead, I have no doubt that our team will be putting out the latest fire or handling the next crisis with the question: “What would Mela do?”

In the meantime all the best as she returns to her old stomping grounds at the Pentagon. On behalf of a grateful district and a grateful team, I thank Mela.

HONORING TRINITY HOUSE OF PRAYER CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable church, Trinity House of Prayer Church.

The Trinity House of Prayer Church is inspired by God and initiated by the Man of God, to win souls for the Kingdom, to bring salvation, healing, and deliverance, to God’s people, also, to carry the gospel to the lost sheep, and to create unity among God’s people of all denominations.

In February of 1974, Bishop and First Lady Knighten, along with their children, moved back to Mississippi under the inspiration of God. Bishop organized the Christian Fellowship Mission so that different denominations could come together in fellowship. Many followers had no church home. They asked Bishop Knighten to organize a church so they could join. In 1977, he organized the Trinity House of Prayer Church, in a building that he rented to set up a business. The first service was held on Sunday, December 10, 1977, with Bishop Knighten delivering the opening sermon.

As the ministry was growing, several churches derived from Trinity Ministries. So, Trinity House of Prayer of Moorhead became the Mother Church. Still the membership grew at the Mother Church to where a bigger church was needed. A stretch of land on the west end of town was purchased and claimed by some of the church members. God answered their prayers and the land became property of the Trinity House of Prayer Ministries. After hiring someone to lay the foundation and frame up the building, the saints rolled up their sleeves and went to work. Their faithfulness was beyond measure. They worked many long hours and far over in the night, to complete their new church home.

Today, they sit in what resulted from the faithfulness and hard work of the saints, the mother church of the Trinity House of Prayer Ministries.

God has blessed the Trinity Ministry for years. Many people from walks of life have been inspired, saved, and loved by this ministry that God has entrusted to Bishop Knighten. Even though many people have passed through the ministry and some churches have left, God is still blessing the Trinity House of Prayer Ministry. The purpose of the Trinity Ministry is to allow God to manifest the vision which he has placed on this part of His body.

The harvest is white, and the labors are few. Now is the time to do what God has commissioned Bishop Knighten to “gather God’s people together unto Him; those that have made a covenant with God by sacrifice.”

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Trinity House of Prayer Church for its longevity and dedication to serving others.

CITY OF WHEAT RIDGE, CO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Wheat Ridge, Colorado for being recognized as an All-American City for 2021, awarded by the National Civic League.

The theme for 2021, “Building Equitable and Resilient Communities”, focused on recognizing communities that have worked to improve broad-based economic prosperity while also adapting and evolving during a challenging time.

Incorporated in 1969, Wheat Ridge has evolved from a quiet city to a bustling suburb while finding ways to honor its roots and its unique character and improving quality of life for its residents. The city was honored based on three programs that highlighted the city’s work to increase equity and resiliency.

The “Wheaties Academy”, a leadership program developed to expand and diversify the civic voice within the community, has successfully engaged a wide array of community members and reflected the actual diversity of the city. Secondly, the creation of “Sustainable Wheat Ridge”, an environmental stewardship program, worked to prioritize a vision for the city as outlined in the city’s long-term strategic plan. Comprised of 11 resident volunteers, the committee dedicated over 550 hours to complete the action plan which was approved and funded by the city. Lastly, the “Wheat Ridge Together” initiative is a collaborative effort to respond to the dual challenges of the COVID–19 pandemic and racial justice issues within the community. Wheat Ridge was well-positioned to face the challenges of the pandemic due to two new virtual public engagement tools that were launched prior to the pandemic. What’s Up Wheat Ridge and Wheat Ridge Speaks, both of which provided on line opportunities for the community to engage with the city and provide public comment on city business. Wheat Ridge Speaks hosted 54 virtual meetings in 2020 and 166 comments were submitted electronically.
I extend my congratulations to City of Wheat Ridge on this recognition and their work to engage and evolve its community, particularly during a very difficult year. Keep up the good work.

CELEBRATING WILLIAM AND IDA MAE ALLEN’S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN
OF ARKANSAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 14, 2021

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincere congratulations to William and Ida Mae Allen of Jefferson County, Arkansas, for their 50th wedding anniversary.

Having grown up in Moscow, Arkansas, William and Ida Mae Allen married on June 13, 1971. As adults, they made their home in Jefferson County, raising three sons and two daughters. They later adopted six boys into their family, teaching them all to fear a righteous God and seek always to be like Him.

The Allens believe that their successful marriage can be best attributed to their reliance on Christ, the Church, and good leadership. As they told their children and grandchildren, one must always live their life to please Christ. Giving advice to younger married couples, the Allens said that troubles will come, but one should always stay and fight them out together.

I take this time today to congratulate William and Ida Mae on fifty years of marriage and to thank them for being an example to generations of young Arkansans. The Allens epitomize what can be accomplished through perseverance, commitment, family, and faith. I thank them for their dedication to the most sacred of American values.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INCORPORATION OF SMITHS STATION

HON. MIKE ROGERS
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 14, 2021

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 20th anniversary of the incorporation of Smiths Station.

Smiths Station was first settled in 1738. The Central of Georgia Railway extended a train line through the community, using it to connect Opelika, Columbus, and Phenix City metropolitan areas.

Shortly after this, the name of Smiths was decided on to honor the memory of Broadus Smith, a prominent settler who once lived in the community. The area is now known as Smiths Station.

Smiths Station existed as a “bedroom community” and a convenient halfway spot between the Auburn-Opelika and Columbus-Phenix City metropolitan areas.

After years of advocacy and hard work, a group of Smiths Station residents helped push for a successful vote to incorporate Smiths Station on June 22, 2001. Later that year, LaFaye Dellinger was elected as the City’s first Mayor, serving in the position from 2001 until 2016. Current Mayor F.L. “Bubba” Copeland was elected in 2016 and ran unopposed in the 2020 municipal election. The current City Council consists of Place 1 Council Member George Stringer, Place 2 Council Member Morris Jackson, Council Place 3 Member Steve Lansdon, Place 4 Council Member Richard Ingle and Place 5 Council Member Victor Greene.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the 20th anniversary of the incorporation of Smiths Station.

HONORING JASMINE TAYLOR

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 14, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Cadet Jasmine Taylor.

Promoted to Cadet Colonel Taylor will serve as the JROTC Brigade Commander for the School Year 2021–2022. A junior at Callaway High School, Taylor currently serves as the 4th Battalion Executive Officer.

Cadet Colonel Taylor is truly an extraordinary person, outstanding scholar, and leader. She is highly dedicated, very goal oriented, and always striving diligently for what she is passionate about. One of her short-term goals is to become the valedictorian of her class by maintaining and increasing her 4.0 GPA.

Cadet Colonel Taylor has been very active within JROTC for three strong consecutive years, and before that she was in the Junior Cadet Corps at Powell Middle School Academy of Military Science.

At Callaway High School, she participates in the National Junior Honor Society, the JROTC Drill Team, the Charger “Funk” Band, Finally First Mentorship, and TAP. She has performed various acts of community service, such as feeding the homeless at Stewpot, visiting the elderly at nursing homes, and caring for rescued animals. She also participated in the Jackson State University Interdisciplinary Center of Nanotoxicity STEM Leadership Academy Summer Institute.

After high school, Cadet Colonel Taylor plans to attend college to obtain a degree and become an animal scientist. She credits her family, instructors and community for constantly pushing her to become the better version of herself.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Cadet Colonel Jasmine Taylor for her passion and dedication for success and desire to make a difference in the community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LLOYD PRICE

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 14, 2021

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in remembering the life of Lloyd Price, a lifetime District of Columbia resident and great R&B vocalist and performer, who died on May 3, 2021.

Lloyd Price, born in Kenner, Louisiana, on March 9, 1933, came to the District after serving in the U.S. Army. Growing up, he received formal training in the trumpet and piano and sang in his church’s gospel choir. Upon returning from his military service, he formed KRC Records with songwriter Harold Logan.

Though he had a number one hit with Lawdy Miss Clady, Stagger Lee, Personality, I’m Going to Get Married and Where Were You on Our Wedding Day, in 1998, Price was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, and in 2019, he was inducted into the National Rhythm & Blues Hall of Fame.

He was also a great businessman. He produced some of the greatest fights in the history of boxing, such as The Thriller in Manila and The Rumble in the Jungle.

Other business ventures included founding a construction company, which erected middle-income housing in the Bronx and Staten Island. He also managed Lloyd Price Icon Food Brands, which makes a line of Southern-style foods.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Lloyd Price, a great singer and longtime resident of D.C. I extend my deepest condolences to Lloyd’s family.

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING JESSICA MIER

HON. SARA JACOBS
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 14, 2021

Ms. JACOBS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor my staff member, Jessica Mier, who left my office on June 4, 2021.

Jessica Mier has served as my Deputy Chief of Staff in San Diego for the better part of 2021, helping me set up my office and leading my district staff during the COVID–19 pandemic.

After graduating from California State University, Sacramento in 2006, Jessica began her long career in public service—first in higher education, then through an internship in a Member of Congress’s legislative office.

Her summer internship made an extraordinary impact on her, and led her to pursue her next phase of service as a staff member for elected officials. Over the last 15 years, Jessica has worked for a U.S. Senator, four House Members, and a City Mayor in many different capacities. For the past four years, Jessica has led the district office of the 53rd Congressional District.

We have been so fortunate to rely on Jessica’s breadth of knowledge and connection to the communities she loves and has represented for so long. Her focus has always been on the constituents she serves and making sure their needs are met or exceeded. Though she has managed to do so much for her communities over the years, her humility will never let her take credit.

Jessica’s biggest accomplishment comes not in the form of professional achievements or awards—though she has many—but in the indelible impact that she has had on anyone lucky enough to work with her and under her supervision. While Jessica may be leaving our office, her work will live on through the public
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — Extensions of Remarks
June 14, 2021

Mr. HORSFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Professor Edmund W. Gordon, who was born on June 13, 1921. Professor Gordon is an extraordinary professor of psychology whose career work has heavily influenced contemporary thinking in psychology, education, and social policy. Professor Gordon's research and initiatives have focused on the positive development of under-served children of color, including advancing the concept of “achievement gap.”

Professor Gordon grew up in a highly segregated area of North Carolina to parents who encouraged the importance of schooling. He received both his Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees from Howard University, and went on to pursue a PhD in psychology at the Teacher’s College at Columbia University.

In 1956, after working with mentor and friend W.E.B. DuBois, Professor Gordon was commissioned by President Lyndon B. Johnson to help design the Head Start Program, aimed at providing early childhood education and family services to under-resourced families.

After six months working on Head Start, Professor Gordon and his team had built a program to serve nearly half a million children. Professor Gordon also conducted research that would later be used to prove to the Supreme Court that school segregation had harmful effects on children. Professor Gordon's research and initiatives have focused on the positive development of under-served children of color, including advancing the concept of “achievement gap.”

Professor Gordon has authored 18 books and more than 200 articles on the achievement gap, affirmative development of academic ability, and supplementary education. He has been elected a Fellow of many prestigious organizations, including the American Academy of Arts & Science, and has been named one of America’s most prolific and thoughtful scholars.

Today, Professor Gordon still pays close attention to the state of education, and has stated that he would love to be able to change national education policy “to get a more equal focus on out-of-school and in-school learning.”

On April 12, 2021, Professor Gordon was appointed as the first-ever Honorary President of the American Educational Research Association.

I wish Professor Edmund W. Gordon the very best as he and his family celebrate his 100th birthday.

HONORING TURNER CHAPEL AME CHURCH
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 14, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable church, Turner Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church.

In 1890, Rev. C.E. Jones, four men and two women decided that there should be an A.M.E. Church in Greenwood, Mississippi. Led by the Spirit of God, they began to worship under a brush harbor somewhere in the vicinity of what is now the Greenwood Post Office. During the next few years, the church began to increase in membership, and they decided that a building was needed. One of the members came up with the idea of utilizing a dwelling house which was eventually purchased. Rev. Jones and the members decided to name the church Turner Chapel for Bishop Henry McNeil Turner, Presiding Prelate, who was elected and consecrated the fifteenth Bishop of the Connectional A.M.E. Church.

There were many leaders of the church but possibly one of the most memorable was Rev. D.L. Tucker. Under Rev. D.L. Tucker’s administration, a new spirit seemed to have risen. Pews were purchased, and the pulpit was redesigned with divided choir stalls. Many new members were added to Turner Chapel Church’s roll. Rev. Tucker served as pastor during the height of the civil rights era. During his time as pastor, he became the first president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in the Mississippi Delta. He organized voter registration drives and often had rallies at Turner Chapel.

Rev. Tucker was the first person in Leflore County, MS to pass the literacy test to vote. After that accomplishment, while he was marching with supporters, dogs were put on them by law enforcement to deter their desire to vote. Rev. Tucker walks with a limp today because of that attack. This incident spurred Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to write President John Kennedy to send protection to Mississippi for Blacks. As a comrade of Medgar Evers, you will be next.” His life was subsequently enriched; due to death threats from the Ku Klux Klan, the A.M.E. Church moved him to a church in Bermuda. Rev. Tucker returned to Mississippi in 2014 and is recognized in the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum for his contributions to the movement. Many of the future leaders of the church continued in Rev. Tucker’s footsteps by being advocates for civil rights.

Turner Chapel is blessed to have Rev. Dr. Alphonse Crenshaw as its pastor. The visions she brought to the church are exceptional. Rev. Crenshaw brought back life to the church because now they have bible study once again and prayer meetings. She has gotten more members involved, especially men with the business of the church. Three months after Rev. Crenshaw’s arrival, the pandemic happened, and everything shut down. However, even the pandemic did not stop her from pastoring. She instilled in the members to continue having their regular programs, official board meetings, bible study, even in the pandemic, over Zoom meetings. In April of 2020, she was able to get food distribution into the Greenwood community in which the church has drive-by pick-up of food boxes for those in need. In December 2020, she was able to get a contract with a vendor. Now Turner Chapel is one of the largest sites of food box distribution to area churches, the Greenwood community, throughout Leflore County and beyond.

Rev. Crenshaw’s vision includes helping the church get an adult daycare center, as well as acquiring the property adjacent to the church for its longevity and dedication to serving the community.

HON. VERONICA ESCOBAR
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 14, 2021

Ms. ESCOBAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 246th birthday of the United States Army.

The U.S. Army was founded on June 14, 1775 in Philadelphia at the height of the Revolutionary War. The Army is the eldest branch of the U.S. military and answers at a moment’s notice when the country needs it—from the Revolutionary War, World War II, the Vietnam War, and most recently the battle against the COVID–19 pandemic. Today, we honor the legacy of the brave men
and women who served and are currently serving to protect our country and preserve our way of life.

Answering the call to duty is not an easy one, but it is one that is worth it. 9,000 soldiers and their family members call the El Paso area home. Fort Bliss presence in our community. Fort Bliss is vital to the Army’s readiness because it trains and mobilizes soldiers to perform global operations in support of our national military strategy. I, and the rest of the El Paso community, are appreciative of the Army and Fort Bliss’ service to our country and are grateful for each soldier and their family’s sacrifices, service, and leadership.

On this day, I recognize the Army’s 246th birthday.

CONGRATULATING THE 70TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF MR. AND MRS. FRED IVERS

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN
OF ARKANSAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 14, 2021

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 70th wedding anniversary of Lewisville, Arkansas, natives, Fred and Christine Ivers. Mr. and Mrs. Ivers exhibit strong values of family, commitment, and sacrifice which set them apart as an example in their community.

After meeting at ages 21 and 17, the couple dated for a little over a year before getting married on May 26, 1951. As newlyweds, they stayed in the shop in the same building where Triple C was originally located. As the business started to grow, they thought it would make sense to move to Cleveland, MS. When Clinton graduated from Mississippi Valley State University and took an active role in the business, he realized that customers needed to have more control and choice instead of just presenting them with available designs. Today, the customer will tell him what they’re looking for, and he designs it, produce a model and does the printing.

The majority of Triple C Screen Printing clients are individuals and small businesses throughout the Mississippi Delta. Triple C loyal patrons includes West Bolivar, who has been a client since 1989, churches, other businesses, and individuals. One of Triple C’s best and biggest customers every two years is myself. It has been through this connection that last year Triple C was able to add a major new and national client. They would not be here today or have lasted this long without their clients.

Thankfully, Triple C is back to being steady again amid COVID–19.

Clinton’s daughter, Justice, also works at their printing shop with him. She came to work for him after she graduated from Mississippi State University where she majored in Graphic Design. So he did and minor in sales and marketing. She plans to keep the family business tradition alive—she plans to run the business one day. His wife, Shonda, is a nurse practitioner at Delta Health Center in Mound Bayou. They celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary this year.

Clinton is proud and honored to carry on his dad’s legacy with his daughter by his side. This story began when one day Mr. Clinton Williams decided to design a t-shirt for a Jackson State University versus MS Valley State. He taught himself how to do printing with no internet, no YouTube tutorials, no classes—just set his mind to it and consequently, started a new business career. That’s how Triple C Screen Printing came to be through his dad’s hard work and dreams.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Triple C Screen Printing for their dedication to serving the community, state and Nation.

HONORING TRIPLE C SCREEN PRINTING

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 14, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a prosperous family business, Triple C Screen Printing.

From humble beginnings, Triple C began in 1985 as a t-shirt printing store in Shaw, MS. The name coming from the founder, Clifton William’s three children, Clinton Jr., Clinton and Celena. Clinton Williams is currently the Owner/President and CEO of the store.

Clifton Williams, Sr. was originally a schoolteacher for 25 years and recently passed away in January 2021. He also had a barber shop in the same building where Triple C was originally located. As the business started to grow, the couple believes the secret to their 70 years of marriage is keeping God first. Family is very important to the Ivers, and their children attest to this. In the words of their oldest son, “They set such a tremendous example for myself and my siblings and lived their lives to the fullest.”

I take this time today to celebrate Mr. and Mrs. Ivers for the example they have set for generations of Fourth District Arkansans and to congratulate them on 70 years together. May we always look to them as the picture of true love, commitment, and selflessness.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF OTIS MAXWELL JAMES, JR. AND SUE ANN WILKINS JAMES

HON. MIKE ROGERS
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 14, 2021

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th wedding anniversary of Otis Maxwell James, Jr. and Sue Ann Wilkins James who were married on June 6, 1971.

I recognize this 50th Anniversary on behalf of Madame and Cassidy Sharma.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the James and wishing them a happy 50th wedding anniversary.

HONORING DR. LUIS CARLOS MOLL
OF ARIZONA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, June 14, 2021

Mr. GRIJALVA, Madam Speaker. I rise today to recognize Dr. Luis Carlos Moll, Pro-Curator at the University of Arizona, for his election to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (The Academy.) The Academy was created in 1780 and serves to honor leaders in various fields. Previously elected members include Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, Martin Luther King, Charles Darwin, and Dr. Faucett. This year, new members include Dr. Sanjay Gupta, Maria Hinojosa, and Oprah Winfrey. The Academy also includes an “Education” section, to which Dr. Moll has been elected in 2021.

Born in Santurce, Puerto Rico, Dr. Moll remembers his early experiences with school as extremely difficult. At the age of 15 he moved to Los Angeles with his mother and grandmother. Later in life he would often begin one of his prodigious talks by recollecting this move from his native Puerto Rico and would famously say, “As soon as I stepped onto U.S. soil, I became a minority.” His profound ability to recognize social inequity are emblematic of his enduring concern for deeply understanding the circumstances that shape lives and how these can impact educational futures. He joined the U.S. Army in 1966 and served for three years, including six months in Vietnam. After his military service he returned to study at Cal Poly, graduating with a B.S. in 1972. He went on to earn a master’s degree in psychiatric social work from the University of Southern California. During his studies at USC he worked with Latino families at an East Los Angeles mental health clinic. He enjoyed the work, and later applied to the doctoral program in educational psychology at UCLA. Prior to his earning his PhD, Dr. Moll completed a PreDoctoral Fellowship at the Institute for Comparative Human Development at Rockefeller University in New York. In 1986, Dr. Moll joined the faculty of Language, Reading and Culture at the University of Arizona (VA).

Dr. Moll has dedicated his career to the study of language acquisition and bilingual education, primarily in Latino students in the United States. His scholarship attests the value of transdisciplinarity, as his main research interest is the connection among culture, psychology, and education, especially as it relates to the education of Latino children in the U.S. Among other his studies, he has analyzed the quality of classroom teaching, examined literacy instruction in English and Spanish, studied how knowledge is produced in the broader social contexts of household and community life, and, in collaboration with teachers, attempted to establish pedagogical relationships among these domains of study. He has focused much of his work on the application of Vygotskian theory to understand the processes of language acquisition and learning in general for Latino children in the U.S. Future work, Dr. Moll is highly recognized for the development of the “Found Knowledge” theory, in collaboration with colleagues at the University of Arizona. His extensive work has a central theme: educators must uncover and
utilize the social, cultural, and linguistic processes of diverse communities as the most important resources for producing positive educational change. This powerful message has helped educators in Tucson and around the world "see" Latino families with respect and with an understanding of the resources they have accumulated as a result of living their lives. Dr. Moll has changed not only entire disciplinary fields, he has also changed lives. In collaboration with his colleagues, Dr. Moll excavated the rich relationships, knowledge, and histories of the local Tucson community. Their collected work on the Funds of Knowledge available to families in Latinx communities is one of the most impressive research efforts in the anthropology of education ever. These are important sources of findings and insights that address questions not just about what is missing from poor and immigrant children in school, but also what resources they have and what resources they bring to the classroom. The concept of Funds of Knowledge continues to be one of the most significant theoretical developments in the fields of anthropology, education, and psychology. As a result of a lifetime of outstanding mentorship, his work continues to be utilized and expanded by new generations of educators and researchers throughout the globe. Dr. Moll's scholarship has evolved and traveled across sectors—early childhood, K–12, and postsecondary contexts—and many regions of the world, including Spain, the U.K., New Zealand, Australia, South Africa, South America, and Mexico, as well as all over the United States.

Dr. Moll’s publications are often used in research focusing on education, language acquisition, literacy, the production and value of knowledge, and transnationalism to name a few. Most importantly, Dr. Moll’s academic endeavors have always been centered on social and educational justice for minority families, children, and youth and as such it has been used to generate policy and educational strategies that prioritize the well-being and best practices for said populations. Simply put, his legacy is to the fields of education, psychology and language studies in general is remarkable.

He has served on the editorial board of several journals, including the American Educational Research Journal, Educational Research Quarterly, Journal of Literacy Research, and Mind, Culture, and Activity. Among his honors, he was elected to membership in the National Academy of Education (1998), named a Kappa Delta Pi Laureate (2013), and to the Reading Hall of Fame (2014). He was also named Fellow (2009), received the Presidential Citation Award (2010) and the Palmer O. Johnson Award (2011), all from the American Educational Research Association (AERA). He also presented the 2009 AERA Brown Lecture.

He became an academic counselor, friend, and family to most people he interacted with. Thanks to Dr. Moll many of his students, around the world, are continuing his legacy as educators, professors, and researchers.

Dr. Moll currently lives in Tucson, Arizona with his wife Ana. He has two children, Carlos and Eric.

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 procedural 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 15, 2021 may be found in the Daily Digest of today’s RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED
JUNE 15
Time to be announced
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider the nominations of Gwen Graham, of Florida, to be Assistant Secretary for Legislation and Congressional Affairs, Department of Education; Rajesh D. Nayak, of Maryland, Taryn Mackenzie Williams, of the District of Columbia, and Douglas L. Parker, of West Virginia, each to be Assistant Secretary of Labor; and 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.

TBA
9:30 a.m.
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Business meeting to consider 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 a.m.
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 Department of the Interior.

SD–342
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of Education.

SD–138
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for military construction and family housing.

SD–192
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Caroline Diane Krass, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel, Gina Maria Ortiz Jones, of Texas, to be Under Secretary of the Air Force, Ely Stefkansky Ratter, of Massachusetts, and Shawn Graham Skelly, of Virginia, both to be Assistant Secretary, and Meredith Berger, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy, all of the Department of Defense.

SH–216
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Business meeting to consider S. 66, to require the Inter-Agency Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia to develop a plan for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida, S. 1747, to provide for an equitable management of summer flounder based on geographic, scientific, and economic data, S. 1890, to require the Federal Trade Commission to conduct a study on scams that target travelers during the COVID-19 pandemic, S. 1985, to amend the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act with respect to sport fish restoration and recreational boating safety, S. 1984, to designate Regional Ocean Partnerships of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, S. 2016, to authorize elements of the Department of Transportation, the nominations of Pamela A. Melroy, of New York, to be Deputy Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Carlos Alberto Monje, Jr., of Louisiana, to be Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy, and Richard W. Spinrad, of Oregon, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, and routine lists in the Coast Guard.

SR–253
Committee on Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Jeffrey M. Prieto, of California, and Janice H. Nascimento, of Maryland, both to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and Alejandra Y. Castillo, of Nevada, and Brenda Betancourt, of the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development.

SD–406
Committee on Finance
To hold hearings to examine the President’s fiscal year 2022 budget.

WEBEX
2 p.m.
Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship
Business meeting to consider the nominations of Venida Latimer, of California, to be Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

SD–430
Select Committee on Intelligence
Closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters; to be immediately followed by a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH–219
Committee on Rules and Administration
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the U.S. Capitol Police following the January 6th attack on the Capitol.

SR–301
2:30 p.m.  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 Transportation.  SD–192

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  Subcommittee on the Constitution, Government Operations and Border Management  To hold hearings to examine improving security and travel at land ports of entry at the southwest border.  VTC

Committee on the Judiciary  Subcommittee on the Constitution  To hold hearings to examine the Women’s Health Protection Act.  SD–226

3 p.m.  Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining  To hold hearings to examine S. 173, to provide for the designation of certain wilderness areas, recreation management, conservation areas in the State of Colorado, S. 177, to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to establish the Olaa Wilderness in the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument and to modify the boundary of the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument, S. 182, to withdraw certain Federal land in the Pecos Watershed area of the State of New Mexico from mineral entry, S. 455, to designate and expand wilderness areas in Olympic National Forest in the State of Washington, and to designate certain rivers in Olympic National Forest and Olympic National Park as wild and scenic rivers, S. 554, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a study on the establishment of, and the potential land that could be included in, a unit of the National Forest System in the State of Hawaii, S. 567, to provide for conservation and economic development in the State of Nevada, S. 569, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to transfer National Forest System land to the State of South Dakota, S. 609, to withdraw the National Forest System land in the Ruby Mountains subdistrict of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest and the National Wildlife Refuge System land in Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Elko and White Pine Counties, Nevada, from operation under the mineral leasing laws, S. 904, to require the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works to digitize and make publicly available geographic information system mapping data relating to public access to Federal land and waters for outdoor recreation, S. 1008, to require the Secretary of the Interior to develop a modeling tool, conduct a study, and issue reports relating to the tax equivalent amount of payments under the payment in lieu of taxes program, S. 1076, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 1992 by including the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program to plug, remediate, and reclaim orphaned oil and gas wells and sunken vessels, S. 1228, to provide for the continuation of higher education through the conveyance to the University of Alaska of certain public land in the State of Alaska, S. 1222, to designate and adjust certain lands in the State of Utah as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, and S. 1898, to amend the Wilderness Act to allow local Federal officials to determine the manner in which nonmotorized uses may be permitted in wilderness areas.  SD–366

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs  To hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2022 and 2023 advance appropriations requests for the Department of Veterans Affairs.  SR–418

4:30 p.m.  Committee on Armed Services  Subcommittee on Strategic Forces  To hold hearings to examine United States nuclear deterrence policy and strategy.  SR–222

JUNE 17

9 a.m.  Committee on the Judiciary  Business meeting to consider S. 807, to permit the televising of Supreme Court proceedings, S. 818, to provide for media coverage of trial court proceedings, and the nominations of Tiffany P. Cunningham, of Illinois, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit, Irene Strange, of North Dakota, to be United States District Judge for the District of North Dakota, and Siobhan Keane, of New York, to be Director of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, and 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.  SH–216

9:30 a.m.  Committee on Armed Services  To hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2022 and the Future Years Defense Program; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC–217.  SD–G50

Special Committee on Aging  To hold hearings to examine 21st century caregiving, focusing on supporting workers, family caregivers, seniors, and people with disabilities.  VTC

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

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs  To hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program.  SD–538

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  To hold hearings to examine National Collegiate Athletic Association student athletes and name, image, and likeness rights.  SR–353

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  To hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2022 for the U.S. Forest Service.  SD–396

Committee on Foreign Relations  Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy  To hold hearings to examine building the U.S.-Taiwan relationship, focusing on strength through partnership.  SD–419/VTC

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  To hold hearings to examine COVID-19 response and recovery, focusing on supporting the needs of students in higher education and lessons on safely returning to campus.  SD–430

10:15 a.m.  Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  Emerging Threats and Spending Oversight  To hold hearings to examine emerging cybersecurity threats to state and local government.  SD–342/VTC

JUNE 22

10 a.m.  Committee on Appropriations  Subcommittee on Defense  To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Army.  SD–192

JUNE 23

10 a.m.  Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  Subcommittee on National Parks  To hold hearings to examine S. 31, to limit the establishment or extension of national monuments in the State of Utah, S. 172, to authorize the National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, S. 192, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain river segments in the State of Oregon as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, S. 270, to amend the Act entitled “Act to provide for the establishment of the Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site in the State of Kansas” to provide for inclusion of additional related sites in the National Park System, S. 491, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain river segments in the York River watershed in the State of Maine as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, S. 555, to authorize the location of a memorial on the National Mall to commemorate and honor the members of the Armed Forces that served on active duty in support of the Global War on Terrorism, S. 753, to reauthorize the Highlands Conservation Act, to authorize States to use funds from that Act for administrative purposes, S. 1317, to modify the boundaries of the National Monument in the State of Arizona, S. 1320, to establish the Chiricahua National Park in the State of Arizona, S. 1321, to modify the boundary of the Casa Grande Ruins...
National Monument, S. 1526, to authorize the use of off-highway vehicles in certain areas of the Capitol Reef National Park, Utah, S. 1527, to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide that State law shall apply to the use of motor vehicles on roads within a System unit, S. 1769, to adjust the boundary of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area to include the Rim of the Valley Corridor, and S. 1771, to authorize reference to the museum located at Blytheville/Eaker Air Force Base in Blytheville, Arkansas, as the "National Cold War Center".

2 p.m.
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
Subcommittee on Energy
To hold hearings to examine existing programs and future opportunities to ensure access to affordable, reliable, and clean energy for rural and low-income communities.

SD-366

10 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Defense
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Navy and Marine Corps.

SD-192
Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4503–S4522

Measures Introduced: Nine bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2039–2047, S.J. Res. 20, and S. Res. 268.

Measures Reported:

S. 658, to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to work with cybersecurity consortia for training. (S. Rept. No. 117–24)

S. 1251, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a program to reduce barriers to entry for farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners in certain voluntary markets.

S. 1301, to provide for the publication by the Secretary of Health and Human Services of physical activity recommendations for Americans.

S. 1662, to increase funding for the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the Food and Drug Administration and for the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health.

Measures Passed:

Condemning Recent Rise in Antisemitic Violence and Harassment: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 252, unequivocally condemning the recent rise in antisemitic violence and harassment targeting Jewish Americans, and standing in solidarity with those affected by antisemitism, and the resolution was then agreed to.

Fox Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Radhika Fox, of California, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Radhika Fox, of California, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

Kahn Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Lina M. Khan, of New York, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner.

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 72 yeas to 25 nays (Vote No. EX 232), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, June 15, 2021; that all post-cloture time expire at 11:30 a.m.; that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Kiran Arjandas Ahuja, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Personnel Management, all post-cloture time expire at 2:30 p.m.

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 53 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. EX. 231), Ketanji Brown Jackson, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Michal Ilana Freedhoff, of Maryland, to be Assistant Administrator for Toxic Substances of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.
House of Representatives

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 27 public bills, H.R. 3859–3885; and 3 resolutions, H.J. Res. 51; H. Con. Res. 38; and H. Res. 474, were introduced.

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

- H. Res. 473, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 256) to repeal the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1187) to provide for disclosure of additional material information about public companies and establish a Sustainable Finance Advisory Committee, and for other purposes; and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–59);
- H.R. 239, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for limitations on copayments for contraception furnished by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–60); and
- H.R. 539, to amend the Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018 to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to waive certain debts owed to the United States related to covered assistance provided to an individual or household, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–61, Part 1).

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Chaplain Bobby R. Patton, Jr., District of Columbia National Guard, Washington, DC.

Decorum Statement: The Speaker addressed the House regarding an update to the policies of January 4, 2021, and December 15, 2020, regarding the requirement to wear masks in the Hall of the House during the coronavirus pandemic. Consistent with the updated guidance from the Office of the Attending Physician, the Speaker informed Members that masks were no longer required in the Hall of the House for Members and staff who have been vaccinated and that all Members and staff who have not been fully vaccinated were required to wear masks, and the Speaker would note that all Members and staff may continue to wear masks at their discretion. The Sergeant-at-Arms is directed to enforce mask requirements consistent with this announcement. The Speaker also informed Members that consistent with the Attending Physician’s updated guidance, the announced policies of January 4, 2021, and November 18, 2020, concerning group voting and chamber capacity were no longer in effect.

Moment of Silence: The House observed a moment of silence in remembrance of the over 600,000 Americans who have passed away from the COVID–19 virus.

Recess: The House recessed at 6 p.m. and reconvened at 6:33 p.m.

Oath of Office—First Congressional District of New Mexico: Representative-elect Melanie Ann Stansbury presented herself in the well of the House and was administered the Oath of Office by the Speaker. Earlier, the Clerk of the House transmitted a copy of a letter received from the Ms. Mandy Vigil, Elections Director, New Mexico Office of the Secretary of State, indicating that, according to the preliminary results of the Special Election held June 1, 2021, the Honorable Melanie Ann Stansbury was elected Representative to Congress for the First Congressional District, State of New Mexico.
Whole Number of the House: The Speaker announced to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentlewoman from New Mexico, the whole number of the House is 431.

Page H2723

Repealing the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 and ESG Disclosure Simplification Act of 2021—Rule for consideration: The House agreed to H. Res. 473, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 256) to repeal the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1187) to provide for disclosure of additional material information about public companies and establish a Sustainable Finance Advisory Committee, by a yea-and-nay vote of 216 yeas to 206 nays, Roll No. 158, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 217 yeas to 203 nays, Roll No. 157. Pursuant to section 7 of H. Res. 473, H. Res. 467 is hereby adopted.

Pages H2716–22, H2723–25

Senate Referral: S. 1511 was held at the desk.

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H2725.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2723 and H2724.

Adjournment: The House met at 5 p.m. and adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

Committee Meetings

POTENTIAL REMEDIES FOR UNLAWFUL EVICTIONS IN FEDERAL EMERGENCY AREAS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties held a hearing entitled “Potential Remedies for Unlawful Evictions in Federal Emergency Areas”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ESG DISCLOSURE SIMPLIFICATION ACT OF 2021; TO REPEAL THE AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE AGAINST IRAQ RESOLUTION OF 2002

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 1187, the “ESG Disclosure Simplification Act of 2021”; and H.R. 256, to repeal the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–4, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 256, To repeal the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002, and H.R. 1187, the “Corporate Governance Improvement and Investor Protection Act”. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 256, To repeal the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002, under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 1187, the “Corporate Governance Improvement and Investor Protection Act”, under a structured rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 117–5 shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides that following debate, each further amendment printed in the Rules Committee report not earlier considered as part of amendments en bloc pursuant to section 4 shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before the question is put thereon, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. Section 4 of the rule provides that at any time after debate the chair of the Committee on Financial Services or her designee may offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in the Rules Committee report not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services or their designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in the Rules Committee Report or amendments en bloc described in section 4 of the resolution. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides that the provisions of section 202 of the National Emergencies Act shall not apply to House Joint Resolution 46. The rule provides that House Resolution
Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 2021

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

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 Department of Agriculture, 10 a.m., SD–124.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 2 p.m., SD–192.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Army in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2022 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC–217 immediately following the open session, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Subcommittee on Airland, to hold hearings to examine Army modernization in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2022, 2:30 p.m., SR–232A.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine 21st century communities, focusing on local leaders on the infrastructure needs facing America’s states, cities, and towns, 10 a.m., WEBEX.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Tourism, Trade, and Export Promotion, to hold hearings to examine the state of outdoor tourism, recreation, and ecotourism, 3 p.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of Energy, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine mental health care in America, focusing on addressing root causes and identifying policy solutions, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Todd D. Robinson, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary (International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs), Brett M. Holmgren, of Minnesota, to be an Assistant Secretary (Intelligence and Research), and Daniel J. Kritenbrink, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary (East Asian and Pacific Affairs), all of the Department of State, 10 a.m., SH–216/VTC.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine H.R. 6, to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain aliens, 10 a.m., SD–106.

Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights, to hold hearings to examine protecting competition and innovation in home technologies, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit, hearing entitled “Examining Opportunities for Growth and Investment in Rural America”, 11 a.m., 1300 Longworth and Zoom.

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Department of the Navy Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Request”, 11 a.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing entitled “FY22 Budget Request for Missile Defense and Missile Defeat Programs”, 3 p.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.


Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled “Environmental Justice for Coal Country: Supporting Communities Through the Energy Transition”, 10 a.m., WEBex.
Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, hearing on H.R. 1154, the “Great Dismal Swamp National Heritage Area Act”; H.R. 1286, the “Southern Campaign of the Revolution National Heritage Corridor Act of 2021”; H.R. 1316, the “National Heritage Area Act of 2021”; H.R. 1424, the “St. Croix National Heritage Area Act”; H.R. 1908, the “Ka‘ena Point National Heritage Area Act”; H.R. 1925, the “South Kona National Heritage Area”; H.R. 2024, the “Southern Maryland National Heritage Area Act”; H.R. 2107, the “Nation’s Oldest Port National Heritage Area Act”; H.R. 2359, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain lands as the Los Caminos del Rio National Heritage Corridor, and for other purposes; H.R. 2899, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating areas within the island of Guam as a National Heritage Area, and for other purposes; H.R. 3222, the “Alabama Black Belt National Heritage Area Act”; and H.R. 3616, the “Bear River National Heritage Area Study Act”, 1 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Capitol Insurrection: Unexplained Delays and Unanswered Questions (Part II)”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2225, the “National Science Foundation for the Future Act”; and H.R. 3593, the “Department of Energy Science for the Future Act”, 10 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Tax, and Capital Access, hearing entitled “Reversing the Decline in Women Entrepreneurship: Opportunities for Rebuilding the Economy”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled “Impacts of Shipping Container Shortages, Delays, and Increased Demand on the North American Supply Chain”, 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Social Security, hearing entitled “Equity in Social Security: In Their Own Words”, 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth and Webex.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Full Committee, hearing entitled “National Intelligence Program (NIP) Budget Overview Hearing”, 10 a.m., HVC–304 Hearing Room. This hearing will be closed.

Following disposition of the nomination of Lina M. Khan, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Kiran Arjandas Ahuja, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Personnel Management. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 2:30 p.m.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Appropriations: June 15, 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 Department of Agriculture, 10 a.m., SD–124.

June 15, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 2 p.m., SD–192.

June 16, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of the Interior, 10 a.m., SD–124.

June 16, Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for military construction and family housing, 10 a.m., SD–192.

June 16, 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 Education, 10 a.m., SD–138.

June 16, 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 Transportation, 2:30 p.m., SD–192.

June 17, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of Defense, 10 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Armed Services: June 15, to hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Army in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2022 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC–217 immediately following the open session, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

June 15, Subcommittee on Airland, to hold hearings to examine Army modernization in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2022, 2:30 p.m., SR–232A.

June 16, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Caroline Diane Krass, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel, Gina Maria Ortiz Jones, of Texas, to be Under Secretary of the Air Force,
Ely Stefanek Ratner, of Massachusetts, and Shawn Graham Skelly, of Virginia, both to be an Assistant Secretary, and Meredith Berger, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy, all of the Department of Defense, 10 a.m., SH–216.

June 16, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold hearings to examine United States nuclear deterrence policy and strategy, 4:30 p.m., SR–222.

June 17, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2022 and the Future Years Defense Program; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC–217, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: June 15, to hold hearings to examine 21st century communities, focusing on local leaders on the infrastructure needs facing America’s states, cities, and towns, 10 a.m., WEBEX.

June 17, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program, 10 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: June 15, Subcommittee on Tourism, Trade, and Export Promotion, to hold hearings to examine the state of outdoor tourism, recreation, and ecotourism, 3 p.m., SR–253.

June 16, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 66, to require the Inter-Agency Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia to develop a plan for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida, S. 1747, to provide for an equitable management of summer flounder based on geographic, scientific, and economic data, S. 1890, to require the Federal Trade Commission to conduct a study on scams that target travelers during the COVID–19 pandemic, S. 1995, to amend the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act with respect to sport fish restoration and recreational boating safety, S. 1894, to designate Regional Ocean Partnerships of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, S. 2016, to authorize elements of the Department of Transportation, the nominations of Pamela A. Melroy, of New York, to be Deputy Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Carlos Alberto Monje, Jr., of Louisiana, to be Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy, and Richard W. Spinrad, of Oregon, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, and routine lists in the Coast Guard, 10 a.m., SR–253.

June 17, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine National Collegiate Athletic Association student athletes and name, image, and likeness rights, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: June 15, to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2022 for the Department of Energy, 10 a.m., SD–366.

June 16, Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining, to hold hearings to examine S. 173, to provide for the designation of certain wilderness areas, recreation management areas, and conservation areas in the State of Colorado, S. 177, to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to establish the Cerro de la Olla Wilderness in the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument and to modify the boundary of the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument, S. 182, to withdraw certain Federal land in the Pecos Watershed area of the State of New Mexico from mineral entry, S. 455, to designate and expand wilderness areas in Olympic National Forest in the State of Washington, and to designate certain rivers in Olympic National Forest and Olympic National Park as wild and scenic rivers, S. 554, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a study on the establishment of, and the potential land that could be included in, a unit of the National Forest System in the State of Hawaii, S. 567, to provide for conservation and economic development in the State of Nevada, S. 569, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to transfer certain National Forest System land to the State of South Dakota, S. 609, to withdraw the National Forest System land in the Ruby Mountains subdistrict of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest and the National Wildlife Refuge System land in Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Elko and White Pine Counties, Nevada, from operation under the mineral leasing laws, S. 904, to require the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works to digitize and make publicly available geographic information system mapping data relating to public access to Federal land and waters for outdoor recreation, S. 1008, to require the Secretary of the Interior to develop a modeling tool, conduct a study, and issue reports relating to the tax equivalent amount of payments under the payment in lieu of taxes program, S. 1076, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program to plug, remediate, and reclaim orphaned oil and gas wells and surrounding land, to provide funds to State and Tribal government to plug, remediate, and reclaim orphaned oil and gas wells and surrounding land, S. 1128, to provide for the continuation of higher education through the conveyance to the University of Alaska of certain public land in the State of Alaska, S. 1222, to designate and adjust certain lands in the State of Utah as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, and S. 1686, to amend the Wilderness Act to allow local Federal officials to determine the manner in which nonmotorized uses may be permitted in wilderness areas, 3 p.m., SD–366.

June 17, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2022 for the U.S. Forest Service, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: June 16, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Jeffrey M. Prieto, of California, and Jane Toshiko Nishida, of Maryland, both to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, andAlejandra Y. Castillo, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Finance: June 15, to hold hearings to examine mental health care in America, focusing on addressing root causes and identifying policy solutions, 10 a.m., SD–215.
June 16, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the President’s fiscal year 2022 budget, 10 a.m., WEBEX.

Committee on Foreign Relations: June 15, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Todd D. Robinson, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary (International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs), Brett M. Holmgren, of Minnesota, to be an Assistant Secretary (Intelligence and Research), and Daniel J. Kritenbrink, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary (East Asian and Pacific Affairs), all of the Department of State, 10 a.m., SH–216/VTC.

June 17, Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy, to hold hearings to examine building the U.S.-Taiwan relationship, focusing on strength through partnership, 10 a.m., SD–419/VTC.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: June 16, business meeting to consider the nominations of Gwen Graham, of Florida, to be Assistant Secretary for Legislation and Congressional Affairs, Department of Education, Rajesh D. Nayak, of Maryland, Taryn McKenzie Williams, of the District of Columbia, and Douglas L. Parker, of West Virginia, each to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor, and 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, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

June 17, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine COVID–19 response and recovery, focusing on supporting the needs of students in higher education and lessons on safely returning to campus, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: June 16, business meeting to consider 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, 9:30 a.m., SD–342.

June 16, Government Operations and Border Management, to hold hearings to examine improving security, trade, and travel at land ports of entry at the southwest border, 2:30 p.m., VTC.

June 17, Emerging Threats and Spending Oversight, to hold hearings to examine addressing emerging cybersecurity threats to state and local government, 10:15 a.m., SD–342/VTC.

Committee on the Judiciary: June 15, to hold hearings to examine H.R. 6, to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain aliens, 10 a.m., SD–106.

June 15, Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights, to hold hearings to examine protecting competition and innovation in home technologies, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.

June 16, Subcommittee on the Constitution, to hold hearings to examine the Women’s Health Protection Act, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.

June 17, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 807, to permit the televising of Supreme Court proceedings, S. 818, to provide for media coverage of Federal court proceedings, and the nominations of 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 Jaldou, of California, to be Director of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, and 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 Rules and Administration: June 16, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the U.S. Capitol Police following the January 6th attack on the Capitol, 2:15 p.m., SR–301.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: June 16, business meeting to consider the nomination of Dilawar Syed, of California, to be Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration, 2 p.m., SD–430.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: June 16, to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2022 and 2023 advance appropriations requests for the Department of Veterans Affairs, 3 p.m., SR–418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: June 15, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

June 16, Full Committee, closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters; to be immediately followed by a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH–219.

Special Committee on Aging: June 17, to hold hearings to examine 21st century caregiving, focusing on supporting workers, family caregivers, seniors, and people with disabilities, 9:30 a.m., VTC.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, June 16, Full Committee, business meeting to consider a committee print 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, 9:30 a.m., 1300 Longworth and Zoom.

June 16, Full Committee, hearing entitled “1890 Land Grant Institutions: Investing for Agricultural Resiliency, Equity, and Global Impact”, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth and Zoom.

Committee on Armed Services, June 16, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Department of the Air Force Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Request”, 11 a.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

June 17, Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, hearing entitled “Department of the Navy Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Request for Seapower and Projection Forces”, 11 a.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.
Committee on Education and Labor, June 16, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Examining the Policies and Priorities of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services”, 9 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, June 16, Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change, markup on H.R. 3291, the “Assistance, Quality, and Affordability Act of 2021”; H.R. 3293, the “Low-Income Water Customer Assistance Programs Act of 2021” and H.R. 2467, the “PFAS Action Act of 2021”, 10:30 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Financial Services, June 16, Subcommittee on Housing, Community Development and Insurance, hearing entitled “Flexible Federal Funding: Examining the Community Development Block Grant Program and Its Impact on Addressing Local Challenges”, 10 a.m., Webex.


Committee on Foreign Affairs, June 16, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Biden Administration’s Priorities for Engagement with the United Nations”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.


Committee on the Judiciary, June 17, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, hearing entitled “Undoing the Damage of the War on Drugs: A Renewed Call for Sentencing Reform”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Natural Resources, June 16, Office of Insular Affairs Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 2070, the “Puerto Rico Self-Determination Act of 2021”; and H.R. 1522, the “Puerto Rico Statehood Admission Act”, 1 p.m., Webex.


Committee on Oversight and Reform, June 16, Subcommittee on Environment, hearing entitled “Jumpstarting Main Street: Bringing Jobs and Wealth Back to Forgotten America”, 1 p.m., 2154 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Small Business, June 16, Subcommittee on Underserved, Agricultural, and Rural Development, hearing entitled “Supporting Small Entities through Investments in the National Infrastructure: Broadband”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, June 16, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing entitled “Starships and Stripes Forever—An Examination of the FAA’s Role in the Future of Spaceflight”, 2 p.m., 2167 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, June 16, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing entitled “Veteran Homelessness in the Wake of COVID–19”, 10 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Ways and Means, June 17, Full Committee, hearing entitled “President’s Proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Budget”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth and Webex.

Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress, June 17, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Building a More Civil and Collaborative Culture in Congress”, 9 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.
Next Meeting of the SENATE
10 a.m., Tuesday, June 15

**Senate Chamber**

**Program for Tuesday:** Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Lina M. Khan, of New York, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Lina M. Khan, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Kiran Arjandas Ahuja, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Personnel Management. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 2:30 p.m.

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

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Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10 a.m., Tuesday, June 15

**House Chamber**

**Program for Tuesday:** Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

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**Extension of Remarks, as inserted in this issue.**

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